



2017-2018 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Major: Political Science

About This Major . . .

The Political Science program provides students with a working knowledge of the concepts, theories and approaches to the discipline of Political Science and their practical application to political and governmental systems within the state, national and international arenas. Students majoring in Political Science are prepared for careers in government, law, criminal justice, and non-governmental organizations. Many graduates are currently employed as Congressional Staff members, Gubernatorial Staff, state agency officials, hold elective office or have successfully graduated from law school.

One attractive aspect of the program is the opportunity to intern in a variety of settings in Washington, D.C., Denver and Grand Junction. These internships allow students a chance to acquire practical experience while increasing the opportunity to network. Many of our student interns are now working in jobs they obtained directly as a result of their intern experience. CMU political science graduates have also been successful in gaining entrance to graduate and law schools. The Political Science program supports a Political Science Club and a local chapter of the national honor society Pi Sigma Alpha.

For more information on what you can do with this major, go to <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/career/whatmajor.html>

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, communication fluency, quantitative fluency, and specialized knowledge/applied learning. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Critically analyze the theories and concepts relevant to political science (Specialized Knowledge);
2. Defend a political argument using established methods (empirical and normative) in the field of political science (Intellectual Skills, Communication Fluency);
3. Articulate diverse perspective surrounding a political issue (Critical Thinking);
4. Devise a strategy to promote civic involvement within the broader community for themselves and others (Civic Engagement)

Advising Process and DegreeWorks

This document is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. The suggested course sequencing outlines how students could finish degree requirements. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters, while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and altering the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html>.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be her/his responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.

INSTITUTIONAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU baccalaureate degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 120 semester hours minimum.
- Students must complete a minimum of 30 of the last 60 hours of credit at CMU, with at least 15 semester hours in major discipline courses numbered 300 or higher.
- 40 upper-division credits (an alternative credit limit applies to the Bachelor of Applied Science degree).
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed 30 semester credit hours for a baccalaureate degree; A maximum of 15 of the 30 credits may be for cooperative education, internships, and practica.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in coursework toward the major content area.
- A "C" or higher is required in all major and foundation courses.

ESSENTIAL LEARNING REQUIREMENTS (31 semester hours)

See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

English (6 semester hours, must receive a grade of "C" or better and must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.)

- ENGL 111 - English Composition (3)
- ENGL 112 - English Composition (3)

Mathematics (3 semester hours, must receive a grade of "C" or better, must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.)

- MATH 110 - College Mathematics (3) or higher

Humanities (3 semester hours)

- Select one Humanities course (3)

Social and Behavioral Sciences (6 semester hours)

- Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course (3)
- Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course (3)

Natural Sciences (7 semester hours, one course must include a lab)

- Select one Natural Sciences course (3)
- Select one Natural Sciences course with a lab (4)

History (3 semester hours)

- Select one History course (3)

Fine Arts (3 semester hours)

- Select one Fine Arts course (3)

OTHER LOWER-DIVISION REQUIREMENTS

Wellness Requirement (2 semester hours)

- KINE 100 - Health and Wellness (1)
- Select one Activity course (1)

Essential Learning Capstone (4 semester hours)

Essential Learning Capstone must be taken after completion of the Essential Learning English and Mathematics requirements, and when a student has earned between 45 and 75 hours.

- ESSL 290 - Maverick Milestone (3)
- ESSL 200 - Essential Speech (1)

FOUNDATION COURSES (6 semester hours)

Two consecutive classes in the same foreign language. FLAS 114 & 115 will NOT fulfill this requirement. Must receive a grade of "C" or higher.

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BA, POLITICAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS (60 semester hours, must pass all courses with a grade of "C" or higher)

Political Science Core (24 semester hours)

- POLS 101 - American Government (3)
- POLS 151 - Introduction to Political Ideas (3)
- POLS 201 - Introduction to Political Inquiry (3)
- POLS 236 - State and Local Government (3)
- POLS 261 - Comparative Politics (3)
- POLS 270 - World Politics (3)
- POLS 351 - Public and Elite Political Behavior (3)
- POLS 490 - Senior Seminar for Political Science (3)

Political Science Electives (15 semester hours)

- Political Theory - Select one of the following courses:
POLS 452 - Political Theory: Classical and Medieval (3)
POLS 453 - Political Theory: Modern (3)
POLS 482 - International Relations Theory (3)
- American Politics - Select one of the following courses:
POLS 324 - The Legislative Process (3)
POLS 325 - The American Presidency (3)
POLS 328 - The American Court System (3)
POLS 412 - Constitutional Law
- Global Politics - Select one of the following courses:
POLS 366 - Government and Politics of Asia (3)
POLS 372 - Peace and Conflict Studies (3)
POLS 373 - Global Politics of Women and Gender (3)
POLS 471 - Politics of Global Governance (3)
POLS 472 - International Political Economy (3)
POLS 475 - American Foreign and National Security Policy (3)
- Political Issues - Select one of the following courses:
POLS 352 - Religion and Politics (3)
POLS 353 - Politics of Natural and Human Resources (3)
POLS 354 - Political Geography (3)
POLS 356 - Indigenous Politics (3)
POLS 462 - Public Policy: Theory and Practice (3)
POLS 488 - Environmental Politics and Policy (3)
- Public Administration - Select one of the following courses:
PADM 315 - Public Management (3)
PADM 350 - Ethics in Public Administration (3)
PADM 442 - Public Budgeting (3)
PADM 446 - Public Personnel Management (3)
POLS 342 - Public Administration (3)
EMDP 211 - Introduction to Emergency Management (3)

Political Science Specialization (12 semester hours)

Choose four additional courses from Political Theory, American Politics, Global Politics, Political Issues and/or Public Administration.

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Career Preparation (3 semester hours)

- Select one of the following courses:
 - STAT 215 - Statistics for Social and Behavioral Sciences (4)
 - SPCH 304 - Communication and Conflict (3)
 - SPCH 305 - Communication: Culture, Diversity, and Gender (3)
 - SPCH 306 - Communication and Leadership (3)
 - SPCH 308 - Argumentation and Debate (3)
 - SOCI 470 - Pre-Law in Practice (3)
 - POLS 395 - Independent Study (1-3)
 - POLS 396 - Topics (1-3)
 - POLS 495 - Independent Study (1-3)
 - POLS 496 - Topics (1-3)
 - POLS 499 - Internship (1-3)
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Restricted Electives (6 semester hours)

Select 2 of the following Political Science related courses:

- CRMJ 420 - Criminal Law (3)
- CRMJ 425 - Trial, Evidence and Legal Advocacy (3)
- CRMJ 470 - Restorative Justice (3)
- EMDP 321 - Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness
- EMDP 331 - Disaster Response and Recovery
- HIST 303 - History of Modern Germany (3)
- HIST 315 - American Indian History (3)
- HIST 320 - The American West (3)
- HIST 333 - International History of the Cold War (3)
- HIST 342 - The Early American Republic (3)
- HIST 346 - The United States in the 1950's and 1960's (3)
- HIST 347 - Global America: 1970-2000 (3)
- HIST 371 - 20th Century United States Women's History (3)
- HIST 400 - The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe (3)
- HIST 403 - East Asia and the Modern World (3)
- HIST 406 - History of the African Continent (3)
- HIST 410 - Environmental History of the United States (3)
- HIST 425 - The History of Sexuality
- PSYC 320 - Social Psychology (3)
- SOCI 101 - Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies (3)
- SOCI 410 - Death, Dying & Bereavement (3)
- SOCO 300 - Political Sociology (3)
- SOCO 305 - Environmental Sociology (3)
- SOCO 310 - Sociology of Religion (3)
- SOCO 312 - Social Movements (3)
- SOCO 314 - Population (3)
- SOCO 316 - Social Inequality (3)
- SOCO 325 - Racial and Ethnic Relations (3)
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GENERAL ELECTIVES (All college level courses appearing on your final transcript, not listed above that will bring your total semester hours to 120 hours. 16 semester hours; 7 hours of upper division may be needed)

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SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING

Freshman Year, Fall Semester: 16 credits

- ENGL 111 - English Composition (3)
- Essential Learning - History (3)
- MATH 110 - College Mathematics (3) or higher
- Essential Learning - Natural Science (3)
- POLS 101 - American Government (3)
- KINE 100 - Health and Wellness (1)

Freshman Year, Spring Semester: 16 credits

- ENGL 112 - English Composition (3)
 - Essential Learning - Humanities (3)
 - Essential Learning - Social and Behavioral Sciences (3)
 - POLS 151 - Introduction to Political Ideas (3)
 - POLS 270 - World Politics (3)
 - KINA Activity (1)
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Sophomore Year, Fall Semester: 15 credits

- Essential Learning - Fine Arts (3)
- Essential Learning - Social and Behavioral Sciences (3)
- Foundation Course - Foreign Language (3)
- POLS 201 - Introduction to Political Inquiry (3)
- POLS 236 - State and Local Government (3)

Sophomore Year, Spring Semester: 14 credits

- Essential Learning - Natural Science with Lab (4)
 - POLS 261 - Comparative Politics (3)
 - Foundation Course - Foreign Language (3)
 - ESSL 290 - Maverick Milestone (3)
 - ESSL 200 - Essential Speech (1)
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Junior Year, Fall Semester: 15 credits

- Political Theory Elective (3)
- American Politics Elective (3)
- Global Politics Elective (3)
- Restricted Elective (3)
- Elective (3)

Junior Year, Spring Semester: 16-17 credits

- Occupational Preparation Course (3-4)
 - POLS 351 - Public and Elite Political Behavior (3)
 - Political Issues Elective (3)
 - Public Administration Elective (3)
 - General Electives (1-2 courses) (4)
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Senior Year, Fall Semester: 15 credits

- POLS 490 - Senior Seminar for Political Science (3)
- Political Science Specialization (2 courses) (6)
- Restricted Elective (3)
- General Elective (3)

Senior Year, Spring Semester: 12 credits

- Political Science Specialization (2 courses) (6)
 - General Electives (2 courses) (6)
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