

POLITICAL SCIENCE (BA)

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Requirements		
	https://bulletin.southalabama.edu/programs-az/arts-sciences/#generaleducationtext	53-57
Major Requirements		
<i>Political Science Core</i>		
A. Complete the following:		
PSC 130	Intro to US Government	3
PSC 250	Comparative Politics	3
PSC 270	International Relations	3
PSC/CJ 310	Research Methods-W	3
PSC 492	PSC Capstone Seminar-W	3
<i>Political Science Electives</i>		
A. Select 21 hours of PSC Upper Division (300/400) Electives		21
Minor Requirements		
A minor is required for this degree program		18-24
A MINIMUM OF 120 HOURS IS REQUIRED FOR A DEGREE		120

All undergraduates must complete two designated writing credit (W) courses, at least one of which must be in the student's major or minor.

Additional Information

Majors in Arts and Sciences may be completed with a minimum of 120 semester hours unless designated otherwise. At least 30 hours of course work, which represents 25% of the required 120 hours, must be at the upper division level in order to fulfill the University's residency requirement. At least 15 of the 30 upper-division hours must be in the major or concentration area. An overall grade-point-average (GPA) of 2.0 is required for graduation. In addition, a minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in the student's major or concentration area.

The major in political science requires 36 semester hours, including PSC 130, PSC 250, PSC 270, PSC 310/CJ 310, and PSC 492 (W)—plus 21 hours of PSC electives at the 300/400 level. PSC 130 is a prerequisite for most other PSC courses. Political Science majors must earn a grade of "C" or higher in PSC 130 and also in the Capstone Seminar, PSC 492 (W). Students pursuing a degree in Political Science must have a minor in another discipline.

In addition, all political science majors must take the ETS major field test in political science and receive a satisfactory score (The standards for passing are determined by the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice). Students with unsatisfactory scores on the ETS test can retake the test, or they may be required to repeat coursework in political science. The ETS is administered in the Capstone Seminar, PSC 492 (W), which is typically offered in the Fall Semester only. All PSC core courses must be completed prior to enrolling in PSC 492 (W).

All political science majors must demonstrate competency in oral and written communication. Students will be expected to deliver presentations, particularly in the Capstone Seminar. The University of South Alabama requires two Writing-Intensive (W) courses for graduation. PSC 492 (W) fulfills one Writing-Intensive requirement, and CJ 310/PSC 310 (W) fulfills the second.

Graduation Plan

(36 Total Hours)

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Fall		
CAS 100	First Yr Exp -	2
EH 101	English Composition I	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	Area II	3
PSC 130	Intro to US Government (Area IV)	3
Natural Science with Lab	Area III	4
		Hours
		15
Spring		
EH 102 or EH 105	English Composition II or Honors Composition - H	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	Area II	3
PSC 250 or PSC 270	Comparative Politics or International Relations	3
CA 110	Public Speaking	3
Select one of the following (Area III):		3
MA 110	Finite Mathematics	
MA 112	Precalculus Algebra	
MA 113	Precalculus Trigonometry	
MA 115	Precal Algebra-Trigonometry	
MA 120	Calculus and Its Applications	
MA 125	Calculus I	
MA 227	Calculus III	
MA 237	Linear Algebra I	
MA 238	Differential Equations I	
		Hours
		15
Second Year		
Fall		
PSC 250 or PSC 270	Comparative Politics or International Relations	3
Natural Science with Lab	Area III	4
Foreign Language	Area V - Foreign Language Sequence Semester 1	3
Select one of the following HY/Humanities/Behavioral Science - Area IV:		3
HY 101	HY of Western Civilization I	
HY 102	HY of Western Civilization II	
HY 135	US History to 1877	
HY 136	US History since 1877	
Social/Behavioral Science Elective	Area IV ¹	3
		Hours
		16
Spring		
Select one of the following Humanities/Fine Arts: Literature - Area II:		3
EH 215	Brit Lit before 1785	
EH 216	Brit Lit after 1785	
EH 225	Am Lit before 1865	
EH 226	Am Lit after 1865	
EH 235	World Lit before 1650	
EH 236	World Lit after 1650	
Foreign Language	Area V - Foreign Language Sequence Semester 2	3
PSC/CJ 310	Research Methods-W	3
PSC Elective	300-400 Level Elective	3
Minor	Minor course	3
		Hours
		15

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Third Year

Fall

Natural Science with Lab or Upper Level Math	Area V	3-4
Literature or History Sequence	Area II or Area IV - Literature or History Sequence	3
Social/Behavioral Science Elective	Area IV	3
Political Science Elective	300-400 Level PSC Elective	3
Minor	Minor course	3
Hours		15-16

Spring

Political Science Elective	300-400 Level PSC Elective	3
Political Science Elective	300-400 Level PSC Elective	3
Political Science Elective	300-400 Level PSC Elective	3
Political Science Elective	300-400 Level PSC Elective	3
Minor	Minor course	3
Hours		15

Fourth Year

Fall

PSC 492	PSC Capstone Seminar-W	3
Political Science Elective	300-400 Level PSC Elective	3
Minor	Minor course	3
Minor	Minor course	3
Minor	Minor course	3
Hours		15

Spring

Minor	Minor course	3
Elective	Course in Major, Minor, or Elective	3
Elective	Course in Major, Minor, or Elective	3
Elective	Course in Major, Minor, or Elective	3
Elective	Course in Major, Minor, or Elective	2-3
Hours		14-15
Total Hours		120-122

¹ CJ 105 recommended