

Political Science

The political science major seeks to meet student needs for both liberal education and career preparation. Students majoring in political science take foundation courses in four major fields – American politics, comparative politics, international politics, and political theory. A required advanced seminar, normally taken in the senior year, is intended to give students valuable experience in conducting independent study. The remaining five courses required for a major in political science may be chosen by students to fit their varying intellectual interests, educational goals, or career objectives. Two of these elective courses, selected in consultation with departmental staff, must be taken from other departments; they are intended to supplement students' specific interests in political science and strengthen preparation for career or graduate study.

For students wanting practical experience or a chance to explore their interests in public service careers, the program offers a public service internship, in which students receive academic credit for supervised field training in public agencies.

Upon graduating, Political Science majors will have the ability to succeed, for example, in: concisely verbalizing political science theories, research, analysis, and conclusions; conducting research; and effectively communicating political science concepts in written form.

Career Opportunities

Law; education; public administration; international, state, and local governments; foreign service; journalism; specialized librarianship.

See the Graduate section (<http://catalog.mtmercy.edu/archives/2014-15/graduateprograms>) of this *Catalog* for more information on Graduate programs offered at Mount Mercy.

Major

PO 111	Introduction To American Politics (Core Curriculum)	3
PO 307	Political Science Research Methods	3
PO 441	Seminar In Political Research	3
Select two (2) of the following:		6
PO 101	Introduction To Political Philosophy	
PO 102	Government and Politics Around the World (Core Curriculum)	
PO 103	Introduction to International Relations (Core Curriculum)	
Electives: Four (4) of the five (5) electives must be courses at 200-level or above		15
Three (3) other political science courses, and		
Two (2) courses from other departments HI, CJ, SW, EC, PS, SO		
Or,		
Five (5) other political science courses		
Total Hours		30

Students planning to pursue teacher education should follow the program guidelines within the Education (<http://catalog.mtmercy.edu/>

[archives/2014-15/curriculum/education](http://catalog.mtmercy.edu/archives/2014-15/curriculum/education)) section of this *Catalog* and contact an adviser in the education division for assistance.

Academic Requirements

Students majoring in political science must achieve at least a final grade of C or above (C- does not count) in each of the five required courses, at least a 2.00 average in the three elective courses in political science (and a passing grade in each); and a least a 2.00 average in the two elective courses chosen from other departments (and a passing grade in each).

Political Science Minor

PO 111	Introduction To American Politics	3
PO 307	Political Science Research Methods	3
One American politics and public policy course selected from:		3
PO 201	The Presidency	
PO 202	Congress	
PO 203	The U.S. Supreme Court and the American Judiciary	
PO 204	Political Parties, Voters and Elections	
PO 326	Politics and Public Policy	
One international/comparative course selected from:		3
PO 102	Government and Politics Around the World	
PO 103	Introduction to International Relations	
PO 112	Globalization and Human Survival	
PO 312	Politics of International Economic Relations	
PO 313	International Law and Organization	
PO 314	Contemporary Political Ideologies	
Two other political science courses		6
Total Hours		18