

Bachelor of Science (BS)

Political Science (BS)

Political science is the study of governments and governing processes. It focuses on the institutions of government and international relations, as well as such factors as interest groups, political parties, public opinion, political economy, voting behavior, constitutional law and political philosophy.

Areas of concentration include American government, comparative government and politics, international relations, public administration, and political theory. Southeast's political science majors regularly intern with local, state and federal elected officials. Graduates with a degree in political science are employed in government and nonprofit administration, law, international affairs, political campaigns, lobbying and interest groups, journalism and media, academic research and teaching, and are accepted to leading graduate schools.

Becoming Career Ready...

/ Exceptionally well qualified faculty members work closely with students in small-class settings, challenging students to think systematically about national and international politics.

/ Political Science graduates work in political, financial, sales, marketing and communication fields. Examples of job titles include public policy analyst, public administrator, lawyer, lobbyist, campaign manager, human resource specialist, politician, immigration officer, researcher and legislative assistant.

/ Students interested in law are encouraged and prepared by faculty to take the LSAT exam and apply to schools of law. Political Science students are also exceptionally well prepared for advanced studies in other disciplines. At least 95% of the Political Science majors who have applied to graduate school or law school since 2005 have been admitted.

/ Political science students have access to specialized student organizations (e.g., the Law, Politics, and Society Club) and the student honorary society Pi Sigma Alpha.

/ 100% of Southeast programs offer real-world experience. Political Science students gain this experience through participation in local, state and national government internship programs and through participation in Model United Nations activities.

/ The path to a successful career starts with you! You can maximize your career development by working closely with Career Services and Southeast faculty – they are here to help you connect your passions, interests and skills to jobs and opportunities in the field. Career Services provides professional career counseling and coaching, resume critiques, practice interviews, job search strategies, career events, networking opportunities and more.

Advanced Degree Acceptances:

- University of Missouri Law School
- Washington University Law School
- St Louis University Law School
- SIU-Carbondale Law School
- University of Indiana
- University of Missouri
- University of Florida

Internships:

- Office of the Governor
- Missouri State Senate
- Missouri House of Representatives
- United States District Court, ED Mo
- Southeast Missouri Food Bank
- Safe House for Women

Transfer and Dual Credit Students

If you have dual credit or transfer credit, please visit our transfer course equivalencies guide at semo.edu/transfercredit.

To learn more
Office of Admissions
(573) 651-2590
admissions@semo.edu
semo.edu

To explore the
College of Humanities and
Social Sciences online, visit
semo.edu/hss

For advising
Center for Academic Advising
semo.edu/advising

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This is a guide based on the 2019-2020 Undergraduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on several factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students will meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their individual progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

Political Science – 36 Hours – Minor Required

Required Courses:

- ___ PS001 Senior Assessment (0)
- ___ PS240 Introduction to Political Science (3)

Choose one course:

- ___ PS103 U.S. Political Systems (3)
- ___ PS104 Comparative Political Systems (3)

Choose one course:

- ___ PS470 Politics of the Developed World (3)
- ___ PS471 Senior Seminar in Political Science (3)

Choose 15 hours:

- ___ 15 hours of political science courses (3 hours in each of the 5 subfields)

Choose 6 hours:

- ___ 6 additional hours in one specialty subfield

Choose 6 hours:

- ___ 6 additional hours of political science electives
(9 hours of political science courses must be 300-level or above)

Political Science Subfields:

- ___ American Government and Politics
- ___ Comparative Governments and Politics
- ___ International Politics
- ___ Public Administration
- ___ Political Theory

Additional Requirements:

- ___ AD101 Introduction to Microcomputer Applications (3)

3 hours of statistics:

- ___ MA223 Elementary Probability and Statistics (3)
- ___ QM257 Business (3)
- ___ PY 271 Introduction to Behavioral Statistics (3)
- ___ PY571 Introduction to Behavioral Statistics (3)
- ___ SW242 Statistics for Social Scientists (3)

Additional Math Requirement:

- ___ MXxxx 5 hours MA123 or above (except MA230, 318, 418)

General Education Requirements – some requirements may be fulfilled by coursework in major program

- Social and Behavioral Sciences – 6 hours
- Constitution Requirement – 3 hours
- Written Communication – 6 hours
- Oral Communication – 3 hours
- Natural Sciences – 7 hours (from two disciplines, one to include a lab)
- Mathematics – 3 hours
- Humanities & Fine Arts – 9 hours (from at least two disciplines)
- Additional requirements – 5 hours (to include UI100 for native students)
- Civics examination

SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

	Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
	Course #	Hrs	Course #	Hrs
FIRST YEAR	UI100	3	AD101	3
	EN100	3	PS240	3
	PS103 or PS104	3	Additional Math	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
Total	15	Total	15	
SECOND YEAR	Statistics	3	Comparative Government	3
	American Government	3	Additional Math	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
Total	15	Total	15	
THIRD YEAR	International Politics	3	Political Theory	3
	Additional Sub-Field	3	Additional Sub-Field	3
	Minor Course	3	Minor Course	3
	Minor Course	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
Total	15	Total	15	
FOURTH YEAR	Public Administration	3	PS001	0
	PS Elective	3	PS470/PS471	3
	PS Elective	3	Minor Course	3
	Minor Course	3	Minor Course	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
			Elective	3
Total	15	Total	15	

Degree requirements for all students: a minimum of 120 credit hours, completion of the General Education program, completion of 39 senior division hours (300-599), Writing Proficiency Exam (WP003). Refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin or Degree Works for additional graduation requirements for your program.

A minimum 2.00 GPA in the major and overall are required to graduate with a BS degree.