

Political Science Majors Tips on crafting your class schedule

Core PSCI Curriculum: The following are **core courses** required for the Political Science Major:

Lower division course:

*PSCI 100 United States Government and Politics

Upper division gateway courses:

*PSCI 301 Practice of Political Research (research methods)

*PSCI 331 World Political Systems

*PSCI 350 Global Governance

*PSCI 370 Foundations of Political Thought

Capstone seminar:

*PSCI 494 Senior Seminar in Political Science

PSCI 100, 301, 331, 350, and 370 are meant to be among the first courses you take for the major. **Why?** These courses provide foundational information that other courses will build upon. It is to your advantage to have this core information under your belt before taking other upper-division elective courses in Political Science. Each of these courses is offered *every semester*. Multiple sections of PSCI 100 are offered throughout the week. Also, some upper-division courses in the major (including PSCI 494) require or recommend that a particular core course is completed before enrolling in the course.

PSCI 494: Beginning with the Fall 2007 Catalog, all PSCI majors must complete PSCI 494, Senior Seminar in Political Science. This is a capstone course to be taken at the end of a student's academic program. **Note: The prerequisites for this course are the upper-division gateway courses listed above (PSCI 301, PSCI 331, PSCI 350, PSCI 370).**

Electives: In addition to core courses, a variety of upper-division electives are offered that fulfill each of our sub-fields, United States Politics and Government (USPG), Comparative Politics (CP), International Politics (IP), and Political Theory (PT). Most of our upper-division electives are offered once every three to four semesters. Therefore, a student who plans to complete his/her degree in four years might expect to see each upper-division elective offered 1-2 times. Currently the majority of our upper-division courses are offered on M/W or T/Th schedule between 8:30am-5:30 pm. In fewer numbers, upper-division courses are scheduled to meet once a week and/or in the late afternoon or early evening, or online. We generally do NOT offer upper-division courses during the summer.

Because some courses may be taught from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, they carry a “General” (GP) designation. Your faculty advisor will determine for which sub-field the class is to be counted.

If you are a **Global Concentration** major, you are required to take one upper-division class outside the major that deals with global issues. This course needs to be approved by your faculty advisor. The following is a *partial list* of courses that the department's faculty have agreed to in advance as meeting this requirement; other courses you may want to explore (including Special Topics courses that are offered by other departments on a rotating basis) must be personally approved by your advisor.

ANTH 370	Environment, Population, and Culture
BRS 300	Borders and Regions: Interdisciplinary Perspectives
BRS 330	Introduction to Migration Studies
BRS 400	Comparative Border and Regional Studies
BRS 453	Border Water Conflicts
BUS 444	Strategic Management in Global Environments
ECON 311	Comparative Economic Systems
ECON 441	International Economics: Trade
ECON 442	Economics of Development
ECON 443	International Economics: Money
ECON 445	Gender and Development
FREN 350	Civilization and Culture of French and Francophone World (conducted in French)
GBST 300	Global Studies
GRMN 350	Civilization and Culture of German Speaking Countries (conducted in German)
HIST 306	History of Internationalism and Human Rights
HIST 307	The Politics of Irish Nationalism
HIST 308	National Cinema and National History in 20 th Century Europe
HIST 316	Gender and Authority in Medieval and Early Modern Europe
HIST 322	Interwar Europe, 1919-1939
HIST 323	Society and Culture in Modern Europe
HIST 324	The Enlightenment and European Society
HIST 325	Revolutionary Europe
HIST 326	Europe Since 1945
HIST 327	Women in Modern Europe
HIST 352	Mexico, Past and Present
HIST 355	Women in Latin America

HIST 356	Culture and Identity in Latin America
HIST 359	A History of Brazil
HIST 360	Classical Asia
HIST 361	Modern East Asia
HIST 362	China and the West
HIST 363	China in Revolution
HIST 364	Image and Reality—Film and Modern Chinese History
HIST 365	Tradition and Change in Japan
HIST 370	Early African History
HIST 371	Modern African History
HIST 374	Africa Under European Imperialism 1880-1975
HIST 375	African Nationalism and Independence
HIST 379	Africa and the World in the 20 th Century
HIST 380	The Middle East, 600 to 1700 C.E.
HIST 381	Comparative French Colonialism: From the Caribbean to Indochina
HIST 383	Woman and Jewish History
HIST 384	Women and Gender in the Middle East
HIST 385	Middle East, 1700-Present
HIST 388	History of War in Modern Society
HIST 389	Historical Transformation of Money and Power
ID 301	Latin America in the 21 st Century
ID 406	Dilemmas of Modern Mexico
ID 410	Militants and Activists: Movement for Social Change
LTWR 320	Sacred Texts
LTWR 410	Global Literature I
LTWR 420	Global Literature II
SOC 353	Social Change and Social Movements
SOC 403	Children's Human Rights in a Global Society
SOC 469	Colonial and Post-Colonial Theory
SPA 350B	Spanish American Civilization (conducted in Spanish)
WMST 375	Women Changing Our World
WMST 445	Gender and Development

Internships: Internships are generally offered in the Spring semester, though it may be possible to complete one in Fall. Internships are generally unpaid but provide useful experience that may give you a competitive edge for graduate school or in your career search. You must be a junior or senior in good standing and have the endorsement of a CSUSM Political Science faculty member. Each 3 unit internship requires students to work 120 hours over the course of the semester at their agency and to write a 10 page journal on their experience. Internships are graded credit/no credit. For internships related to comparative or international politics, contact Professor Metoyer at

cmetoyer@csusm.edu for further information. For internships related to US politics, contact Professor Bass at sbass@csusm.edu.

Note: Courses that are taken for the Political Science major **do not** count toward your upper-division general education (DD) requirement.