

Political Science

Prerequisite Coursework for Transfer Students

Students transferring to Florida Atlantic University must complete both lower-division requirements (including the requirements of the Intellectual Foundations Program) and requirements for the College and major. Lower-division requirements may be completed through the A.A. degree from any Florida public college, university or community college or through equivalent coursework at another regionally accredited institution. Before transferring and to ensure timely progress toward the baccalaureate degree, students must also complete the prerequisite courses for their major as outlined in the [Transition Guides](#).

All courses not approved by the Florida Statewide Course Numbering System that will be used to satisfy requirements will be evaluated individually on the basis of content and will require a catalog course description and a copy of the syllabus for assessment.

Bachelor of Arts with Major in Political Science/[Link to Master's Programs](#)

(Minimum of 120 credits required)

Degree Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science requires meeting the following requirements:

1. All bachelor's degree requirements (stipulated in the University Catalog, including foreign language).
2. A minimum of 36 political science credits with no grade less than "C."
3. The following three courses:

Government of the U.S.	POS 2041	3
Comparative Politics	CPO 3003	3
RI: Research Methods in Political Science	POS 3703	3

4. A minimum of 27 upper-division credits from the following list. At least nine credits must be from the American Politics and Political Theory section, and six credits must be from the World Politics section.

American Politics and Political Theory		
Issues in American Politics	POS 3033	3
Florida Politics and Government	POS 3182	3
Political Film and Fiction	POS 3258	3
Law and American Society	POS 3691	3
Women and the Law	POS 3693	3
Urban Politics*	POS 4145	3
Public Opinion and American Politics*	POS 4204	3
Media in Politics*	POS 4235	3
Campaigns/Elections*	POS 4275	3
The U.S. Presidency*	POS 4413	3
U.S. Congress*	POS 4424	3
Political Parties and Interest Groups*	POS 4453	3
Constitutional Law: Government Powers and Limits*	POS 4603	3
Constitutional Law: Civil Right and Liberties*	POS 4604	3

The Judicial Process*	POS 4609	3
Politics of Community Development*	PUP 4623	3
American Political Thought	POT 4204	3
Women and Politics	PUP 3323	3
Policy Making and Administration*	PUP 4004	3
Policy Analysis*	PUP 4008	3
Government and the Economy	PUP 4710	3
World Politics		
Religions and World Politics	CPO 3761	3
Global Development and the Inequality of Nations	CPO 4033	3
Comparative European Politics**	CPO 4042	3
Politics of the European Union**	CPO 4101	3
Latin American Politics	CPO 4303	3
Comparative Politics: Middle East	CPO 4403	3
Asia Pacific Rim Politics	CPO 4502	3
Comparative Politics: Russia and Eastern Europe	CPO 4633	3
Comparative Gender Politics	CPO 4710	3
The Comparative Politics of Ethnic Conflict	CPO 4724	3
American Foreign Policy	INR 3102	3
International Law: Foundations and Institutions	INR 3403	3
International Organization	INR 3502	3
International Political Economy	INR 3702	3
War and Peace	INR 4006	3
The International System	INR 4081	3
Special Courses		
Special Topics (CPO, INR, POS, POT)	4931 or 4932	3
Political Science Study Abroad	CPO 4957	1-6
Advanced Diplomacy	INR 4503	3
Directed Independent Study	POS 4905	1-3
Senior Research Project	POS 4910	3
Internship	POS 4941	1-3

* POS 2041, The Government of the U.S., is a pre/corequisite for this course.

** CPO 3003, Comparative Politics, is a pre/corequisite for this course.

Political Science Global Governance Concentration

The primary purpose of the Department of Political Science's Global Governance concentration is to enable students

to study and increase their understanding of the causes and consequences of globalization as well as the political, economic and ecological dimensions of globalization. The program is organized around various themes of "global significance," such as global governance and human rights, including issues of peace and conflict among peoples and states; global terrorism; and the interrelationships of global justice, rights and responsibilities with new models of international organization, administration and development.

In addition to the University and College requirements for admission and graduation and the Political Science requirements, students enrolled in the Political Science Global Governance concentration are required to complete five of the core courses below.

Core Courses (select five courses from below)	
Political Science Study Abroad	CPO 4957
American Foreign Policy	INR 3102
International Law: Foundations and Institutions	INR 3403
International Organization	INR 3502
International Political Economy	INR 3702
War and Peace	INR 4006
The International System	INR 4081
Advanced Diplomacy	INR 4503

Honors Program in Political Science

The Honors Program in Political Science encourages the highest achieving students to engage in the subject more intensely and participate in significant original research while undergraduates. Honors Program participants learn how to identify a research puzzle and ask questions, gain the ability to critically analyze political science literature and write a literature review, use new skills to make objective theoretical arguments within their chosen subfield and select and apply an appropriate hypothesis, which may include collecting and analyzing empirical data. Throughout their research-intensive coursework, Honors Program students have a firsthand experience in the research process—working collaboratively with fellow students and faculty, writing and revising a journal article-length paper and presenting findings in a professional setting.

Admission Requirements

1. Students may apply after completing a minimum of 9 credit hours in political science.
2. Minimum criteria for admission include 3.2 cumulative GPA; 3.6 GPA in political science courses; and students should have at least two academic semesters left in which to complete program requirements.
3. Students should complete an application provided by the department, including a personal statement addressed to the chair of the department explaining why they seek honors in the field. Students should also solicit a letter from one Political Science Department faculty member supporting their application. Completed applications will be reviewed by faculty. Admission to the Honors Program is contingent on approval by the department faculty.
4. Applications for admission should be submitted to [Dr. D. Kim](#) or [Dr. A. Nichols](#).

Standards for Maintaining Active Status

1. Once accepted, students must maintain a GPA of 3.2 throughout the program to make progress. If less than a "B" is earned in any political science course or the student's cumulative GPA falls below 3.2, the student will be reviewed for dismissal from the Honors Program.
2. Continued enrollment in the program is contingent upon strict adherence to the Code of Academic Integrity. Any violation of the Code will be grounds for dismissal from the Honors Program.
3. The minimum amount of time necessary to complete the Honors Program is one year.

Criteria for Successful Completion

In addition to maintaining program standards, students must:

1. Complete the following course requirements.

a. An undergraduate methods course with an honors compact or a graduate-level methods course (must have already taken an undergraduate methods course to choose this option).

b. An upper-level undergraduate course or graduate-level course relevant to thesis project.

2. Complete the capstone project.

a. Project will take the form of a senior thesis, i.e., an article-length (25 pages, double-spaced) investigation of a significant research question.

b. Project must be overseen by a faculty member in the Political Science Department through Directed Independent Study (DIS) classes. Students should enroll in a minimum of 3 DIS credits and a maximum of 9 DIS credits.

c. Students must present their project at a department workshop, the University's undergraduate research symposium or a major political science conference, such as the annual meeting of the Florida Political Science Association.

d. Students must submit their project for review and approval by the Honors Program Committee. The thesis should be submitted at least one month prior to the desired graduation date.

e. If a student does not maintain the necessary standards, credits earned during the Honors Program may be applied for credit in the major.

Political Science Minor

A minor in Political Science requires a minimum of 15 credits (12 of which must be taken at FAU) in political science courses, including POS 2041, Government of the U.S., or INR 2002, Introduction to World Politics, or equivalent courses, and four upper-division courses (12 credits), all with a grade of "C" or better.