

POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR

The Political Science Program is housed within the Department of History and Politics. Both a major and minor in Political Science are offered.

Political science examines the origins, uses, justification, and distribution of power in society, as well as the relationship between power and other social “goods” such as wealth, rights, and liberties. Political science can be both descriptive and normative. When descriptive, it investigates how power, wealth and rights actually are distributed. When normative, political science explores how they ought to be distributed. Politics, in short, is about how societies are governed, how competing ideas about what is best for society are articulated and resolved, and how decisions in one part of the world affect other parts of the world. As part of a liberal arts education, the study of politics helps students develop critical thinking, research, analytical and communicative skills. It enables them to understand ideas and practices of citizenship, social justice, and human values. Political science prepares students for graduate studies as well as for a wide range of careers, including those in teaching, law, government, public service, public policy and administration, foreign and military service, business, international organizations, NGOs and the nonprofit sector, interest-group advocacy, and journalism.

Contact Information

historypolitics@css.edu

Requirements

Students must achieve the following program requirements for all courses listed under “Program Required Courses” for the Political Science minor.

Program Requirements

Minor Credits: 20

Minor Residency Credits: 12

Minimum GPA: 2.0

Minimum Grade: C

Program Required Courses

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Core | | |
| HIS 3310 | United States Foreign Relations | 4 |
| PHL 2223 | Political Philosophy | 4 |
| POL/GCL 2001 | Introduction to Political Science | 4 |
| Electives | | |
| Develop a plan of study in consultation with the Director of the Political Science Program | | 8 |
| Total Credits | | 20 |

In addition, Political Science minors are strongly advised to study in the Washington, D.C., Semester Program at American University (contact the department chair for application information).