

Department of Political Science

(College of Social and Behavioral Sciences)

www.uni.edu/polisci

The Department of Political Science offers the following programs:

Undergraduate Majors (B.A.)

- Political Communication (p. 1) (also listed in Department of Communication and Media)
- Political Science-Liberal Arts (p. 2)
- Public Administration (p. 2)

Minors

- American Government for Teachers (p. 3)
- International Affairs-Liberal Arts (p. 3)
- Legal Studies (p. 4)
- Political Science-Liberal Arts (p. 4)
- Public Administration (p. 4)

Graduate Majors (M.P.P.)

- Master of Public Policy (p. 5)

Program Certificates

- International Peace and Security (p. 5)
- Public Personnel & Human Resources (p. 6)
- State and Local Government (p. 6)

Bachelor of Arts Degree Programs

Political Communication Major

The Political Communication major requires a minimum of 120 total hours to graduate. This total includes UNIFI/General Education requirements and the following specified major requirements, plus electives to complete the minimum of 120 hours.

Required core

Communication and Media:		
COMM 4211/5211	Rhetoric and Civic Culture	3
COMM 4216/5216	Political Communication	3
	or POL AMER 4160/Political Communication	
COMM 4444/5444	Communication, Community, and Change	3
CM CORE 1010	Mass Communication and Society	3
Political Science:		
POL AMER 1014	Power & Politics in the U.S. *	3
POL AMER 3112	Campaigns and Elections	3
POL AMER 3150	Public Opinion and Voting Behavior	3

Methodology:

Select one of the following from Communication and Media/Political Science:		3
CM CORE 2020	Communication Research Methods *	
COMM 4023/5023	Rhetorical Research Methods *	
POL GEN 2010	Analyzing Politics	
Internship in Communication and Media/Political Science:		3
CM CORE 3900/5900	Internship in Communication and Media	
POL GEN 3181	Internship in Politics *	
Electives (choose two courses from Communication and Media and two courses from Political Science from the following list):		12
Communication and Media:		
COMM 2257	Argumentation and Debate *	
COMM 3055	Organizational Communication *	
COMM 4217/5217	Freedom of Speech	
COMM 4218	Persuasion	
COMM 4333/5333	Communication and Conflict Management *	
COMM 4344/5344	Intercultural Communication	
COMM 4446/5446	Voices from the Margin: Performance, Rhetoric, and Social Change	
COMM 4544/5544	Digital Culture and Communication	
COMM DM 1611	Media and Power	
COMM DM 4630/5630	Digital Media Law and Ethics	
COMM DM 4644/5644	Global Media: (Topic)	
COMM PR 1811	Principles of Public Relations *	
Political Science:		
POL AMER 2131	American State Politics	
POL AMER 3132	Community Politics	
POL AMER 3134	Congress: The First Branch *	
POL AMER 3144	Civil Rights and Liberties	
POL AMER 3151	Modern Presidency *	
POL AMER 3166	Political Parties and Interest Groups *	
POL AMER 4143/5143	Citizen Participation and Civic Engagement	
POL AMER 4177/5177	Political Psychology	
POL INTL 3126	Human Rights	
POL INTL 3143	International Law	
Total Hours		39

* *Choice of courses and subsequent prerequisites may increase the length of this program. These courses have additional prerequisites as follows:

Department of Political Science

POL AMER 1014 satisfies the Human Condition: Domestic UNIFI requirement.

CM CORE 2020, COMM 2257, and COMM 3055 have prerequisite of COMM 1000. COMM 1000 satisfies the Oral Communication UNIFI requirement.

POL GEN 3181 has prerequisites of POL GEN 2010; 15 hours of Political Science, Political Communication, or Public Administration major.

COMM 4023/5023 has prerequisite of CM CORE 2020 but will be waived for Political Communication majors.

COMM 4333/5333 has a prerequisite of COMM 2344.

COMM DM 4612/5612 has prerequisite of CM CORE 2020 or consent of instructor.

COMM DM 4644/5644 has prerequisite of CM CORE 1010.

COMM PR 1811 has prerequisites of COMM 1000 and ENGLISH 1005. COMM 1000 satisfies the Oral Communication UNIFI requirement.

POL AMER 3134, POL AMER 3151, and POL AMER 3166 have prerequisite of POL AMER 1014. POL AMER 1014 satisfies the Human Condition: Domestic UNIFI requirement.

Political Science Major-Liberal Arts

The Political Science-Liberal Arts major requires a minimum of 120 total hours to graduate. This total includes UNIFI/General Education requirements and the following specified major requirements, plus electives to complete the minimum of 120 hours.

Required

Political Science:		
POL GEN 2010	Analyzing Politics	3
POL THRY 1050	Introduction to Political Theory: Freedom, Justice and Power	3
POL AMER 1014	Power & Politics in the U.S. *	3
POL INTL 1024	International Relations *	3
POL COMP 1040	Comparative Politics	3
Students must take at least one upper-level course in each of the four sub-fields of political science:		
Political Theory [POL THRY 3xxx/4xxx]		3
American Politics [POL AMER 3xxx/4xxx]		3
International Relations (POL INTL 3xxx/4xxx)		3
Comparative Politics [POL COMP 3xxx/4xxx]		3
Students must take one Senior Seminar in Political Science:		
POL GEN 3184	Senior Seminar in Political Science	3
Electives in political science (POL AMER, POL COMP, POL GEN, POL INTL, POL THRY)		9
Total Hours		39

Note: Not more than 9 semester hours of political science taken within the International Affairs minor or Legal Studies minor may also be counted for credit on this major.

* POL AMER 1014 satisfies the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/General Education requirement. POL INTL 1024 satisfies the Human Condition (Global) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

Public Administration Major

The Public Administration major requires a minimum of 120 total hours to graduate. This total includes UNIFI/General Education requirements and the following specified major requirements, plus electives to complete the minimum of 120 hours.

Students may want to consider pairing this major with various certificates available, such as the Certificate in State and Local Government, Certificate in Public Personnel and Human Resources, and Nonprofit Management Certificate.

Required:

POL AMER 1014	Power & Politics in the U.S.	3
POL AMER 1048	Introduction to Public Administration	3
POL AMER 3153	Leadership and Management in Public Service	3
POL AMER 3172	Public Budgeting	3
POL AMER 4173	Politics and Public Policy	3
POL AMER 4188/5188	Seminar in Public Administration	3
POL GEN 2010	Analyzing Politics	3
POL GEN 3111	Politics and Statistics	3
or SOC SCI 2020	Social Sciences Statistics	
POL GEN 3181	Internship in Politics	3-8
Electives (9 hours from the following)		9
Political Science:		
POL AMER 2131	American State Politics	
POL AMER 3112	Campaigns and Elections	
POL AMER 3132	Community Politics	
POL AMER 3151	Modern Presidency	
POL AMER 3174	Management of Public Human Resources *	
or RTNL 3110	Management and Human Resources in Recreation, Tourism and Nonprofit Leadership	
POL AMER 4130/5130	Iowa Politics	
POL AMER 4176/5176	Topics in Public Policy	
Economics:		
ECON 1041	Principles of Macroeconomics	
ECON 1051	Principles of Microeconomics *	
ECON 3221/5221	Public Finance *	
ECON 3229/5229	Cost-Benefit Analysis *	
ECON 3253/5253	Urban and Regional Economics *	
Total Hours		36-41

Note: Not more than 12 semester hours of political science taken for the Public Administration major can also be counted toward a Political Science major.

* POL AMER 1014 satisfies the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

ECON 3221/5221, ECON 3229/5229, and ECON 3253/5253 have prerequisites of ECON 1041 and ECON 1051. ECON 1041 satisfies the Quantitative Reasoning UNIFI/General Education requirement.

ECON 1051 has prerequisite of ECON 1041.
 POL AMER 3174 has prerequisites
 of POL AMER 1014 or POL AMER 1048.

Minors

American Government for Teachers Minor

This minor prepares future social studies teachers to teach American government and politics. Nine hours of the minor will count toward American Government requirements in the Social Science Teaching Plan B major. NOTE: This minor is only available to Social Science Teaching majors, and does not lead to an endorsement.

Required:

POL AMER 1014	Power & Politics in the U.S.	3
Electives (choose five of the following):		15
POL AMER 2131	American State Politics	
POL AMER 3112	Campaigns and Elections	
POL AMER 3132	Community Politics	
POL AMER 3134	Congress: The First Branch	
POL AMER 3141	Constitutional Law	
POL AMER 3146	Judicial Politics and Policy-making	
POL AMER 3150	Public Opinion and Voting Behavior	
POL AMER 3151	Modern Presidency	
POL AMER 3166	Political Parties and Interest Groups	
POL AMER 4130/5130	Iowa Politics	
POL INTL 3127	United States Foreign Policy	

Total Hours **18**

International Affairs Minor-Liberal Arts

The International Affairs minor is composed of 18 hours in political science and related disciplines. It allows students to explore their interests in politics around the globe and helps prepare them to live and work in an increasingly interconnected world. The requirements are as follows:

Required

Political Science:		
POL INTL 1024	International Relations *	3
POL COMP 1040	Comparative Politics	3
Select at least two of the following:		6
Political Science:		
POL COMP 3121	Unconventional Warfare	
POL COMP 3123	Nationalism	
POL COMP 3125	Politics of Nonviolence	
POL INTL 3120	International Security	
POL INTL 3126	Human Rights	
POL INTL 3127	United States Foreign Policy	
POL INTL 3143	International Law	
POL INTL 3145	International Organizations	
POL INTL 3119	Politics of the Global Economy	

POL INTL 3125	Politics of International Development	
Select two of the following, any additional electives from the courses listed above, or those listed below:		** 6
Communication:		
COMM 4344/5344	Intercultural Communication	
Journalism:		
COMM DM 4644/5644	Global Media: (Topic)	
French:		
FREN 3011/5011	Business French ^	
FREN 4014/5014	The World of French Business ^	
FREN 4021/5021	Special Topics in Language and Culture ^	
Spanish:		
SPAN 3020	Cultures and Civilization of Latin America ^	
SPAN 3023	Cultures and Civilization of Spain ^	
Economics: ^		
ECON 3249/5249	Economic Development ^	
History:		
HIST 4520/5520	Europe from World War I to the Present	
HIST 4660/5660	History of Imperial Russia	
HIST 4670/5670	History of Soviet Russia	
HIST 4675/5675	Great Power Diplomacy from the Congress of Vienna to the Present	
HIST 4680/5680	Military History from Napoleon to the Present	
HIST 4720/5720	Modern Latin American History	
HIST 4740/5740	Modern African History	
HIST 4840/5840	Mughals and Marauders; Merchants and Mahatmas: A History of South Asia since 1526 CE	
HIST 4860/5860	Modern Chinese History	
Geography:		
GEOG 4150/5150	Regional Geography: (Variable Topic)	
Sociology/Anthropology:		
ANTH 3001	Language and Culture ^	
Total hours ***		18

* POL INTL 1024 satisfies the Human Condition (Global) UNIFI/ General Education requirement.

**This requirement may also be met by an internship approved by the Department of Political Science. Furthermore, students who have successfully completed four semesters at the college level of any foreign language, with at least a 2.00 GPA, or demonstrate an equivalent competency level can apply three credit hours toward the fulfillment of this requirement.

***No more than 9 hours of political science for this minor can also be counted toward a major in political science.

Department of Political Science

^ These courses have additional prerequisites as follows:
 COMM DM 4644/5644 has prerequisite of CM CORE 1010.
 FREN 3011/5011, FREN 4014/5014, and FREN 4021/5021 have prerequisite of FREN 3001/5001.
 SPAN 3020 and SPAN 3023 have prerequisite of SPAN 3001 or SPAN 3050/5050.
 ECON 1041 and ECON 1051 are prerequisites to all 100/2000/3000/4000-level economics courses.
 ANTH 3001 has prerequisite of PSYCH 1001 or SOC 1000 or ANTH 1002. SOC 1000 satisfies the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/General Education requirement. ANTH 1002 satisfies the Human Condition (Global) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

Note: Choice of courses and subsequent course prerequisites may increase the length of this program.

Legal Studies Minor

The Legal Studies minor encourages students to study legal institutions, norms and traditions and to analyze how they interact with society, culture, economics, politics and policy. The program equips students with the ability to comprehend and critically evaluate written arguments, to make one's own arguments and support them with evidence and logical reasoning, and to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Required:

PHIL 3370	Philosophy of Law	3
POL AMER 2147	Law, Politics, and Society	3
Electives: choose one course from each of the following groups, plus two additional courses from any of the groups:		15

Elective Group 1: Foundation of Law and the American Legal System

ENGLISH 1050	Law and Literature	
HIST 4110/5110	American Colonial History	
HIST 4440/5440	Kings, Heretics, Witches, and Revolutionaries: England to 1688	

PHIL 1030	Elementary Logic	
PHIL 3320	Political Philosophy	
POL AMER 3141	Constitutional Law	

Elective Group 2: Rights, Liberties and Justice

COMM 4217/5217	Freedom of Speech	
COMM DM 4630/5630	Digital Media Law and Ethics	
CRIM 3225	Criminal Court System	
CRIM 3314	Ethics in Crime, Law and Justice	
CRIM 3500	Advanced Criminal Procedure	
CRIM 3700	Gendered Violence and the Legal Process	

POL AMER 3144	Civil Rights and Liberties	
RELS 3200	Religion and Law	

Elective Group 3: Law, Politics and Society

CRIM 4253	Crime and Public Policy	
ECON 3231/5231	Law and Economics	
FAM SERV 3162/5162	Family Policy and Advocacy	

MGMT 3101	Business Law	
MGMT 3905/5905	Employment and Labor Law	
POL AMER 3146	Judicial Politics and Policy-making	
POL INTL 3143	International Law	
PSYCH 2302	Psychology and Law	
PHIL 1040	Justice and the Good Life: Philosophical Perspectives	
Total Hours		21

Note: Choice of courses and subsequent course prerequisites may increase the length of this program.

Note: Not more than nine (9) semester hours of political science for this minor can count toward a major in Political Science.

Political Science Minor-Liberal Arts

Required

Political Science:		
POL GEN 2010	Analyzing Politics	3
POL THRY 1050	Introduction to Political Theory: Freedom, Justice and Power	3
POL AMER 1014	Power & Politics in the U.S. *	3
POL INTL 1024	International Relations *	3
POL COMP 1040	Comparative Politics	3
Electives in political science (POL AMER, POL COMP, POL GEN, POL INTL, POL THRY)		3
Total Hours		18

* POL AMER 1014 satisfies the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/General Education requirement. POL INTL 1024 satisfies the Human Condition (Global) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

Note: Not more than 9 semester hours of political science taken within the International Affairs minor or Legal Studies minor may also be counted for credit on a political science major or minor.

Public Administration Minor

Required:

POL AMER 1014	Power & Politics in the U.S.	3
POL AMER 1048	Introduction to Public Administration	3
POL AMER 3153	Leadership and Management in Public Service	3
POL AMER 3172	Public Budgeting	3
POL AMER 4173	Politics and Public Policy	3
POL GEN 3111	Politics and Statistics	3
or SOC SCI 2020	Social Sciences Statistics	
Select One of the Following:		3
POL AMER 2131	American State Politics	
POL AMER 3132	Community Politics	
POL AMER 4130/5130	Iowa Politics	
Total Hours		21

Not more than nine (9) semester hours of political science for this minor can count toward a major in Political Science.

* POL AMER 1014 satisfies Category 5B of the Liberal Arts Core and the Human Condition: Domestic UNIFI requirement.

Master of Public Policy Degree Program

The mission of the University of Northern Iowa’s Master of Public Policy (MPP) program is to enhance the public service values of emerging and mid-career public service professionals and equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to analyze, develop, and evaluate public policy and affairs at all levels of government. We expect our graduates to: value accountability and transparency as integral to responsible stewardship of the public trust; be able to assess the ethical implications of policy decisions and incorporate those considerations into their professional work; be able to differentiate between efficiency and effectiveness in evaluating policy alternatives; and demonstrate respect, equity and fairness in their dealings with fellow public servants and diverse communities.

The MPP program is an online professional interdisciplinary degree program providing specialized and advanced training for students wishing to assume roles as policy analysts, principally in the governmental and nonprofit sectors of society. Courses in this program are offered using a combination of Zoom, an interactive video conferencing system, on Tuesday evenings and online via eLearning, a Blackboard learning management system. Courses meeting in the fall and spring semesters are taught in eight-week modules and summer courses will be six weeks in length. The program is designed to be completed in two years (eight semesters and two summers).

Students interested in this program submit a completed Application for Admission to Graduate Study. Complete undergraduate transcripts are required for admission review, as are a personal statement resume, and two letters of recommendation. The Graduate Record Examination (General Test) **is not** required for admission to the program. Admission to the MPP program is competitive. For more information about the program, visit <https://continuinged.uni.edu/distance/public-policy> or email the Program Coordinator, Professor Chris Larimer at christopher.larimer@uni.edu.

Only graduate courses (course numbers 5000 or above) will apply to a graduate degree, even if the undergraduate course number (4999 or less) is listed. No exceptions will be made.

The M.P.P. is available on the **non-thesis** option only, and requires **36 semester hours. A minimum of 13 hours of 6000-level course work is required.** As part of PUBPOL 6280, students will work in teams to complete a capstone project for a designated organization.

Required

Public Policy:		
PUBPOL 6260	Policy Analysis: Methods and Approaches	3
PUBPOL 6204	Program Evaluation in Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 6275	Quantitative Methods for Politics and Policy	3
PUBPOL 6230	Ethics in Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 6276	Data Collection, Reporting, and Analysis	3

PUBPOL 6280	Capstone: Policy Practicum	3
Economics:		
POL AMER 5171	Public Budgeting and Financial Management	3
or ECON 3221/5221	Public Finance	
Political Science:		
POL AMER 5154	Public Service Leadership and Management	3
POL AMER 4176/5176	Topics in Public Policy (enroll 3 times)	9
Internship:		
PUBPOL 6281	Internship in Public Policy	3
Total Hours		36

Topics in Public Policy explores the latest developments in the field of public policy research. Ongoing policy issues may be used as examples to illustrate theoretical developments or to introduce applications of course material. Must be repeated three times under different topics.

Program Certificates

The University of Northern Iowa makes available, in addition to traditional programs, the opportunity for students to earn program certificates. Program certificates provide an alternative to programs leading to a degree, a major, or a minor; they certify that an individual has completed a program approved by the university. For information on the following program certificates, contact the Department of Political Science or the Office of the Registrar, which serves as the centralized registry.

Certificate in International Peace and Security

The Certificate in International Peace and Security is designed to provide a specialized and in-depth knowledge of theories, concepts and evidence about issues of conflict and peace in world politics. Students will develop analytical and practical skills on matters of diplomacy and conflict resolution, coupled with a breadth of understanding about contemporary issues, about the different types and forms of international violence that exist, as well as the causes of and solutions to such conflict.

If your career goals are in foreign service, public or private sector conflict mediation, international business and risk assessment, homeland security or military service, this certificate program will be an invaluable benefit to your education. Any student seeking advanced study in international security, or who wishes to foster peace and understand war, is eligible and will find this intensive program rewarding.

Required

International Relations core:		
POL INTL 1024	International Relations *	3
POL INTL 3120	International Security	3
Electives		
Select a minimum of 9 hours from the following:		9
Communication:		
COMM 4344/5344	Intercultural Communication	

Department of Political Science

International Relations:	
POL INTL 3127	United States Foreign Policy
POL INTL 3143	International Law
POL INTL 3145	International Organizations
Comparative Politics:	
POL COMP 3121	Unconventional Warfare
POL COMP 3125	Politics of Nonviolence
History:	
HIST 4675/5675	Great Power Diplomacy from the Congress of Vienna to the Present
HIST 4680/5680	Military History from Napoleon to the Present
Sociology:	
SOC 3090	Conflict Resolution
Total Hours	15

* POL INTL 1024 satisfies the Human Condition (Global) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

Certificate in Public Personnel & Human Resources

The Certificate in Public Personnel and Human Resources is designed to provide a specific set of skills to students who would like to pursue careers in public settings (federal, state, or local government) or non-profit agencies related to the management of personnel and human resources. This certificate especially compliments the Public Administration major, but is also suitable for students who want to work in public agencies such as school administration, city management, public health, social services, or public safety.

Required:

Political Science:	
POL AMER 1014	Power & Politics in the U.S. 3
POL AMER 1048	Introduction to Public Administration 3
POL AMER 3174	Management of Public Human Resources 3
Psychology:	
PSYCH 1001	Introduction to Psychology 3
PSYCH 3304	Work Psychology: Well-Being 3
Electives (select a minimum of 3 hours from the following): 3	
Recreation, Tourism and Nonprofit Leadership:	
RTNL 3337	Human Resource Development for Recreation, Tourism and Nonprofit Leadership
Management:	
MGMT 3965/5965	Organizational Behavior
Political Science:	
POL AMER 4173	Politics and Public Policy
Psychology:	
PSYCH 3305	Work Psychology: Performance
Social Work:	

SW 4163 Diversity and Difference *

Total Hours 18

* * These courses have additional prerequisites as follows:

SW 4163 has a prerequisite of SOC 1000. SOC 1000 satisfies the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

**POL AMER 1014 satisfies the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

Certificate in State and Local Government

The Certificate in State and Local Government is designed to provide a specific set of skills to any student at UNI looking to work in state or local government. This certificate blends theoretical and practical knowledge to provide the flexibility to solve some of the problems facing these governments.

If your career goals include public finance, economic development, community development and planning, or state and local politics, a Certificate in State and Local Government will help link your education to your career.

A Certificate in State and Local Government will also help students who want to work in public agencies such as school administration, city management, public health, social services, or public safety.

Required

American Politics:		
POL AMER 1014	Power & Politics in the U.S. *	3
POL AMER 2131	American State Politics	3
POL AMER 3132	Community Politics	3
POL AMER 4130/5130	Iowa Politics	3

Electives

Select minimum 3 hours from the following: 3

Economics:

ECON 3253/5253	Urban and Regional Economics *	
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Geography:

GEOG 4170/5170	Climate Action Planning	
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American Politics:

POL AMER 3153	Leadership and Management in Public Service	
POL AMER 3172	Public Budgeting *	
POL AMER 4173	Politics and Public Policy *	

Criminology:

CRIM 4253	Crime and Public Policy *	
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Total Hours 15

* These courses have additional prerequisites are as follows:

POL AMER 1014 satisfies the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

ECON 3253/5253 has prerequisites of ECON 1041 and ECON 1051, or consent of instructor. ECON 1041 satisfies the Quantitative Reasoning UNIFI/General Education requirement.

POL AMER 3172 and POL AMER 4173 have prerequisites of POL AMER 1014 and POL AMER 1048. POL AMER 1014 satisfies the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/General Education requirement.

CRIM 4253 has prerequisites of SOC 1000 and CRIM 2022.
SOC 1000 will satisfy the Human Condition (Domestic) UNIFI/
General Education requirement.