



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602
univcouncil@uga.edu
www.uga.edu

University Council

March 15, 2019

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2018-2019

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the School of Public and International Affairs to offer the existing major in Political Science under the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree will be an agenda item for the March 22, 2019, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

John Maerz, Chair

University Curriculum Committee

cc: Interim Provost Libby V. Morris
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

Proposal for a B.S. in Political Science

The Department of Political Science seeks approval for a degree change to implement a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Political Science. This degree will complement the existing Bachelor of Arts (A.B.) program.

The current Bachelor of Arts program in Political Science provides excellent preparation for students seeking careers in the private, not-for-profit, and public sector. As our students seek advanced educational training, they have been admitted to the most competitive graduate programs and law schools around the country and abroad. We will continue to offer the A.B. However, in contrast to the A.B. in Political Science with its broad introduction to political institutions, political theory, legal and constitutional issues, and fundamental research tools, the program of study in the proposed B.S. requires more intensive coursework in research design, quantitative methods, and management and analysis of data. This advanced, research-oriented and methodological training will enable students to perform their own, independent data analysis of complex questions in politics and policy. Currently, our students participate in state and federal legislative and executive branch internships. The skills provided by a B.S. degree would expand internship opportunities with state and federal governments and would include campaign data analytics and survey research opportunities. Indeed, our experience tells us that elected officials are increasingly hiring individuals with data analytic skills who can analyze voter participation trends and turnout data.

Offering a B.S degree option in Political Science is consistent with the goals for strengthening digital literacy outlined in the December 1, 2017 Task Force on Student Learning and Success report and in the President's 2018 State of the University Address. The B.S. in Political Science would also put the University of Georgia ahead of many of its peer and aspirational institutions. Currently, thirty percent of our peer or aspirational institutions offer a B.S. degree (see Table 1). Schools that offer the B.S. degree include the Ohio State University, University of Kentucky, University of Iowa, University of Michigan, Penn State, and University of Wisconsin. Offering the B.S. degree option could attract new students, who might otherwise opt for another university that already offers this degree. Unlike our existing A.B. degree and other political science programs, which focus more heavily on the normative study of politics, our new program would strongly emphasize skills in data analytics that can be universally applied. We envision that the students who take advantage of this new opportunity at the University of Georgia will join the growing cadre of data analysis professionals working with decisionmakers and stakeholders within the nation's varied workforce communities.

Table 1: Degree in Political Science Offered at Peer and Aspirational Schools

Peer Institutions	Political Science Degree Offered
Louisiana State University	B.A.
Iowa State University	B.A.
Michigan State University	B.A.
<i>North Carolina State University at Raleigh</i>	<i>B.A. or B.S.</i>
<i>Ohio State University</i>	<i>B.A. or B.S.</i>
University of Arizona	B.A.
University of California-Davis	B.A.
University of Florida	B.A.
<i>University of Iowa</i>	<i>B.A. or B.S.</i>
<i>University of Kentucky</i>	<i>B.A. or B.S.</i>
University of Missouri-Columbia	B.A.
Aspirational Institutions	
<i>University of Michigan-Ann Arbor</i>	<i>B.A. or B.S.</i>
Cornell University	B.A.
<i>Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus</i>	<i>B.A. or B.S.</i>
University of California-Berkeley	B.A.
University of California-Los Angeles	B.A.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	B.A.
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	B.A.
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	B.A.
University of Texas at Austin	B.A.
University of Virginia-Main Campus	B.A.
University of Washington-Seattle Campus	B.A.
<i>University of Wisconsin-Madison</i>	<i>B.A. or B.S.</i>

Our B.S. program builds on a strong core of current faculty and existing political science courses. Our faculty are frequently called upon for their expertise in data analytics, often giving workshops around the nation and world. One recent tenure-track hire, a recent lecturer hire, and a pending tenure-track hire focus on data analytics and applied data analysis. A visiting scholar in Political Science is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and has experience with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as and is a former Director of the U.S. Census Bureau.

In addition to advancing the goals of the university, the B.S. degree option will enhance the range of research and practical opportunities for undergraduates interested in political science. Entry-level jobs and internship placements in our field now commonly require more advanced data-related skills. Many top law schools (e.g., Stanford, Harvard, Vanderbilt) offer courses in statistical inference. No part of the U.S. economy or the academy is unaffected for the demand for data-related skills.

Distinguishing the B.S. in Political Science from the A.B.

What are the hallmarks that will distinguish the B.S. from the existing A.B. degree? The cornerstone for the proposed B.S. is its emphasis on data analytic skills and social science methodological training. Courses in the B.S. would allow students to develop empirically based approaches to political and policy problems. Whereas students pursuing the A.B. in Political Science develop problem solving and communication skills through coursework focusing on political and legal institutions in the US context, students in the B.S. will develop deeper skills in the collection, analysis, and presentation of data bearing on politics and policy. B.S. students will complete more intensive coursework in research design and research methods versus students in the A.B. In addition, the B.S. degree option dovetails well with the new Survey Research Center in the Department of Political Science, where some majors work or intern.

Structure of the B.S. in Political Science Program

Students seeking a B.S. in Political Science must have a strong foundation in political science, in both a normative and empirical sense. This foundation comes from 30 hours of major-level courses as well as 12 hours of science and math courses taken in Core areas I-III. Courses in area VI and the major requirements highlight the differences in degree requirements. The bulk of the major requirements for the B.S. degree will come from the quantitative or formal analytic courses in Political Science. A comparison of the two programs is found in Table 2.

Enrollment Projections

We offer a conservative estimate of the number of students seeking this degree at 10-15 students per year in the initial two years, growing to 40-60 students in the program once it becomes fully established and advertised.

Resources Needed

The Department of Political Science is not requesting any additional university funds to implement the B.S. degree program.

Courses

We currently have the capacity to expand enrollment in all of the existing POLS courses that are optional for the A.B. but would be required for the B.S. These include POLS 2000, POLS 4150, POLS 4155:

- POLS 2000, Introduction to Political Science: This class is designed to introduce political science research design to students who are beginning the major. It focuses on theory, hypothesis testing, data science, and other issues

related to research design.

- POLS 4150, Research Methods in Political Science: This class covers quantitative techniques for measurement, analysis, and inference of political data.
- POLS 4155 Analyzing Political Behavior: An advanced course in data analytics focused on issues related to collecting, analyzing, and understanding data in the society. Students engage in hands-on learning with applied social science problems developing statistical and computational skills for sophisticated data manipulation, analysis, and visualization. This course will be an important part of the program and will directly enhance the data analytic skills of the students seeking this degree.
- POLS 41XX: An additional course to be developed by a new hire.

Faculty Time Commitments

The Department of Political Science will allocate teaching responsibilities for all courses in the B.S. program (including newly created courses) to current faculty to implement the B.S. degree program without detriment to the existing A.B. in Political Science.

Table 2: Degree Requirements

General Education Table		
Requirement	A.B. Political Science (Existing) Preferred	B.S. Political Science (Proposed) Preferred
Area I – Foundation Courses	ENGL 1101 English Composition I	ENGL 1101 English Composition I
	ENGL 1102 English Composition II	ENGL 1102 English Composition II
	MATH 1101 Introduction to Math Modeling or MATH 1113 Precalculus	MATH 1101 Introduction to Mathematical Modeling or MATH 1113 Precalculus or MATH 2250 Mathematical Modeling¹
Area II - Sciences	Life Science	Life Science
	Physical Science	Physical Science
Area III – Quantitative Reasoning	STAT 2000 Statistics or MATH 1060 Mathematics for Decision Making or MATH 2250 Calculus for Science and Engineering or BIOS 2010 Elementary Biostatistics	STAT 2000 Statistics or MATH 2250 Mathematics for Decision Making or MATH 2260 Calculus II for Science and Engineering
Area IV - World Languages & Culture	Foreign Language	Foreign Language
	Foreign Language	Foreign Language
	Foreign Language	Foreign Language
Area IV - Humanities & Arts	Humanities & Arts	Humanities & Arts
Area V – Social Sciences	POLS 1101 American Government	POLS 1101 American Government
	Social Sciences	Social Sciences
	Social Sciences	Social Sciences
Area VI	Foreign Language III	ECON 2105 Principles of Macroeconomics
	ECON 2105 Principles of Macroeconomics or 2106 Principles of Microeconomics	ECON 2106 Principles of Microeconomics
	HIST 2111 American History to 1865 or 2112 American History since 1865	HIST 2111 American History to 1865 or 2112 American History since 1865
	PHIL 2010 Introduction to Philosophy or 2020 Logic and	PHIL 2010 Introduction to Philosophy or 2020

	Critical Thinking or 2030 Introduction to Ethics	Logic and Critical Thinking or 2030 Introduction to Ethics or 2500 Symbolic Logic
	Social Science	GEOG 2011-2011L Introduction to Geographic Information Science
	Social Science	Social Science

¹MATH 1101 will still satisfy the requirement for this major, though MATH 1113 or MATH 2250 is preferred.

Major Requirements

A.B. Political Science	B.S. Political Science
2 Courses in Theory and Methods, which can include courses in Political Philosophy ⁴ and Theory and Methods ¹	4 Courses in Theory and Methods ¹ as indicated
	POLS 2000 Intro to Political Science or POLS 4150 Research Methods in Pol Sci POLS 4150 Research Methods in Pol Sci or
	POLS 4155 Analyzing Political Behavior or POLS 41XX To be developed by an incoming hire
	POLS 4070 Game Theory or POLS 4071 Social Choice and Elections or POLS 4072 Political Economy or POLS 4073 Social Choice and Institutions
	Theory or Methods Elective ¹
2 Courses in American Studies ²	3 Courses in American Studies ²
6 Major Electives ³	3 Major Electives ³

Major Related

A.B. Political Science	B.S. Political Science
The A.B. has No Major Electives	MATH 2250
	STAT 2000 or MATH 2260 or MSIT 3000

¹Theory and Methods courses for the B.S. include:

- POLS(SOCI) 3700, Research Methods in Criminal Justice (3 hours)
- POLS 4070, Game Theory (3 hours)
- POLS 4071, Social Choice and Elections (3 hours)
- POLS 4072, Political Economy (3 hours)
- POLS 4073, Social Choice and Institutions (3 hours)
- POLS 4150, Research Methods in Political Science or POLS 4150H, Research Methods in Political Science (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4155, Analyzing Political Behavior (3 hours)
- POLS 4190, Special Topics in Political Theory/Method or POLS 4190H, Special Topics in Political Theory/Methods (Honors) (3 hours)

² American Studies courses include:

- POLS 4105, American Political Development or POLS 4105H, American Political Development (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4400, Political Psychology or POLS 4400H, Political Psychology (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4410, Morality and Politics or POLS 4410H, Morality and Politics (Honors)(3 hours)
- POLS 4510, Public Opinion and American Democracy (3 hours)
- POLS 4520, Electoral Behavior or POLS 4520H, Electoral Behavior (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4530, American Political Parties or POLS 4530H, American Political Parties (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4540, Interest Group Politics or POLS 4540H, Interest Group Politics (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4550, Government and the Mass Media (3 hours)
- POLS 4560, African American Politics (3 hours)
- POLS 4600, The Legislative Process or POLS 4600H, The Legislative Process (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4605, Politics of Congressional Elections or POLS 4605H, Politics of Congressional Elections (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4610, The United States Presidency or POLS 4610H, The United States Presidency (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4640, Urban Politics or POLS 4640H, Urban Politics (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4650, State Politics (3 hours)
- POLS 4660, Southern Politics or POLS 4660H, Southern Politics (Honors) (3 hours)
- POLS 4690, Religion and Politics or POLS 4690H, Religion and Politics (Honors) (3 hours)

POLS 4700, Constitutional Law: Powers or 4700H United States Constitutional Law: Separation of Powers/Federalism (Honors) (3 hours)
POLS 4710, Constitutional Law: Rights and Liberties or POLS 4710H, United States Constitutional Law/Civil Liberties (Honors) (3 hours)
POLS 4720 or 4720E, Criminal Procedure (3 hours)
POLS 4730, Criminal Law (3 hours)
POLS 4740, Judicial Process and Behavior or POLS 4740H, Judicial Process (Honors) (3 hours)
POLS 4750, Gender, Law, and Politics (3 hours)
POLS 4760, Supreme Court Politics: The Institution and Its Justices (3 hours)
POLS 4770, The Supreme Court: Cases and Controversies (3 hours)
POLS 4780, Special Topics in Law and Judicial Process or 4780H, Special Topics in Law and Judicial Processes (Honors) (as approved) (3 hours)
POLS 4790, Special Topics in American Politics or POLS 4790H, Special Topics in American Politics (Honors) (3 hours) (as approved)

³ Major Electives are any POLS courses at the 3000 level or higher. As many as two major electives may come from the International Affairs (INTL) and Public Administration and Policy (PADP) undergraduate course offerings at the 3000 level or higher.

⁴ Theory and Methods courses exclusively for the A.B include:

POLS 3000, Introduction to Political Theory or POLS 3000E, Introduction to Political Theory, or POLS 3000H Introduction to Political Theory (Honors) (3 hours)
POLS 3100H, Issues in Political Philosophy (Honors) (3 hours)
POLS 4010, Political Philosophy to Machiavelli (3 hours)
POLS 4020, Political Philosophy: Hobbes to Nietzsche (3 hours)
POLS 4030, Contemporary Political Thought (3 hours)
POLS 4040, American Political Thought (3 hours)
POLS 4060, Problems in Democratic Theory (3 hours)
POLS 4080, Legal Theory (3 hours)
POLS 4090, Social Justice or POLS 4090H, Social Justice (Honors) (3 hours)
POLS 4190, Special Topics in Political Theory/Method or POLS 4190H, Special Topics in Political Theory/Method (Honors) (3 hours)(as approved)

Approvals on File

Proposal: Offer the existing major in Political Science under the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree

College: School of Public and International Affairs

Department: Political Science

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2019

School/College:

- Department of Political Science Department Head, Dr. Scott Ainsworth, 3/8/2019
- School of Public and International Affairs Dean, Dr. Matthew Auer, 3/8/2019