Political Science focuses on the manner by which values and resources are authoritatively allocated in societies and in international relations. In addition to providing a good liberal arts preparation, the discipline is particularly helpful in preparing for careers such as law, government administration, diplomatic service, public planning, policy analysis, journalism, political activity and the like. Also, the department’s courses provide the necessary background and skills for pursuing graduate work in political science and related fields.

Political Science courses at UK cover a wide range of topics, e.g., classical and modern political theory; the governments of foreign nations; international law and organizations; relations between different countries; public opinion, political parties, campaigns and electoral behavior; public policy in the U.S. and other countries; the functioning of legislative, executive and judicial institutions; state government; and urban politics. Students may also take special reading courses and be placed in internships through the department.

Political Science courses are designed not only to convey information to students, but to develop their skills in analyzing political arguments and in resolving political and governmental policy questions.

120 hours (minimum)

Any student earning a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree must complete a minimum of 60 hours in natural, physical, mathematical, and computer science. Please note: courses with a PS prefix are generally not accepted towards fulfilling this 60-hour requirement. Therefore, be sure to keep this requirement in mind as you choose your course work for the requirements in the major. A complete description of College requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree, including a specific listing of courses applicable to the 60-hour requirement, can be found on page 96 of the 2004-2005 UK Bulletin.

University Studies Program Requirements

I. Math .......................................................... 0-3
II. Foreign Language (placement exam recommended) .................. 0-8
III. Inference–Logic .............................................. 3-6
IV. Written Communication .......................................... 3-6
V. Oral Communication .................................................. 3
VI. Natural Sciences ....................................................... 6
VII. Social Sciences (partially completed by Premajor Requirement) ..... 3
VIII. Humanities .............................................................. 6
IX. Cross-Cultural (can be completed by Premajor Requirement) .... 6
X. Electives (choose two Natural Science courses) ......................... 30-47

College Requirements

I. Foreign Language (placement exam recommended) .................. 0-8
II. Disciplinary Requirements
   a. Natural Science (completed by USP Elective Requirement) ......... 3
   b. Social Science (completed by Premajor Requirement) .............. 3
   c. Humanities ........................................................................... 3
III. Laboratory or Field Work (completed by Premajor Requirement) .... 6
IV. Electives .................................................................................. 6

College Requirement hours: ......................................................... 9-17

Premajor Requirements

*PS 101 American Government .................................................. 3
PS 202 Orientation to Political Science ........................................ 1
plus two of the following:
PS 210 Introduction to European Politics: East and West
or
*PS 212 Culture and Politics in the Third World
PS 235 World Politics
PS 240 Ideology, Political Change, and Contemporary Industrial Society
*PS 245 Introduction to Political Analysis
PS 255 State Government
PS 271 Introduction to Political Behavior
PS 280 Issues in Public Policy ..................................................... 6

Premajor hours: ........................................................................... 10

Major Requirements

Course Work Required for the Major

From the Major Department:

Area Courses
At least one course must be taken in each of the areas 1, 2, and 3 listed below and at least one course must be taken in another field; and 9 additional hours from the Areas listed below or PS 395, 490, and 491. At least 15 hours must be at the 300+ level
Note: Courses used to satisfy the premajor cannot be used to satisfy the area requirements. ................................................................. 21

Area 1 – Theory and Methodology
PS 240, 245, 441G, 442G, 545, 549

Area 2 – Comparative Politics

Area 3 – International Relations

Area 4 – Political Process

Area 5 – Public Administration
PS 280, 487G, 489G, 580, 584

Area 6 – Public Law and Judicial Behavior

Area 7 – State and Local Politics
PS 255, 453G, 456G, 557

Other Courses
Choose 6 hours of PS courses (including 1-6 hours of PS 399) or approved courses from outside political science (see list below) ....................... 6
From Outside the Major Department
Choose 15 hours outside Political Science at the 300+ level. 200+ level courses used to satisfy USP and College requirements can also be counted here. The courses must be chosen from the list that follows, or approved by the Director of Undergraduate Studies and must include at least 6 hours from 2 different departments .................................................................. 15

AEC 309, 324, 445G, 471, 479, 532
ANT – all 200+ level courses
APP 200
COM 249, 281, 319, 381, 419, 449, 452, 453, 482, 483, 525
CS – all 200+ level courses
ECO – all 200+ level courses
EPE 301, 555
FAM 354, 509, 544, 550, 551, 563
FIN 423, 480
GEO – all 200+ level courses
GLY 430
GER 317, 319
HIS – all 200+ level courses
HON 201, 202, 301
JOU 204, 301, 499, 531, 532
TEL 319, 320, 453, 510
LAS 201, 395, 401
MGT 340, 341, 441, 450
PHI – all 200+ level courses
PSY – all 200+ level courses
RAE 270, 280, 340, 342, 430G
SOC – all 200+ level courses
SW 222, 430, 523, 560, 571
SPA 312, 314, 438G, 512, 513, 514
STA – all 200+ level courses
WS 200, 300, 350, 416

Major hours: .......................................................................................... 42

Electives
Electives should be selected by the student to lead to the minimum total of 120 hours required for graduation .............................................................. 4

Total Minimum Hours Required for Degree ........................................... 120

*Course used towards completion of a USP or College Requirement.