

## Politics & Government

<http://www.pacificu.edu/as/politics>

The first step in considering a major in Politics and Government is to speak with one of the department's faculty members. If you don't know where to start, contact the Department Chair, Professor Jeff Seward, at [sewardj@pacificu.edu](mailto:sewardj@pacificu.edu).

**Major Requirements:** A major in Politics and Government requires several courses in and outside of the department, as well as a variety of electives.

- |                                     |                                            |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Required courses in POLS:</i> | 2) <i>Required from other departments:</i> |
| POLS 299 (spring soph year)         | ECON 101 or 102                            |
| POLS 309 (spring junior year)       | SOC 301                                    |
| POLS 401 and POLS 402               | Two HIST courses                           |
- 3) *21 Additional Credit Hours in POLS courses that include the following:*  
    One upper-division course in American Politics or Law  
    One upper division course in International Relations or Comparative Politics  
    Two other upper-division courses (not internship credits)

Students are strongly encouraged to pursue an internship or study abroad and should plan to have those experiences in their junior year. Students interested in internships are encouraged to see Professor Van Dyk or Professor Boykoff; those interested in study abroad should see Professor Seward; and those interested in law school should consult with Professor Van Dyk.

### Introductory Courses:

Our department has two broad introductory courses: POLS 140 and POLS 180

- POLS 140 – Introduction to U.S. Politics
- POLS 180 – U.S. and World Affairs

Only POLS 180 will be offered in 2009-2010. It will be offered in the spring semester. Students are also welcome to begin the POLS curriculum with a 200-level course, not including POLS 299. Several 200-level courses will be offered in 2009-2010.

After one has had a 100- or 200- level course in the department, a student should be able to handle any 300-level course. For an upper division student who has never had a political science course, we strongly recommend talking with the instructor prior to registration.

A Four-Year Schedule for the Major:

Below is simply one example of many that a student could follow in pursuit of a POLS degree. We have had many students who did not really start to focus on POLS until the end of the sophomore year.

*Year One:*

POLS 140 and/or POLS 180 and/or 200-level POLS elective (not 299)  
ECON 101 or 102  
Math prep for SOC 301, if needed  
HIST Elective

*Year Two:*

200 or 300-level POLS Elective in Fall,  
POLS 299 in Spring (offered every year)  
HIST Elective  
SOC 301

*Year Three*

POLS 309 in Spring (offered every year)  
Other POLS Electives  
Consider Internship  
Consider Study Abroad

*Year Four*

POLS 401, the Senior Seminar  
Other POLS Electives  
Consider Internship

Revised 3/09