

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
REPORT TO RIVERSIDE DIVISION  
MAY 29, 2018**

**To be adopted:**

Proposed changes to the Political Science Major

**PRESENT:**

The major requirements for the B.A. degree in Political Science are as follows:

1. Lower-division requirements (four courses [at least 20 units]): one course from a, b, c, and d.

Students in the major must complete two of the four lower-division Political Science courses with a grade of “C” or better in order to take upper-division Political Science courses.

- a) POSC 005 or POSC 005H or POSC 005W or POSC 007
- b) POSC 010 or POSC 010H or POSC 010W
- c) POSC 015 or POSC 015H or POSC 017
- d) POSC 020 or POSC 020H

Upper-division requirements (nine courses [at least 40 units])

a) One course from each of the following areas:

(1) U.S. Government and Politics: POSC 100, POSC 101, POSC 104 or 104S, POSC 108, POSC 143, POSC 144 or POSC 144S, POSC 145, POSC 146, POSC 148 or POSC 148H or POSC 148S, POSC 149, POSC 166, POSC 167, POSC 168, POSC 170, POSC 171, ~~POSC 172/URST 172~~, POSC 173 or POSC 173S, POSC 180 or POSC 180S, POSC 181, POSC 182, POSC 183, POSC 184 or POSC 184S, POSC 186

(2) Comparative Government and Politics: POSC 120, ~~POSC 131, POSC 133~~, POSC 151, POSC 152, POSC 153, POSC 154, POSC 155 or POSC 155S, POSC 156, POSC 157, POSC 158/ LNST 148, POSC 159 or POSC 159S, POSC 160 or POSC 160S, POSC 161/ LNST 188, POSC 162/LNST142 or POSC 162S/LNST 142S, POSC 163

**PROPOSED:**

The major requirements for the B.A. degree in Political Science are as follows:

1. Lower-division requirements (four courses [at least 16-20 units]): one course from a, b, c, and d.

Students in the major must complete two of the four lower-division Political Science courses with a grade of “C” or better in order to take upper-division Political Science courses.

- a) POSC 005 or POSC 005H or POSC 005W or POSC 007
- b) POSC 010 or POSC 010H or POSC 010W
- c) POSC 015 or POSC 015H or POSC 017
- d) POSC 020 or POSC 020H

Upper-division requirements (nine courses [at least 36 units])

a) One course from each of the following areas:

(1) U.S. Government and Politics: POSC 100, POSC 101, POSC 104 or 104S, POSC 108, POSC 143, POSC 144 or POSC 144S, POSC 145, POSC 146, POSC 148 or POSC 148H or POSC 148S, POSC 149, POSC 166, POSC 167, POSC 168, POSC 170, POSC 171, POSC 173 or POSC 173S, POSC 180 or POSC 180S, POSC 181, POSC 182, POSC 183, POSC 184 or POSC 184S, POSC 186

(2) Comparative Government and Politics: POSC 120, POSC 151, POSC 152, POSC 153, POSC 154, POSC 155 or POSC 155S, POSC 156, POSC 157, POSC 158/ LNST 148, POSC 159 or POSC 159S, POSC 160 or POSC 160S, POSC 161/ LNST 188, POSC 162/LNST142 or POSC 162S/LNST 142S, POSC 163

or POSC 163S, POSC 164 or POSC 164S, POSC 165 or POSC 165S, POSC 178 or POSC 178S, POSC 188 or POSC 188S

(3) International Relations and Foreign Policy: POSC 123, POSC 124 or POSC 124S, POSC 125, POSC 126 or POSC 126S, POSC 127 or POSC 127S, POSC128, POSC 129, POSC 130, POSC 132 or POSC 132S, POSC 134 or POSC 134S, POSC 135, POSC 137 or POSC 137S, POSC 138 or POSC 138S, POSC 139 or POSC 139S, POSC 147 or POSC 147S, POSC 150 or POSC 150S, POSC 169, ~~POSC 189~~

(4) Political Theory: POSC 106 or POSC 106S, POSC 110 or POSC 110S, POSC 111 or POSC 111S, POSC 112 or POSC 112S, POSC 113, POSC 115 or POSC 115S, POSC 116, POSC 117, POSC 119, POSC121/CLA 121/CPAC 121/ or POSC 121S /CLA 121S/CPAC 121S/, POSC 122 or POSC 122S

b) Five additional courses in Political Science course work (Not more than 2 courses from the 190 series and POSC 142L and POSC 142M are allowed toward the nine-course upper-division requirement.)

A course in statistics is strongly recommended.

or POSC 163S, POSC 164 or POSC 164S, POSC 165 or POSC 165S, POSC 178 or POSC 178S, POSC 188 or POSC 188S

(3) International Relations and Foreign Policy: POSC 123, POSC 124 or POSC 124S, POSC 125, POSC 126 or POSC 126S, POSC 127 or POSC 127S, POSC128, POSC 129, POSC 130, POSC 132 or POSC 132S, POSC 134 or POSC 134S, POSC 135, POSC 137 or POSC 137S, POSC 138 or POSC 138S, POSC 139 or POSC 139S, POSC 147 or POSC 147S, POSC 150 or POSC 150S, POSC 169

(4) Political Theory: POSC 106 or POSC 106S, POSC 110 or POSC 110S, POSC 111 or POSC 111S, POSC 112 or POSC 112S, POSC 113, POSC 115 or POSC 115S, POSC 116, POSC 117, POSC 119, POSC121/CLA 121/CPAC 121/ or POSC 121S /CLA 121S/CPAC 121S/, POSC 122 or POSC 122S

b) Five additional courses in Political Science course work (Not more than 2 courses from the 190 series and POSC 142L and POSC 142M are allowed toward the nine-course upper-division requirement.)

A course in statistics is strongly recommended.

## **JUSTIFICATION:**

The first set of changes responds the fact that the new Banner system is flagging more students' transcripts for supposed failure to meet unit requirements. These are students who have taken the right number of courses in the categories defined by our different majors (we have four different POSC majors). But for a variety of reasons, the students don't have the number of units specified. In the broadest sense, this is because students don't all get the same number of units for taking the same classes. For example, currently we have a lower-division requirement that is measured both in number of courses (four) and units (20). This assumes, then, that each course taken toward the lower division requirement (5, 7, 10, 15, 17, 20) is a five-unit class. But we allow transfer students to meet some of these requirements by using community college courses, some of which come with only four units. The solution is to say that the lower division requirement remains four courses from the same list of lower div courses – but can be met with a range of units, from 16 to 20. A similar problem arises with upper division courses. In this case, the issue is that sometimes we offer S versions of our courses, and sometimes we offer the versions without sections. In one case, the course is worth five units, in the other, four. The fix is similar. We are removing courses that were deleted by other departments.

## **APPROVALS:**

Approved by the faculty of the Department of Political Science:  
Approved by the Executive Committee College of Humanities,

February 12, 2018

Arts, and Social Sciences:  
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy:

February 28, 2018  
April 10, 2018