

Department of Political Science and Public Administration

Undergraduate Coordinator: Dr. Leslie Baker

Office: 113 Bowen Hall

The Department of Political Science and Public Administration offers a Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A.) for individuals who have an interest in politics and who seek careers in the law, in federal, state, or local government (either administrative or elective), in the diplomatic service, with international organizations, in the business world, or in teaching. The Department also offers a Master of Arts degree in Political Science (M.A.), a Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Accredited graduate professional degree in Public Administration (M.P.P.A.) and a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration which prepare students for careers in the public service. Interested students should consult the undergraduate or graduate coordinator.

Numerous scholarships are available in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration. See the department's website for a complete list of available scholarships.

The Department of Political Science and Public Administration is involved in multiple academic and professional associations, ranging from on-campus activities and organizations to national and international associations. These organizations include Pi Alpha Alpha, Pi Sigma Alpha, Stennis Montgomery Association, Mississippi Model Security Council, and Pre-Law Society.

Minor in Political Science

Students not majoring in Political Science may wish to select a minor. A minor consists of a minimum of 18 hours of course work in Political science at least nine of which must be at the 3000 level or above. Interested nonmajors should speak with the undergraduate coordinator to formulate a suitable program of study.

Minor in Pre-Law

Whit Waide, Pre-Law Advisor
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The interdisciplinary minor in Pre-Law consists of 19 credit hours offered through several departments and programs throughout the university. A complete list of approved courses for the Pre-Law minor can be found in the College of Arts & Sciences minor listing in the catalog or on the PSPA website.

The Pre-Law minor is designed to be a curriculum that is consistent with the best practice in preparing undergraduates for the study of law. It has an interdisciplinary focus, creates a practicum like common experience, and focuses on analytic skill development. It will assist students in determining whether they desire to attend law school and will provide exposure to what they will encounter should they decide to attend law school.

Accelerated MPPA Program

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Students with at least a 3.5 GPA can opt to apply for the Accelerated MPPA program in their senior year. This program allows students to take up to nine (9) credit hours of approved classes for both undergraduate AND graduate credit that can be applied towards their MPPA degree. In essence, students graduate with both a BA and a MPPA degree, Students apply for the graduate program in their senior year and take three approved cross-listed courses in their last semester that contribute to the program.

Core Courses (27 Hours)

PPA 8103 Seminar in Public Administration
PPA 8703 Government Organization and Administrative Theory
PPA 8713 Public Personnel Management
PPA 8723 Public Budgeting and Financial Management
PPA 8733 Public Program Evaluation
PPA 8743 Administrative Law
PPA 8803 Research Methods for Public Affairs
PPA 8903 Public Policy
PPA 8983 Integrative Capstone

Electives (12 Hours)

Each student must complete a 12-hour elective concentration to augment knowledge, skills, and abilities acquired in required courses. These courses are tailored to the student's career objective.

Internship (3 Hours)

Each student completes an internship in a public or nonprofit agency. The internship is waived for students possessing at least one year of relevant work experience.

General Education and College Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1104	Expanded English Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	

Foreign Language

Foreign Language I		3
Foreign Language II		3
Foreign Language III		3

Humanities

Literature - A&S core		3
History - A&S core		3
Philosophy Elective - A&S core		3
Humanities Electives ¹		9

Quantitative Reasoning

MA /ST 2113	Introduction to Statistics ²	3
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Fine Arts

A&S Core		3
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Natural Sciences

Physical Sciences w/lab - A&S core		3-4
Life Science w/lab - A&S core		3-4
Natural Science Elective - A&S core		3-4

Social Sciences

PS 1113	American Government	3
Choose 1 of the following:		3
PS 1313	Introduction to International Relations	
PS 1513	Comparative Government	
PS 2403	Introduction to Political Theory	
PS 2703	Introduction to Public Policy	
Social Sciences Electives ³		9
A&S core		3

Major Core

Introductory PS Courses ⁴

Choose two of the following:		6
PS 1313	Introduction to International Relations	
PS 1513	Comparative Government	
PS 2403	Introduction to Political Theory	
PS 2703	Introduction to Public Policy	
PS 2713	Introduction to Engineering and Public Policy	

PS Upper Division Electives

Consult advisor		27
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Oral Communication

CO 1003	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
or CO 1013	Introduction to Communication	

Jr/Sr Writing		
PS 4464	Political Analysis	4
General Electives		
Consult advisor		12-15
Total Hours		121

(Note: Students must complete 31 upper-division hours in A&S in residence at MSU.)

- ¹ Humanities electives must be courses in A&S and must cover two disciplines.
- ² Math on A&S core taken prior to declaring Political Science major may be substituted. Students should consult their advisor for more information.
- ³ Social Science electives must be courses in A&S. The total 18 hours in Social Science must cover four disciplines; maximum of 6 hours per discipline; only one EC and one CO from A&S core list allowed
- ⁴ PS Introductory Courses must be taken in addition to the course selected for the Social Science requirement. A single course cannot be used to satisfy both requirements.

Minor in Pre-Law

PHI 1113	Introduction to Logic	3
PS 1182	Introduction to Law I	2
PS 1192	Introduction to Law II	2
Choose one of the following:		3
AAS /PS 3043	Modern Civil Rights Law	
PS 3063	Constitutional Powers	
PS 3073	Civil Liberties	
EN 4223	Principles of Legal Writing	
Elective Courses ¹		9
African American Studies		
AAS 3043	Modern Civil Rights Law	
AAS 4983	African Americans and the Law	
Agricultural Economics		
AEC 4413	Public Problems of Agriculture	
Anthropology		
AN 4633	Language and Society	
Business		
BL 2413	The Legal Environment of Business	
BL 3223	The Law of Commercial Transactions	
BL 3233	Business Law for Resorts	
BL 4263	Environmental Law	
BL 4273	International Business Law	
BL 4333	Real Estate Law	
Communication		
CO 4243	Rhetorical Theory	
CO 4253	Elements of Persuasion	
CO 4313	Mass Media Law	
Criminology		
CRM 3343	Gender, Crime, and Justice	
CRM 3353	Race, Crime and Justice	
CRM 4243	Drugs, Crime and Control	
CRM 4253	White Collar and Computer Crime	
CRM 4323	Victimology	
CRM 4513	Correctional Systems	
Economics		
EC 4043	Survey of Economics	
EC 4223	Labor Law and Employment Policy	

English	
EN 2243	American Literature Before 1865
EN 2253	American Literature After 1865
EN 2273	World Literature Before 1600
EN 2283	World Literature After 1600
EN 4223	Principles of Legal Writing
Foreign Languages	
FLL 1113	Latin I
FLL 1123	Latin II
FLL 2133	Latin III
FLL 2143	Latin IV
Food Science, Nutrition, & Health Promotion	
FNH 4333	Food Law
Forestry	
FO 4353	Natural Resource Law
Health Care Administration	
HCA 3813	Introduction to Healthcare Law and Regulation
History	
HI 3903	Historiography and Historical Method
Insurance	
INS 3103	Principles of Insurance
Philosophy	
PHI 1103	Introduction to Philosophy
PHI 1123	Introduction to Ethics
PHI 3113	Philosophy of Law
Political Science	
PS 2403	Introduction to Political Theory
PS 3063	Constitutional Powers
PS 3073	Civil Liberties
PS 3183	Law and Politics
PS 4113	State Government
PS 4173	Legislative Process
PS 4183	Judicial Process
PS 4193	Mississippi Judicial System
PS 4263	Mississippi Government and Politics
PS 4313	Principles of International Law
Psychology	
PSY 4353	Psychology and the Law
Religion	
REL 1213	Introduction to the Old Testament
Sociology	
SO 3343	Gender, Crime, and Justice
SO 3353	Race, Crime, & Justice
SO 4243	Drugs, Crime and Control
SO 4253	White Collar and Computer Crime
SO 4523	Law and Society
SO 4633	Language and Society
Sports Administration	
SS 3203	Sport Law

¹ Must be from at least two different disciplines