

# POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR CHECKLIST

Boise State University • Department of Political Science

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Sought:  BA  BS

This checklist is prepared to assist you. It is not a substitute for regular consultation with your advisor. Be sure to review the requirements in the catalog you are using for graduation purposes. Ultimately students are responsible for being aware of these requirements. You may want to discuss these with your advisor. In addition, this checklist is updated periodically and may not correspond with the catalog you are using for graduation purposes.

## MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

**Minimum graduation requirements are identified in the undergraduate catalog. The selection of the catalog for graduation is therefore important. The current minimum graduation requirements include:**

1. Minimum total credits for graduation must equal **128** (there may be exceptions for students transferring from other universities). These must include:
  - English Composition ENGL 101 and ENGL 102, or if applicable, only ENGL 102 or ENGL 111 and ENGL 112. Decide in consultation with your advisor.
  - Beginning with the 2006-2007 undergraduate catalog, all students must meet the diversity requirement by completing at least one of the approved diversity courses. See Table 10.7 in the current catalog for a listing of the approved courses.
  - University Core Credit Hours from Area I (12 credits), Area II (12 credits), and Area III (11-12 credits, depending on which math course is completed). The BA degree requires an approved literature course for Area I and an approved History course for Area II. Area III requires at least one of the approved mathematics courses.
  - BA degree requires an additional 9 credit hours in course work from departments in Area I and/or Area II. See Table 10.8 in the current undergraduate catalog.
  - BS degree requires an additional 9 credit hours in course work from departments in Area II and/or Area III. See Table 10.9 in the current undergraduate catalog.
  - Upper Division Credit Hours - A minimum of 40 credits total. This total includes upper division credits completed in Political Science.
2. Grade Point Average for all courses taken must equal 2.0 or greater. To be counted as a core area course, you must have a grade of C- or above for the course.
3. Meet specific requirements for a Political Science major:
  - Students will not be allowed credit toward Political Science requirements for any grade lower than C- **in upper division** Political Science courses.
  - Some upper division courses in Political Science have prerequisites. (Please see the undergraduate catalog.)
  - The current BSU policy is: "Students must complete prerequisites listed in the catalog descriptions or Schedule of Classes with a grade of "C" or higher prior to enrolling in the course. Requests to waive certain course prerequisites may be approved by the department offering the course. Requests must be justified on the basis of background, education, or experience." (Page 45)
  - Students must complete 45 credit hours in political science as follows:
    - 18 departmental core credit hours
    - 15 area of emphasis credit hours
    - 12 elective credit hours in upper division political science classes
4. At least 30 of the last 36 credit hours completed for graduation must be taken at Boise State University.
5. All students should meet with a Political Science advisor regularly before applying for graduation.
6. All students should apply for graduation one semester in advance of the desired graduation date. See page 52 of the 2009-2010 Undergraduate Catalog.

## GENERAL UNIVERSITY AND CORE REQUIREMENTS

ENGL 101 English Composition (3) \_\_\_\_\_      *Or If*      ENGL 111 Honors English Composition (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
ENGL 102 English Composition (3) \_\_\_\_\_      *Applicable*      ENGL 112 Honors English Composition (3) \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE:* The number of required credits and course(s) are determined by student scores on ACT/SAT/COMPASS examinations. See the current university catalog. If unsure, decide in consultation with your advisor.

## AREA I • ARTS AND HUMANITIES

*At least 3 fields must be represented—12 credits. See current university catalog for courses approved for Core Area I*

Fields	Course	Credits	Grade	Fields	Course	Credits	Grade
Art				Music			
Literature (English*)				Philosophy			
Humanities				Theater Arts			
Modern Languages**				Engineering			

\*BA degree requires at least one approved literature course

\*\*See catalog for approved foreign language courses.

## AREA II • SOCIAL SCIENCES

*At least 3 fields must be represented—12 credits. See current university catalog for courses approved for Core Area II*

Fields	Course	Credits	Grade	Fields	Course	Credits	Grade
Anthropology				Political Science**			
Communication				Psychology			
Criminal Justice Admin.				Social Work			
Economics				Sociology			
Geography				Teacher Education-CIFS	201		
History*							

\* BA degree requires at least one approved history course

\*\* The graduation office uses POLS 101 and POLS 141 for Core Area II even though POLS 231 is also approved. Grades of C– or better are required.

## AREA III • NATURAL SCIENCE—MATHEMATICS

*At least 2 fields must be represented—11 to 12 credits. See current university catalog for courses approved for Core Area III*

Fields	Course	Credits	Grade	Fields	Course	Credits	Grade
Biological Science				Geosciences			
Chemistry				Mathematics			
Engineering				Physics			
Physical Science							

### NINE ADDITIONAL CREDITS (*non-Political Science*)

*BA Degree requires an additional 9 credit hours in course work from departments in Area I and II.  
BS Degree requires an additional 9 credit hours in course work from Area II and III*

Course	Credits	Grade	Course	Credits	Grade

### OTHER NON-POLITICAL SCIENCE CREDITS

Course	Credits	Grade	Course	Credits	Grade

# Political Science Requirements

## Departmental Core Courses

*All Political Science majors, regardless of area of emphasis, must complete the following 18 credits of course work*

Course	Credits	Grade	Sem/Yr Completed
POLS 101 American National Government	3		
POLS 102 State and Local Government	3		
POLS 141 Contemporary Political Ideologies	3		
POLS 231 International Relations	3		
POLS 298 Introduction to Political Inquiry	3		
POLS 398 Advanced Political Science Methods (prereq. POLS 298)	3		

## Area of Emphasis Requirements

*Each Political Science major is required to select at least one of the following areas of emphasis and complete a minimum of 15 credits of course work in that emphasis with grades of C- or better. Some of these courses have prerequisites.*

### American Government and Public Policy Emphasis

Course	Credits	Grade	Sem/Yr Completed
POLS 301 Political Parties, Public Opinion, and Interest Groups	3		
POLS 302 Campaigns and Elections	3		
POLS 303 Introduction to Public Administration	3		
POLS 308 Urban Politics	3		
POLS 309 American Chief Executive	3		
POLS 310 Public Finance	3		
POLS 312 Legislative Behavior	3		
POLS 320 American Policy Process	3		
POLS 331 American Political Theory	3		
POLS 332 The Ideas of America	3		
POLS 340 Environmental Politics	3		
POLS 351 Constitutional Law	3		
POLS 352 Civil Liberties	3		
POLS 353 Women and the Law	3		
POLS 355 Law, Politics, and Society	3		
POLS 381 American Political Economy	3		
POLS 469 Intergovernmental Relations	3		
POLS 471 Ethics in Public Policy	3		
POLS 487 Organizational Theory & Bureaucratic Structure	3		

### International Relations Emphasis (con't on next page)

Course	Credits	Grade	Sem/Yr Completed
POLS 311 Comparative Foreign Policy	3		
POLS 321 Introduction to Comparative Politics	3		
POLS 324 Politics in Russia and Eastern Europe	3		
POLS 325 Latin American Politics	3		
POLS 327 Canadian Politics	3		
POLS 328 Politics in Japan	3		
POLS 329 Politics of Industrialized Nations	3		

