# Political Science (POLS)

Subject-area course lists indicate courses currently active for offering at the University of Louisville. Not all courses are scheduled in any given academic term. For class offerings in a specific semester, refer to the Schedule of Classes [here](http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm).

500-level courses generally are included in both the undergraduate- and graduate-level course listings; however, specific course/section offerings may vary between semesters. Students are responsible for ensuring that they enroll in courses that are applicable to their particular academic programs.

## Course Fees

Some courses may carry fees beyond the standard tuition costs to cover additional support or materials. Program-, subject- and course-specific fee information can be found on the Office of the Bursar website [here](http://louisville.edu/bursar/tuitionfee).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Prerequisite(s)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 501</td>
<td>Topics in American Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>An advanced examination of one or more selected contemporary problems in American government, such as national-state relationships, civil rights, foreign policy, labor relations, and taxation policy.</td>
<td>Consent of instructor</td>
<td>Topics to be varied from year to year; Individual research projects and reports will be required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 502</td>
<td>Topics in Comparative Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A comparative study of governments of selected countries, stressing one or more subjects such as party systems, policy-making processes, administration, regulation of economics, and others to be determined each time course is offered.</td>
<td>Consent of instructor</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">here</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 504</td>
<td>Topics in Political Theory - WR</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>An examination of one or more selected topics in the study of political philosophy. Individual research projects and reports are required.</td>
<td>Senior standing or faculty consent</td>
<td>POLS 500 or POLS 501 or consent of instructor; Approved for the Arts and Sciences upper-level requirement in written communication (WR). For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">here</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 505</td>
<td>Topics in Urban and Public Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>An interdisciplinary study of metropolitan problems, providing an opportunity to probe into basic long-range trends and human factors.</td>
<td>Consent of instructor</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">here</a></td>
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**POLS 506. Topics in International Relations** 3 Units

Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor.

Description: An advanced focus on one or more selected topics in world politics. Research projects, reports and simulations will likely be required. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes [here](http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

**POLS 507. Topics in Digital Politics** 3 Units

Description: Investigation of the role of information technology in politics and policy-making with a focus on real-world applications. Topics may include political campaigns, interest group advocacy, and e-government. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes [here](http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

**POLS 510. Louisville Metro Council Internship** 1-3 Units

Term Typically Offered: Fall Only

Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor.

Description: Practical internship in government.

Course Attribute(s): CBL - This course includes Community-Based Learning (CBL). Students will engage in a community experience or project with an external partner in order to enhance understanding and application of academic content. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes [here](http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

**POLS 511. Internship II** 3 Units

Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer

Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor.

Description: Practical internship in government, nonprofit, or private sector.

Course Attribute(s): CBL - This course includes Community-Based Learning (CBL). Students will engage in a community experience or project with an external partner in order to enhance understanding and application of academic content. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes [here](http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

**POLS 512. Frankfort Legislative Internship** 3 Units

Description: This course offers students the opportunity to experience working in the office of an elected member of Kentucky General Assembly. Interns work an average of 16 hours per week during the legislative session. Intern responsibilities may vary, depending on the intern's experience and interests as well as the needs of the office. The primary objectives of the intern program include: providing students the opportunity to gain first-hand experience working in government and politics, generating insight into the realities of the political process and how it relates to traditional theoretical perspectives of political science, and educating students about the possibilities of public service and politics as a career choice.

Course Attribute(s): CBL - This course includes Community-Based Learning (CBL). Students will engage in a community experience or project with an external partner in order to enhance understanding and application of academic content. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes [here](http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)
POLS 520. Coping with Conflict  
**Description:** This active-learning course involves students negotiating and then analyzing realistic hypothetical cases related to local, national, and international issues found within the North American countries. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 530. International Negotiation  
**Description:** An examination of the politics of interstate bargaining. Various theoretical perspectives are examined as well as several real world examples. Students will participate in role-playing exercises. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 552. Politics through Film  
**Description:** An examination of authority patterns, political change, using cinematic portrayals as the primary literature base for investigation. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 563. Women in Developing Countries - WR  
**Description:** Follows the progress of the international women's movement by focusing on the emergence of women leaders and their work in developing countries since the First World Conference on Women, 1975 to the present.  
**Note:** Cross-listed with WGST 556.  
**Note:** Approved for the Arts and Sciences upper-level requirement in Written Communication (WR).

POLS 568. Feminist Theory - WR  
**Description:** Survey of the history and scope of the feminist tradition with emphasis upon liberal, radical, Marxist, socialist, psychoanalytic, and postmodern approaches to feminist theory.  
**Note:** Cross-listed with WGST 556.  
**Note:** Approved for the Arts and Sciences upper-level requirement in written communication (WR).  
**Note:** Credit may not be earned for both WGST 556/POLS 568 and WGST 656/POLS 668.

POLS 602. Urban Political Economy  
**Description:** Examines the role of public/private sectors in shaping policy in community and consequences for urban growth and quality of life. For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 603. Economic Development  
**Description:** The use and application of static and dynamic models for urban community development. Includes economic base industry and firm location models, and community growth. Topics include transportation, energy, pollution, income distribution, and employment.  
**Note:** Cross-listed with PADM 645, UPA 640 and PLAN 626.  
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 605. Management of Nonprofit Organizations  
**Description:** Management of nonprofit organizations is a graduate seminar in the Masters of Public Administration program. Its purpose is to apply management theories and concepts to nonprofit organizations. As such, the emphasis of this seminar will be relating how non-profits are managed in a time of scarce resources. Furthermore, students will understand challenges faced by managers as they seek to meet mission objectives, attract public and private support, work with and motivate volunteers, collaborate with other sectors, and meet the challenges of meeting performance objectives.  
**Note:** Cross-listed with PADM 609.

POLS 609. Seminar in Urban Problems  
**Description:** Exploration of field of urban politics/government with focus on urban institutions, governance and selected urban problems and policies.  
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 615. Administrative Law and Process  
**Description:** Study of processes of law-making and application by governmental executive departments. Encompasses substantive issues facing agencies in designing and implementing effective regulation and court efforts to interpret and control agencies’ activities.  
**Note:** Cross-listed with PADM 610 and UPA 662.

POLS 619. Seminar in Public Policy  
**Description:** Formulation, implementation, qualitative evaluation, ethical aspects of public policy including political, legal, and administrative aspects.  
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 620. Topics in Public Policy  
**Description:** An examination of one or more selected topics in the study of public policy.  
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)
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<tr>
<td>POLS 625</td>
<td>Foundations of Public Administration</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Using the classic writings in the field of public administration for the past 150 years, the course explores the theoretical foundations of public administration and applies the theories to current practice in public administration.</td>
<td>Cross-listed with UPA 661, PADM 600, &amp; PLAN 613.</td>
<td><a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 627</td>
<td>Environmental Policy</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Survey of environmental issues and policies designed to address these issues.</td>
<td>Cross-listed with PADM 627, PLAN 620, UPA 679.</td>
<td><a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<td>POLS 628</td>
<td>Mediation and Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Designed principally for incipient practitioners of the mediation process. Class participation, serving as a mediator in cases presented to the class, and a short paper depicting mediating in process are the course requirements.</td>
<td>Cross-listed with PADM 648 and PLAN 612.</td>
<td><a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 629</td>
<td>Seminar in American Politics</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Current approaches, issues in American politics, evaluation of state of knowledge in various subfields of American government, politics.</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<td>POLS 630</td>
<td>Topics in American Politics</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Investigation of selected problems in American politics.</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<td>POLS 638</td>
<td>Seminar in American Foreign Policy</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Issues and perspectives in American foreign policy topics include theories of American foreign policy, historical epochs in the Cold War era, alternative strategies in nuclear deterrence, America's responses to the post-Cold War environment.</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 639</td>
<td>Seminar in International Relations</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Study of world politics, focusing on central theoretical perspectives and substantive issues affecting interstate conflict and cooperation.</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 640</td>
<td>Topics in International Relations</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Study of selected substantive or theoretical issues involving world politics.</td>
<td>Topics will vary from semester to semester.</td>
<td><a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<td>POLS 641</td>
<td>Clash of Civilizations in the 21st Century</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>This course examines three major civilizations (Western, Islam, and Chinese) and their roles in international relations in the 21st century.</td>
<td>Cross-listed with AST 641.</td>
<td><a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 647</td>
<td>Seminar in Latin America</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>The political and social-economic developmental processes of Latin American nations. Testing of hypotheses concerning political parties, electoral processes, elites, and development.</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 649</td>
<td>Seminar in Comparative Politics</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Survey of major theories, concepts, approaches of comparative politics, development of the field and methodology of comparative political analysis.</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 650</td>
<td>Topics in Comparative Politics</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Study of politics and government in selected countries/regions, or study of processes, institutions or policies from a cross-national perspective.</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<td>POLS 668</td>
<td>Feminist Theory</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>Survey of the history and scope of the feminist tradition with emphasis upon liberal, radical, Marxist, socialist, psychoanalytic, and postmodern approaches to feminist theory.</td>
<td>Cross-listed with WGST 656.</td>
<td><a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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<td>POLS 670</td>
<td>Research Design</td>
<td>3 Units</td>
<td>This course addresses how the scientific method applies to studying social and political phenomena. It offers a survey of the various qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis methods used in social and political research.</td>
<td>For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes <a href="http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm">Link</a></td>
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POLS 671. Introduction to Data Analysis 3 Units
Description: This course is an introduction to quantitative statistical methods.
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 691. Independent Study I 1-12 Units
Description: Individualized study in a selected subject area with approval of and supervision by a faculty member. Credit according to achievement.
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 692. Independent Study II 1-12 Units
Description: Individualized study in a selected subject area with approval of and supervision by a faculty member. Credit according to achievement.
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 695. Directed Research 3 Units
Prerequisite(s): Student must be in last semester of his/her course work.
Description: An intensive independent research project directed by a department faculty member. Intended for students completing the non-thesis degree option.
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)

POLS 699. Thesis Guidance 1-6 Units
For class offerings for a specific term, refer to the Schedule of Classes (http://htmlaccess.louisville.edu/classSchedule/setupSearchClassSchedule.cfm)