FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

NEW/CHANGE PROGRAM REQUEST
Undergraduate Programs

UUPC Approval 3-30-26
UFS Approval _____
Banner _____
Catalog _____

Department Political Science

College Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Program Name
B.A. in Political Science (Major and Minor)

☐ **New Program***
☑ **Change Program***

Effective Date *(TERM & YEAR)*
Fall 2026

Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below or on an attachment.

Now that CPO 3003: Comparative Politics has received approval to change to CPO 2002: Introduction to Comparative Politics, the department of Political Science must update the B.A. in Political Science curriculum to reflect this change in both the Major and Minor. It is necessary to make this revision so that students do not encounter the problem of needing a required course that no longer exists.

*All new programs and changes to existing programs must be accompanied by a catalog entry showing the new or proposed changes.

Faculty Contact/Email/Phone
Rebecca LeMoine / rlemoine@fau.edu / (561) 287-3691

Consult and list departments that may be affected by the change(s) and attach documentation

Approved by	***Date***
Department Chair	2/27/26
College Curriculum Chair Robin Larson	03/16/2026
College Dean	03/16/2026
UUPC Chair Korey Sorge	3-30-26
Undergraduate Studies Dean Dan Macroff	3-30-26
UFS President	
Provost	

Email this form and attachments to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Faculty:
Burnett, C., Chair; Atkins, B.; Garcia, L.; Kim, D.; Kirshner, O.; LeMoine, R.; Morton, J.; Nichols, A. D.; Perello, L.; Prier, E.; Rabil, R.; Roper, S.; Shaykhutdinov, R.; Shockley, K.; Turbino Torres, L.; Wagner, K.

The B.A. program is designed to provide a broad overview of the discipline of political science. It offers a firm grounding in all aspects of the discipline while ensuring flexibility for students to design programs of study to fit their particular needs through the selection of electives. An Honors Program gives students the opportunity to gain research skills, improve their critical thinking and writing skills, increase interaction with faculty members and complete their degree with an honors distinction.

Prerequisite Coursework for Transfer Students
Students transferring to Florida Atlantic University must complete both lower-division requirements (including the requirements of the General Education Curriculum) and requirements for the College and major. Lower-division requirements may be completed through the A.A. degree from any Florida public college, university or community college or through equivalent coursework at another regionally accredited institution. Before transferring and to ensure timely progress toward the baccalaureate degree, students must also complete the prerequisite courses for their major as outlined in the *Transition Guides.*

All courses not approved by the Florida Statewide Course Numbering System that will be used to satisfy requirements will be evaluated individually on the basis of content and will require a catalog course description and a copy of the syllabus for assessment.

Link to B.S. with Major in Data Science and Analytics

Link to Minors

Link to Master's Programs

POLITICAL SCIENCE
BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

Global Governance Concentration
Pre-Law Concentration

(Minimum of 120 credits required)

Degree Requirements
The Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science requires meeting the following requirements:

1. All bachelor's degree requirements (stipulated in the University Catalog, including foreign language).
2. A minimum of 36 political science credits with no grade less than "C."

3. The following two courses

Course Title	Course Numb
Government of the U.S.*	POS 2041
Exploring Political Science	POS 3330

4. * POS 2041 fulfills the State of Florida's Civic Literacy Requirement.

5. Two of the following courses

Course Title	Course Numb
Comparative Politics	CPO 2002~~3003~~
Introduction to World Politics	INR 2002
RI: Research Methods in Political Science	POS 3703
Global Political Theory	POT 2000

6. A minimum of 24 upper-division credits, with at least one 3-credit course taken in three of the following five categories:

   American Politics: Any 3000/4000 level course with a POS prefix (POS 4931 may be repeated for credit with a different topic).

Comparative Politics: Any 3000/4000 level course with a CPO prefix (CPO 4932 may be repeated for credit with a different topic).

International Relations: Any 3000/4000 level course with an INR prefix (INR 4932 may be repeated for credit with a different topic).

Political Theory: Any 3000/4000 level course with a POT prefix (POT 4932 may be repeated for credit with a different topic).

Public Policy: Any 3000/4000 level course with a PUP prefix.

Global Governance Concentration

The primary purpose of the Department of Political Science's Global Governance concentration is to enable students to study and increase their understanding of the causes and consequences of globalization as well as the political, economic and ecological dimensions of globalization. The program is organized around various themes of "global significance," such as global governance and human rights, including issues of peace and conflict among peoples and states; global terrorism; and the interrelationships of global justice, rights and responsibilities with new models of international organization, administration and development.

In addition to the University and College requirements for admission and graduation and the Political Science requirements, students enrolled in the Political Science Global Governance concentration are required to complete five of the core courses below.

Core Courses (select five courses from below)

Course Title	Course Number
Political Science Study Abroad	CPO 4957
American Foreign Policy	INR 3102
International Law: Foundations and Institutions	INR 3403
International Organization	INR 3502
International Political Economy	INR 3702
War and Peace	INR 4006
The International System	INR 4081
Advanced Diplomacy	INR 4503

Pre-Law Concentration

The Department of Political Science's Pre-Law Concentration prepares students

for legal careers by developing knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in law school. The concentration includes courses from subfields in political science focusing on American constitutional law, judicial process and international law. Students in this program take courses that include topics and issues in law school coursework and develop the abilities to read for a clear understanding of content, think critically, solve problems and communicate with greater precision and clarity.

The concentration does not require additional credits in the Political Science major. In addition to the University and College requirements for admission and graduation and the Political Science requirements, students enrolled in the Pre-Law Concentration are required to complete four of the courses below as part of the B.A. in Political Science.

Required Courses (select four courses from below)

Course Title	Course Number
International Law: Foundations and Institutions	INR 3403
International Law of Peace and Diplomacy	INR 3413
International Law of Armed Conflict	INR 3433
Law and American Society	POS 3691
Constitutional Law: Government Powers and Limits	POS 4603
Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	POS 4604
The U.S. Supreme Court	POS 4606
The Judicial Process	POS 4609
U.S. Environmental Law and Policy	POS 4697
Special Topics (with departmental approval)	POS 4931
Government and the Economy	PUP 4710

DATA SCIENCE AND ANALYTICS
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.)

Data Science in the Natural Sciences Concentration
Data Science and Engineering Concentration
Data Science in Business Concentration

(Minimum of 120 credits required)

The Bachelor of Science with Major in Data Science and Analytics (BSDSA) program is a multi-college, interdisciplinary program administered jointly by the

Department of Mathematics and Statistics in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science, the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Department of Information Technology and Operations Management (ITOM) in the College of Business, the Department of Political Science in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters and the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice in the College of Social Work and Criminal Justice. For details about this this program, see the Interdisciplinary Programs section of this catalog.

HONORS PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Honors Program in Political Science encourages the highest achieving students to engage in the subject more intensely and participate in significant original research while undergraduates. Honors Program participants learn how to identify a research puzzle and ask questions, gain the ability to critically analyze political science literature and write a literature review, use new skills to make objective theoretical arguments within their chosen subfield and select and apply an appropriate hypothesis, which may include collecting and analyzing empirical data. Throughout their research-intensive coursework, Honors Program students have a firsthand experience in the research process—working collaboratively with fellow students and faculty, writing and revising a journal article-length paper and presenting findings in a professional setting.

Admission Requirements

1. Students may apply after completing a minimum of 9 credit hours in political science.
2. Minimum criteria for admission include 3.2 cumulative GPA; 3.6 GPA in political science courses; and students should have at least two academic semesters left in which to complete program requirements.
3. Students should complete an application provided by the department, including a personal statement addressed to the chair of the department explaining why they seek honors in the field. Students should also solicit a letter from one Political Science Department faculty member supporting their application. Completed applications will be reviewed by faculty. Admission to the Honors Program is contingent on approval by the department faculty.
4. Applications for admission should be submitted to Dr. D. Kim or Dr. A. Nichols.

Standards for Maintaining Active Status

1. Once accepted, students must maintain a GPA of 3.2 throughout the program to make progress. If less than a "B" is earned in any political science course or the student's cumulative GPA falls below 3.2, the student will be reviewed for dismissal from the Honors Program.
2. Continued enrollment in the program is contingent upon strict adherence to the Code of Academic Integrity. Any violation of the Code will be grounds for dismissal from the Honors Program.
3. The minimum amount of time necessary to complete the Honors Program is one year.

Criteria for Successful Completion
In addition to maintaining program standards, students must:

1. Complete the following course requirements.

    a. An undergraduate methods course with an honors compact or a graduate-level methods course (must have already taken an undergraduate methods course to choose this option).
    b. An upper-level undergraduate course or graduate-level course relevant to thesis project.
2. Complete the capstone project.
    a. Project will take the form of a senior thesis, i.e., an article-length (25 pages, double-spaced) investigation of a significant research question.
    b. Project must be overseen by a faculty member in the Political Science Department through Directed Independent Study (DIS) classes. Students should enroll in a minimum of 3 DIS credits and a maximum of 9 DIS credits.
    c. Students must present their project at a department workshop, the University's undergraduate research symposium or a major political science conference, such as the annual meeting of the Florida Political Science Association.
    d. Students must submit their project for review and approval by the Honors Program Committee. The thesis should be submitted at least one month prior to the desired graduation date.
    e. If a student does not maintain the necessary standards, credits earned during the Honors Program may be applied for credit in the major.

MINORS

POLITICAL COMMUNICATION
UNDERGRADUATE MINOR

(Minimum of 12 credits required)

The undergraduate minor in Political Communication gives students in any major the opportunity to bring together courses from Communication and Multimedia Studies and Political Science into a multidisciplinary curriculum. Students are offered scholarly study of political networks as well as hands-on courses in political advocacy and campaigning.

This minor is open to all degree-seeking students and will be awarded upon completion of a bachelor's degree. A student who already holds a baccalaureate degree may pursue the minor in conjunction with a second bachelor's degree. All courses taken in the program may be counted toward other general and specific graduation requirements, and courses taken to fulfill other requirements may be applied to this minor.

Requirements for the minor include completion of four courses (12 credits) with a minimum grade of "C" and a 2.5 GPA. Students are required to choose two courses from the Communication and Multimedia Studies list and two courses from the Political Science list. At least 75 percent of all credits for the minor must be earned from FAU. In addition to the regular curriculum, other courses with significant attention to political communication may be approved by the program director.

Communication and Multimedia Studies
(select two courses from the list below)

Course Title	Course Number
Political Communication	COM 3500
New Media and Civic Discourse	COM 4603
Public and Community Relations	PUR 4411
American Multicultural Discourse	SPC 3704

Argumentation and Debate	SPC 4513
Propaganda	SPC 4540

Political Science
(select two courses from the list below)

Course Title	Course Number
Advanced Diplomacy	INR 4503
Political Podcasting	MMC 4127C
Community Activism in Practice	POS 3950
Public Opinion and American Politics	POS 4204
Media in Politics	POS 4235
Advanced Campaigning	POS 4271
Campaigns/Elections	POS 4275

POLITICAL SCIENCE
UNDERGRADUATE MINOR

(Minimum of 15 credits required)

A minor in Political Science requires a minimum of 15 credits (12 of which must be taken at FAU) in political science courses, including:

1. The following two courses.

Course Title	Course Numb
Government of the U.S.*	POS 2041
Exploring Political Science	POS 3330

2. * POS 2041 fulfills the State of Florida's Civic Literacy Requirement.

3. One of the following four courses.

Course Title	Course Numb
Comparative Politics	CPO 2002~~3003~~
Introduction to World Politics	INR 2002
RI: Research Methods in Political Science	POS 3703
Global Political Theory	POT 2000

4. Two upper-division Political Science courses (6 credits) with a minimum grade of "C."