

Political Science

Coordinator: Maximilian Felsch, Ph.D.

The Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences offers the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in Political Science.

On completion of the degree in Political Science, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate written and oral proficiency regarding philosophical and practical problems of political organization;
- Compare and analyze political systems;
- Analyze international conflicts, cooperation, and development;
- Evaluate structures and processes of public administrations;
- Apply methodological and epistemological tools necessary for political science research;
- Work independently on research projects.

Students majoring in Political Science should take PSC 201 in their first semester of the Sophomore year and must pass it with a grade of 70 or more.

PSC 201 or Junior Standing is the prerequisite for all HU students not enrolled in this Department who wish to take Political Science courses (other than PSC 252 and 295) as electives.

The Department also offers two minors:

A minor in International Relations requires 18 credits: PSC 201 and five courses from the following: PSC 226, PSC 227, PSC 228, PSC 229, PSC 232, PSC 233, PSC 237, PSC 245, PSC 292 (special topics in International Relations).

A minor in Middle East Politics requires 18 credits: PSC 201 and five courses from the following: PSC 230, PSC 231, PSC 233, PSC 234, PSC 235, PSC 238, PSC 292 (special topics in Middle East).

Students minoring in Political Science should complete at least 9 credits of their minor at Haigazian University. Students minoring in Political Science should score a minimum grade of 70 in PSC 201. For more details regarding minors, kindly refer to the Minors section of the catalog.

General Education (30 cr.)

Core requirements for all HU students are listed on page 58.

Core Requirements (46 cr.)

PSC 201	Introduction to Political Science	3 cr.
PSC 202	Research Methods in Political Science	3 cr.
PSC 211	History of Ancient & Medieval Western Political Thought	3 cr.
PSC 212	History of Modern Western Political Thought	3 cr.
PSC 221	Comparative Politics of Major Powers	3 cr.
PSC 229	International Organizations	3 cr.
PSC 232	International Relations	3 cr.
PSC 233	International Relations of the Middle East	3 cr.
PSC 234	Middle East Politics	3 cr.
PSC 235	Government and Politics in Lebanon	3 cr.
PSC 245	Public International Law	3 cr.
PSC 246	Public Administration	3 cr.
PSC 295	Senior Seminar	3 cr.
PSC 299	Internship Program	1 cr.
ECO 201	Microeconomic Principles	3 cr.
ECO 202	Macroeconomic Principles	3 cr.

Electives (6 cr.)

Two Political Science electives in the Department 6 cr.

Political Science Courses

PSC 101 Contemporary Issues in World Politics (3 cr.)

This course introduces students to significant contemporary political issues such as regionalism, statehood, ethnic conflict, peacekeeping and humanitarian intervention. It examines why such issues are at the core of international agendas, the problems they cause and the methods of managing them at the global level. Open to Freshman students only.

PSC 201 Introduction to Political Science (3 cr.)

A general survey of the various types of political systems, the theory and functions of the state, the machinery of government, and the relations between states.

PSC 202 Research Methods in Political Science (3 cr.)

Survey, comparison, and evaluation of the approaches, models, techniques, and methodological emphases in modern political study and research. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 211 History of Ancient and Medieval

Western Political Thought

(3 cr.)

This course serves as an introduction to the main ancient and medieval Western traditions in political philosophy and political theory. It studies Western philosophies and themes in political thought from the Greco-Roman period to the Renaissance and the Reformation. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 212 History of Modern Western Political Thought

(3 cr.)

This course serves as an introduction to the main Western traditions in political philosophy and political theory from Machiavelli to Marx. Special focus will be given to the formation of the state; the emergence of a discourse on democracy; the relationship between politics and ethics; the search for good government and the just society; and the shift to early Realism in the context of the emergence of the modern state in Europe. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 213 Contemporary Political Thought

(3 cr.)

Exploration of major political doctrines of the contemporary period and their influence upon political movements and institutions as they are reflected in democratic and non-democratic forms of government. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 214 Elections in Global Context

(3 cr.)

This course offers a basic knowledge on electoral process, electoral management, electoral systems, boundary delimitation, electoral observation, campaign finance and media regulations, voter registration, electoral technologies, out of country voting, electoral dispute and voter education.

PSC 215 Human Rights

(3 cr.)

The course, which is composed of three parts, is designed to acquaint the student with the theory and practice of human rights. The first part contemplates the primacy of the human being. The humanistic and theological approaches are examined with a sharp focus on the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions. The second part explores the developments in international law which culminated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 and its aftermath down to the Beijing Declaration of 1995. The third and last part offers practical measures in defending, upholding, and promoting these rights.

PSC 216 Active Citizenship

(3 cr.)

The Active Citizenship course provides students with the concepts and theoretical foundations of citizenship as found in political science and sociology literature. The course draws upon this framework to introduce a new definition of Active Citizenship within the context of Lebanon. It employs democratization and civil society notions for understanding an active, aware and informed citizenship behavior. A combination of case studies from reform, non-profit

sector, and policy development will serve to increase both student's knowledge and skill on the subject matter. Classes focus on interactive experiential learning, encouraging students to acquire a deeper practical understandings on the impact of Active Citizenship to systems of responsive, participatory governance as a whole.

PSC 221 Comparative Politics of Major Powers (3 cr.)

A general survey of the various types of political systems, emphasizing the relationship between institutions and processes. A detailed study of governmental machinery and the role of political parties, interest groups, and public opinion. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 222 British Government and Politics (3 cr.)

An in-depth study of the government and politics of Great Britain, their history and development, and the role of various political units within the system. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 223 US Government and Politics (3 cr.)

An in-depth study of American government and politics, history and development, and the role of various political units of the system. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 224 Modern Government of the Russian Federation of Independent States (3 cr.)

An in-depth study of post-Soviet government and politics in the Russian Federation and the newly independent countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, their history and development, and the role of various political units of the system. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 225 French Government and Politics (3 cr.)

An in-depth study of French government and politics, their history and development, and the role of various political units of the system. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 226 Diplomatic and Consular Service (3 cr.)

This course surveys the historical development of diplomacy and the main functions of diplomatic missions. It investigates, in particular, the principles and practices of diplomacy and the issue of diplomatic privileges and immunities. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 227 International Conflict Resolution (3 cr.)

This course deals with the theoretical and practical aspects of regional and international conflicts, their causes and the different peace making and peace building strategies while evaluating some of the recent successes and failures in conflict management and resolution. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 228 Regionalism and Regional Organizations (3 cr.)

The course introduces the concepts of regionalism and regionalization and studies development, organization and functioning of leading regional organizations with an evaluation of their achievements. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 229 International Organizations (3 cr.)

This course studies the theory and development of institutionalized international cooperation between states. The focus is on the system of the United Nations (UN), its origin, development, organization, and functions – including an evaluation of its achievements and shortcomings. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 230 Conflicts in the Middle East since 1945 (3 cr.)

This course surveys the main conflicts in the Middle East region since 1945. In addition to the historical component of the issues studied, a particular emphasis is put on the effects of these conflicts on regional developments and their interactions with political dynamics on the international level. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 231 Comparative Governments of the Middle East (3 cr.)

This course investigates the development and particularities of major Middle Eastern political systems. In particular, it studies comparatively their respective political institutions and domestic interactions. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 232 International Relations (3 cr.)

This course introduces the theories of International Relations (IR), including Realism and Neorealism, Liberal Institutionalism, Social Constructivism and Neo-Marxism. It examines the most relevant IR topics, such as: forms and conditions of cooperation between states, the causes of conflicts and wars, as well as socio-economic issues like development, poverty and global inequalities. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 233 International Relations of the Middle East (3 cr.)

This course offers a study of the relations among Middle Eastern states, with each other and with powerful actors in the international arena, including the U.S., Russia, and the EU. While examining the place of the Middle East system of states in the international system, the course also covers Arab regionalism, the Middle East conflict, the issue of weak and failed states, transnational terrorism, and the international politics of oil. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 234 Middle East Politics (3 cr.)

A study of the government, politics, history, and economic and political development of selected countries of the Middle East and of their relationships at both the regional and international levels. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 235 Government and Politics in Lebanon (3 cr.)

A study of Lebanon's consociational and confessional political system. The first part covers the historical development of modern Lebanon. The second part is a survey of the most relevant issues of contemporary Lebanese politics, including the question of Lebanese national identity, the electoral and parliamentary system, the political party system, state sovereignty, clientelism, Palestinian refugees, civil society activism and foreign relations. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 236 Government and Politics in Armenia (3 cr.) (Equivalent to ARM 266)

A survey of the development of the present political system of Armenia, with emphasis on the post-Soviet period. The course will study governmental institutions and processes and the dynamics of political, economic, social, and other forces and groupings in the country. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 237 Foreign Policy of Major Powers (3 cr.)

This course investigates the foreign policy-making of major powers such as those of the United States, France, United Kingdom, Russia, China, Germany, Japan, and the European Union. It provides in-depth analysis of the actors and factors at play in this process through the study of current foreign policies adopted by those powers. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 238 Islam and Politics (3 cr.)

This course examines the ways in which Islam manifests itself in the socio-political and religious spheres. The course introduces different approaches to 'political Islam', different historical trajectories of Islamist movements, and the ways in which various forms of 'political Islam' relate to each other. The emphasis is on the late twentieth century. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 242 Jurisprudence (3 cr.)

A study of the various kinds of laws, the nature and sources of law, the administration of civil and criminal justice, the nature of legal rights and duties, and the leading schools of jurisprudence. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 245 Public International Law (3 cr.)

A study of the core concepts, basic principles, and development of public and humanitarian international law. The course explores case studies to illustrate key points and concepts. Special emphasis is placed on the role of the UN and its

agencies in developing and implementing international laws and norms that govern relations among states as well as non-state actors. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 246 Public Administration (3 cr.)

An introduction to the discipline of public administration, its historical and theoretical development, its basic concepts, processes, and various approaches. The course explores the role and scope of public administration in the modern state and its relationship to the three branches of government. The course will touch on recent global developments as well as public governance. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 250 Selected Issues in Comparative Politics (3 cr.)

The course introduces the student to the concepts and approaches used in comparative political analysis such as political culture, political development, political parties, democracy, political elites, and conflict. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 252 Public Policy (3 cr.)

A study of the initiation, formulation, approval, implementation, and evaluation of public policy. Comparative analysis of the many approaches to the study and evaluation of public policy. The study of current issues and problems such as administrative responsibility, ethics in the public sector, and privatization trends. Corequisite: PSC 201 and PSC 246.

PSC 292 Special Topics (3 cr.)

A PSC elective course given in seminar form. Topics are selected according to faculty and student interest. The course consists of directed readings and a project. Prerequisite: Junior Standing and consent of the Department Chair. Prerequisite: PSC 201.

PSC 295 Senior Seminar (3 cr.)

An in-depth study of a special subject, culminating in the writing of an extended original and comprehensive term paper. Prerequisite: Senior Standing or the completion of at least 9 Political Science courses.

PSC 299 Internship Program (1 cr.)

A one credit course of 4 to 8 weeks work experience in a governmental or non-governmental institution. Grade: Pass or Fail. Prerequisite: The completion of at least 5 Political Science courses and consent of the Department coordinator.