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Welcome to the Political Science Department of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

This Handbook is designed as a supplement to the general University Catalog. Information in the general catalog is relevant to all undergraduate students at UNC Charlotte, and you should familiarize yourself with that information. [http://www.provost.uncc.edu/Catalogs/](http://www.provost.uncc.edu/Catalogs/). Take the time to read this Handbook in its entirety as you begin your undergraduate school career and keep it as a reference for the future. If the Handbook does not adequately answer your questions, see your advisor.

The Department of Political Science is within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Political Science Office: Fretwell 440
Political Science Phone: 704-687-2571

Faculty and graduate assistant mailboxes and offices are located in the Political Science Department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLITICAL SCIENCE TEACHING FACULTY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arrington</strong>, Professor Ted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:tarrngtn@uncc.edu">tarrngtn@uncc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Avellanaeda</strong>, Assistant Prof. Claudia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:cavellan@uncc.edu">cavellan@uncc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Billings</strong>, Assistant Prof. Stephen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:sbillin2@uncc.edu">sbillin2@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brandon</strong>, Professor. William (Bill)</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:wilbrand@uncc.edu">wilbrand@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:sbrenner@uncc.edu">sbrenner@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:cbrown@uncc.edu">cbrown@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:marbrown@uncc.edu">marbrown@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jgcarman@uncc.edu">jgcarman@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:njcaste@uncc.edu">njcaste@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of International Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:hicherno@uncc.edu">hicherno@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<td><strong>Christensen</strong>, Asst Professor Robert</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:rkchris@uncc.edu">rkchris@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:cccombs@uncc.edu">cccombs@uncc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:jwdouglaj@uncc.edu">jwdouglaj@uncc.edu</a></td>
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What Political Science Majors are Expected to Know When They Graduate and How They Will Be Taught These Things

Students should have an understanding of the fundamental terms, concepts, or principles of the discipline, including concepts from the sub-fields of American politics, international politics, comparative politics, and political philosophy. This understanding will allow them to recognize the linkage between political theory and current events and to be able to draw connections between political processes and political outcomes. Students should be active and informed global citizens with a tolerance for cultural diversity, but they must also have career enhancing skills in computer usage, critical analysis, and problem solving. Therefore, we expect students to be able to:

1) use a personal computer for word processing, web-based information retrieval, and data manipulation. (The Web and data manipulation are taught in the Methods course, POLS 2220. Students are expected to learn to type and use a word processor on their own before they take that course)

2) apply analytic skills to a specific research question, including a thorough review of the literature, formulation of a theory to answer a specific research question arising from the literature, deduction of testable hypotheses from the theory, and construction of a practical and ethical research strategy to test the hypotheses. This would include knowledge of the rudiments of qualitative and quantitative research, problem solving, and critical thinking.

3) understand the following topics (taught in the introductory courses and by a selection of upper division courses) well enough to discuss or explain any of them clearly and coherently in written English using appropriate terminology, citing specific facts or examples, showing an awareness that one’s own view of the world is not universally shared, and applying what he or she has learned about these topics to current political events.

- The nature of the international political system including: the nature of the state, nation, or country including the concept of sovereignty and anarchy; the dynamic factors that form and shape international politics; the interdependence of countries -- globalization and regionalism; sources of conflict and cooperation; methods of conflict resolution; the nature of the state; and the role of international law and international organizations. (Taught in POLS 1150)

- The diversity of distinctive characteristics of political systems around the world including: the factors that form and shape political systems; the role of written constitutions; rights and responsibilities of citizens and the citizen’s relationship with the State; role of political parties, interest groups, ideologies, voting systems, and the mass media; political participation; different concepts of law; comparison of federal and unitary systems; differing ideologies within and across countries; and the difference between democracy and other forms of government. (Taught in POLS 1130)

- The nature of the American political system including: the factors that have formed and shaped it; federalism; pluralism or diversity; the nature of the US Constitution; rights and responsibilities of people in the US and the relation of citizens to the State; how political parties, interest groups, iron triangles, issue networks, mass media, and public opinion interact; differing ideologies prevalent today; voting behavior; the presidential nominating and election process; the role of the Congress, Presidency, and Supreme Court and how they check and balance each other. (Taught in POLS 1110)
The student should be able to understand and explain the variety of views among the major political thinkers who have shaped the way we look at politics, human nature, the nature of the state, the justification of rights, and the role of the citizen within a democracy. The student should also be capable of demonstrating a knowledge of the presuppositions of the various ideologies (such as communism and fascism) as well as their effects on the constitution and nature of the nation-states which have adopted them. *(Taught in various political philosophy courses)*

**Major Course Requirements**

In addition to the general university requirements, a major in Political Science for the B.A. degree requires: 30 semester hours of Political Science courses to include: 1) POLS 1110 (Intro to American Politics); 2) POLS 1130 (Comparative Politics)3) POLS 1150 (Intro to International Relations); 4) one course in the subfield of Political Philosophy; 5) POLS 2220 (Political Science Methods and Laboratory); 6) one of the following: POLS 4600 (Senior Seminar), POLS 4990 (Senior Thesis), POLS 4110 (North Carolina Student Legislature) or POLS 4163 (Model United Nations) and; 7) a minimum GPA of 2.0 in all Political Science courses attempted at UNC Charlotte. No more than a total of nine semester hours toward the major may be obtained from any or all of the following courses: POLS 4110, POLS 4163, POLS 3400, and POLS 3800. The last 12 semester hours of Political Science must be taken at UNC Charlotte.

**Minor Course Requirements**

The political science minor requires 18 semester hours of political science. GPA for all POLS courses must be 2.0 or higher. Per University Degree Requirements, the last 6 hours of any minor must be completed at UNC Charlotte.

The student can choose any combination of courses with the POLS designation to fulfill this requirement with the following exceptions:

(1) No more than nine hours of credit from POLS 4110, 4163, 3400 or 3800 can be offered to fulfill minor requirements.

(2) Although students may repeat POLS 4110, 4163, 3400, or 3800 for credit, no more than three hours of credit from any one of these courses may be used to fulfill the requirements for the minor in political science.

**Transfer Credits**

Political Science credits transferred from another accredited university may be used to meet major requirements. However, students who transfer from two-year institutions to UNC Charlotte may count only the following transferred courses toward the 30-hour departmental requirement: POLS 1110, 1130, 1150, 1170. Other political science courses from two-year institutions will transfer as general electives. Note also that Political Science majors must take their last 12 hours of Political Science at UNC Charlotte, and minors must take their last nine hours of Political Science here.

**Credit for Advanced Placement (AP) Exam**

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program is a cooperative educational endeavor of the College Board. Through the services of the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey, the College Board has now developed two AP tests in political science--an AP Test in American Government and an AP Test in Comparative Government.

A student taking the AP Test in American Politics or Comparative Politics, who receives an evaluation of “3-Qualified”, will receive course credit for POLS 1110 or POLS 1130 as appropriate.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Development of Fundamental Skills of Inquiry</th>
<th>Cr.Hrs.</th>
<th>Courses taken</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic writing skills</td>
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<td>Courses taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Either ENGL 1101 or ENGL 1103</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic writing skills</td>
<td></td>
<td>Courses taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Either ENGL 1102 (students who take ENGL 1103</td>
<td>0-3</td>
<td>Do not have to take ENGL 1102)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics and</td>
<td></td>
<td>Courses taken</td>
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<tr>
<td>logical reasoning</td>
<td>MATH 1xxx</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Mathematics and</td>
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<td>Courses taken</td>
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<td>logical reasoning</td>
<td>One of the following:</td>
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<td>MATH 1xxx, STAT 1xxx, or PHIL 2105</td>
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<tr>
<th>II. Inquiry in the Sciences</th>
<th>Cr.Hrs.</th>
<th>Courses taken</th>
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<tr>
<td>Life sciences and/or</td>
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<td>Courses taken</td>
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<tr>
<td>physical sciences</td>
<td>Two of the following, and one of them must be with a lab:</td>
<td>(with lab)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ANTH 2141</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BIOL 1110, 1115, 1273,1274</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CHEM 1111, 1112, 1203, 1204, 1251, 1252</td>
<td>(with or without lab)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ESCI 1101</td>
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<td>GEOL 1200, 1210</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PHYS 1101, 1102, 1130, 2101, 2102</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PSYC 1101</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Social science</td>
<td>One of the following:</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ANTH 1101, GEOG 1105, ECON 1101, ECON 2101, POLS 1101, SOCY 1101</td>
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<th>III. Themes of Liberal Education for Private and Public Life</th>
<th>Cr.Hrs.</th>
<th>Courses taken</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arts and society</td>
<td>One of the following:</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>LBST 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105</td>
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<td>Western culture</td>
<td>LBST 2101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global understanding</td>
<td>LBST 2102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethical and Cultural critique</td>
<td>One of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>LBST 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>IV. Communications Skills</th>
<th>Cr.Hrs.</th>
<th>Courses taken</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing in the discipline course in the major</td>
<td>One three semester hour course or its equivalent totaling three semester hours in the major with the W designation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing in the Discipline course</td>
<td>A second course with the W designation (Can be in the major or outside the major)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral communication</td>
<td>A course with the O designation (if a course is designated for both O and W, the one course can be applied to both.)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>The following applies only to students majoring in a B.A. program in the College of Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>Cr.Hrs.</td>
<td>Courses taken, if applicable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign language</td>
<td>A course at the 1202 level in a foreign language</td>
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</table>
POLITICAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS

A major in political science for the B.A. degree requires thirty (30) semester hours of political science course work, including nineteen (19) hours of required courses and at least 11 hours of elective POLS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIRED COURSE TITLES</th>
<th>COURSE NUMBERS</th>
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<th>GRADE</th>
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<tr>
<td>INTRO TO AMERICAN POLITICS</td>
<td>POLS 1110</td>
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<td>INTRO TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS</td>
<td>POLS 1130 or 1131 (W)</td>
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<tr>
<td>INTRO TO INTERNATIONAL POLITICS</td>
<td>POLS 1150 or 1151 (W)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS PHILOSOPHY COURSE</td>
<td>POLS XX7X</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLITICAL SCIENCE METHODS</td>
<td>POLS 2220 (W) in Spring 2008</td>
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</table>

One of the following: SENIOR SEMINAR (W,O), SENIOR THESIS (W), NCSL (W,O), MUN (W,O); POLS 4600, POLS 4990, POLS 4110, POLS 4163

ELECTIVE POLS COURSE

ELECTIVE POLS COURSE

ELECTIVE POLS COURSE

ELECTIVE POLS COURSE

NOTES AND PREREQUISITES

- GPA in POLS courses must be 2.0 or higher.
- Political Science majors must take at least 12 hours of POLS courses at UNC Charlotte.
- The pre-requisite for POLS2220 is a passing grade in at least one 1000-level POLS course.
- The pre-requisite for POLS4600 are POLS1110, 1130 or 1131, 1150 or 1151, and 2220.
- The pre-requisite for POLS4990 is POLS2220.
- All students must take at least two writing-intensive (W) and one oral-communication (O) class. For students that entered UNC Charlotte in Fall 2005 or later, at least one of the W classes must be offered by Political Science. Our offerings of W and O classes have varied in recent years. Students should review their transcripts carefully to ensure that they meet this requirement.
- Students that entered the university before Fall 2005 do not have to take a 4000-level POLS class. However, they must still pass at least 30 semester hours of POLS courses, including POLS2220.

CONCENTRATION OPTIONS (not required)

CONCENTRATION IN COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS: Requires 12 hours of POLS courses at the 2000-level or higher listed under Comparative and International Politics in the catalog. Students that select this option after August 15, 2007 must also complete a 2000-level course in a foreign language.

CONCENTRATION IN PUBLIC POLICY: These 12 hours must include POLS 2120, at least 9 hours selected from POLS 3114, POLS 3115, POLS 3121, POLS 3124, POLS 3125, POLS 3126, POLS 3132, POLS 3135, POLS 3154, POLS 3157, POLS 3161, POLS 3169 OR POLS 3175 or some other public policy course specifically designated by the Chair of the Political Science Department, and an introductory economics course (ECON1101, 2101, or 2102).

Demonstrated proficiency in foreign language at the 1202 level? Yes ____ No ______

Two writing intensive courses? Yes ____ No ____ One oral communication course? Yes ____ No ____
### American Politics/ Public Administration

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### Comparative and International Politics

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<td>POLS 3171 - Classical Political Philosophy</td>
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<td>POLS 3172 - African/Amer. Pol. Philosophy</td>
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<td>POLS 3177 - Social &amp; Political Philosophy</td>
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**Honors Program**

To graduate with honors in Political Science and have this fact affixed to the student's transcript, a student must:

a. Comply with all of the requirements for a major in Political Science;
b. Complete at least two honors courses in the University Honors Program or in individual departments with a GPA of at least 3.25 in all honors work;
c. Have an overall GPA at UNC Charlotte of at least 3.25;
d. Have a GPA of at least 3.4 in all Political Science courses taken at UNC Charlotte;
e. Complete the Senior Thesis in Political Science (POLS 4990) with a grade of A and certification of the Department Honors Committee that the thesis deserves a grade of A and is of honors quality.

To be certified as honors quality, a thesis must contain original research and demonstrate a high degree of scholarship. Students seeking the honors designation must notify the professor who is directing their thesis no later than the second week of classes. Students submit their thesis for evaluation to the Honors Committee. If the Committee agrees to confer Honors on the student's thesis, it notifies the Department Chair. If the Committee decides that the thesis does not warrant Honors, the student receives the grade assigned by the supervising faculty member.

**Curriculum Areas**

The Department of Political Science offers training in behavioral methods as well as in philosophical, historical, and institutional approaches to the study of government and politics. Courses are offered in the areas of American politics, comparative politics, international relations, public administration, public law, and political philosophy. Students are not required to concentrate on a particular area but must distribute their Political Science courses to meet the requirements listed on page 5.

Students who pursue a B.A. degree in Political Science may use it as preparation for a wide range of careers in business, teaching, military service, diplomacy, and various kinds of social and government work. Students may also enter law school or graduate school upon completing the degree.

**Concentration in Public Policy**

A major focus of The University of North Carolina at Charlotte is the study of urban affairs. The Department of Political Science allows students to take courses in public administration and urban affairs which prepare them for occupations in the urban environment. This emphasis is particularly designed for students interested in administrative careers in local, state or federal government.

The Political Science Department offers a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree. Undergraduate public policy, public administration, and urban affairs courses are excellent preparation for this graduate degree or for similar programs in other universities. Information on the MPA degree is available from the Public Administration office which is located in the Political Science Department.

Students may earn the Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a concentration in Public Policy by satisfying the following requirements:
1) Completion of 12 semester hours as part of the required 30 hours in political science. These 12 hours must include POLS 2120, and at least 9 hours selected from: POLS 3114, POLS 3115, POLS 3121, POLS 3124, POLS 3125, POLS 3126, POLS 3132, POLS 3135, POLS 3154, POLS 3157, POLS 3161, POLS 3169, POLS 3175 or some other public policy course specifically designated by the chair of the Political Science Department and

2) Completion of an ECON intro course (1100, 2101 or 2102). Note that both ECON 2101 and 2102 are highly recommended, but not required.

Transcripts of students satisfactorily completing this program will bear the statement, "Concentration in Public Policy."

It is strongly recommended that students interested in these fields take courses in social science research methods, including statistics and computer languages.

**Concentration in Comparative and International Politics**

The concentration in Comparative and International Politics allows students to pursue a comparative study of non U.S. cultures and societies while at the same time fulfilling academic requirements for a major in Political Science.

Carefully selected course work in comparative and international politics courses should be designed to provide students with cultural and intellectual enrichment for more rewarding lives in an increasingly interdependent world. Such programs should also be of particular value to those with career objectives in government, business, trade, finance, law, health and environmental programs, international agencies such as the United Nations, private religious and humanitarian service organizations, journalism, teaching, research, and military service.

Students may opt to receive the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in Comparative and International Politics. Requirements include at least 12 semester hours (as part of the required 30 hours in political science) at the 2000-level or higher in courses listed under Comparative and International Politics in the catalog. Students seeking this concentration must also complete a 2000-level course in a foreign language or demonstrate proficiency at that level, or complete a study abroad experience approved by the Education Abroad Office of the Office of International Programs. American Sign Language is not acceptable. Majors seeking this concentration are encouraged to diversify their coursework by completing the major or minor in International Studies.

Transcripts of students satisfactorily completing this program will bear the statement, "Concentration in Comparative and International Politics." Political Science majors who are interested in comparative and international politics are encouraged to diversify their coursework in this area by completing the minor in International Studies. To declare this minor, contact the International Studies Office in 114 Denny.
Internships, Practica, and Independent Studies

The department offers the opportunity for independent study and non-classroom courses. Students may enroll with departmental permission in the following courses, but no more than a total of 9 hours for any and all of these courses added together can be offered to fulfill requirements for a Political Science major or minor:

- POLS 4110 North Carolina Student Legislature
- POLS 4163 Model United Nations
- POLS 3400 Internship in Political Science
- POLS 3800 Independent Study

The student desiring to enroll in independent study must first obtain the agreement of a faculty member who specializes in the intended subject to set the requirements of the project, monitor the work and award a grade. A student is permitted to enroll in no more than three hours of independent study (POLS 3800) in a particular semester. Exceptions to this rule must be based on an exceptional set of circumstances and must be approved in writing by the department chair. Similarly, a student is permitted to enroll in no more than six hours of internship (POLS 3400) during any semester.

http://www.politicalscience.uncc.edu/jwalsh/internships.html

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Internships

North Carolina State Government Summer Intern Program

The summer internship program places students in executive and judicial agencies; it is open to students who have completed three years of college work at the time that the internship is scheduled to begin. The application deadline is February 1. Further information is available through the University Career Center.

Legislative Internship Program in the North Carolina General Assembly

The Legislative Internship Program has been jointly conducted by the General Assembly and the Department of Politics at North Carolina State University during the Spring semester in each legislative session year since 1965. The program is open to students who have completed their sophomore year. Interns are expected to combine work as legislative assistants with an academic program that is offered by NCSU (credit earned may be transferred to UNC Charlotte). Usually the deadline for application to this program is December 1. Further information is available through the University Career Center.

Summer Internship Program in Community Education and Service

The Internship Program in Community Education and Service is based in the Cooperative Education Office. It is a service-learning experience in which the student earns academic credit and sometimes a stipend for a ten to twelve week (approximately 40 hours a week) summer internship and seminar. Further information is available through the University Career Center.
Departmental Internship Program

Credit is available for a program based on employment in a government or government related agency, or for participation in political activity such as election campaigning. The student is responsible for finding a position and consulting with the department chairman to verify that the position qualifies. POLS credit may be received by registering for POLS 4400 with department approval.

Practica

http://www.politicalscience.uncc.edu/studentorg.htm

North Carolina Student Legislature (NCSL)

The department provides a faculty advisor and staff assistance for the UNC Charlotte delegation to the North Carolina Student Legislature. The NCSL Constitution states that: "The Student Legislature shall provide an opportunity whereby the students of this state shall assemble as representatives to a General Assembly and through the learning experience of the legislative process come to appreciate the concept of representative government and to realize more fully the responsibilities of citizenship." Students may enroll in POLS 4110 in the Spring with special permission from the NCSL faculty advisor.

Model United Nations

The Model UN prepares students for participation in a simulated United Nations program (the National Model United Nations) in April of each year in New York City or some other simulation of international organization. Travel, hotel and delegate fees are partially paid by the Student Government Association. Students selected for the course become delegates from a pre-selected nation and simulate the attitudes and arguments of that nation's delegation. Students may enroll in POLS 4163 in the Spring with special permission from the MUN faculty advisor.

Pre-Law Society

The University's Law Society is a student organization open to anyone interested in a law-related profession or who is interested in attending law school. The Society is open to all students regardless of year or major. The activities of the Society include Law School Admission Test (LSAT) preparation. Students should take this exam early in their senior year. The results of this highly competitive test determine in great measure whether students will be admitted to law school or to their school of choice. LSAT books which contain information regarding this exam, including test dates, are available in the Political Science Department free of charge. The department will not mail this material.

Activities also include guest lecturers from all areas of law, law school visits, Law School Symposium and Young Lawyer’s Night. The highlight of the year is a week-long trip to Washington, D.C., where students are given the opportunity to speak intimately with government officials. Past seminars in Washington have included Bob Dole, George Stephanopolous, and Solicitor General Walter Dellinger and several members of the U.S. Supreme Court.
Anyone needing more information about the Pre-Law Society should contact Kathleen Nicolaides in the Criminal Justice Department during the regular academic year.

Majors planning to attend law school might consider taking some of the following law-related courses in political science:

- POLS 3114 Constitutional Law
- POLS 3115 Civil Rights and Liberties
- POLS 3116 Judicial Process
- POLS 3175 Law, Justice and Morality

In addition, pre-law students might consider courses in accounting, anthropology, business, criminal justice, debating, drama, economics, English composition, history, logic, mathematics (especially statistics), philosophy, psychology, sociology, and communication studies, among others.

**Student Representation**

Political Science majors may participate in most areas of department decision-making. One undergraduate and one graduate student represent student majors in department meetings. Student Political Science organizations have responsibility for establishing procedures to elect undergraduate delegates and alternates. Through representation, it is hoped that students will play an important role in department life.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE HONOR SOCIETY**

The Theta Epsilon Chapter of the National Political Science Honorary Society, Pi Sigma Alpha, is located at UNC Charlotte. Requirements for membership are: 1) junior standing; 2) completion of at least three Political Science courses, at least one of which must be at the 3000-level or higher. Transfer students must have completed at least two of the three courses at UNC Charlotte; 3) a minimum of a 3.3 GPA overall; 4) not less than a 3.5 GPA in Political Science courses. Students meeting these qualifications will receive a letter of invitation to join during the Spring semester. An initiation reception is normally held during the Spring semester.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

**The Edward Collins Model United Nations Scholarship**

In the Spring of each year, the Department awards a scholarship to a junior Political Science major who has been an outstanding participant in the Model United Nations. Funding for this award is provided by the Collins family in memory of Ed Collins who was a student in the Department and an outstanding MUN participant. Scholarship guidelines are available from the MUN faculty advisor.

**The Robert G. Fowler, Jr., Esquire International Scholarship**

To be eligible for this scholarship, students must be majoring in either Political Science or International Studies and demonstrate strong interest in the other discipline. Special consideration will be given to those students meeting these criteria and considering a career in law. The student must have completed at least sixty (60) hours of university course work (including transfer hours) which include at least twelve (12) hours in international/cross-cultural studies, (by the end of the spring semester) with an overall grade point average
of at least 3.2. To qualify for this scholarship, the student must have participated in extra-curricular (e.g., Model United Nations, Pre-Law Society) and/or community activities. Students must be enrolled as an undergraduate degree seeking student for the next school year.

Qualified students may apply for the scholarship by submitting a completed application form, a resume, an introductory letter to the scholarship committee (stating their personal interests, qualifications, and academic and career aspirations), a two to three page essay regarding an international issue, event or challenge that is of a particular interest to you, and three letters of reference (including at least one from a UNC Charlotte faculty member). These documents should be sent to the attention of the Fowler Scholarship Selection Committee, UNC Charlotte, 9201 University City Blvd., Department of Political Science, 440 Fretwell Building., Charlotte, NC 28223-0001. Applications and forms are available on the department website.

**Outstanding Senior Award**

Senior Political Science majors at UNC Charlotte with at least a 3.2 GPA overall, and at least a 3.2 GPA in Political Science courses, are nominated for this award by Political Science faculty members in the Spring semester. Student participation in extra-curricular activities, including school functions, work responsibilities, etc., is also taken into consideration. The selected senior, as well as those seniors who were nominated by faculty, will be notified once a decision is reached by the Undergraduate Awards Committee. The Outstanding Senior will be recognized at two university functions in April: the Alumni Association Annual Recognition Dinner in mid-March, and the Student Activities’ Honors and Awards program in mid-April.

**Pi Sigma Alpha Paper Competition**

This award is presented in the Spring at the annual Pi Sigma Alpha banquet to an undergraduate Political Science major. Faculty members are asked in March of each year to submit up to three papers that they believe would qualify for this competition. Papers must have been written for a Political Science course (including independent study) since February of the preceding year. Papers of any length may be submitted. They may also be revised between their initial class submission and their submission to the Undergraduate Awards Committee (no papers may ever be resubmitted). Submittals will be evaluated solely upon their academic excellence. The winner or winners of this award will receive a $50.00 check and a certificate.

**SECONDARY TEACHING CERTIFICATE**

Students majoring in Political Science who desire to obtain a Secondary Teaching Certificate (grades 9-12) from the State Department of Public Instruction must contact the Department of Middle, Second, & K-12 Education for details regarding certification.
ADVISING INFORMATION

**Faculty Advisors**

The Political Science Department will assign you a faculty advisor. You are free to choose or change your advisor if needed. To do so, please contact the departmental office. Your advisor is available by appointment during registration, as well as other times during the year.

**Advising Procedure for Pre-Registration**

As the advising period for a subsequent semester approaches, you will need to get a schedule of courses by using Banner Self Service, then:

Sign up for an appointment with a member of the Political Science advising committee by choosing one of the available times listed on the appointment sheet which is located in the main office. If you secure an appointment time, it is your responsibility to be there or call and cancel your appointment in the main office.

If you will have completed 80 or more semester hours at the end of the current semester, you will have an advising flag placed on your transcript. You will be required to meet with an advisor to make certain all requirements will be met before you can register for graduation. All rising seniors should utilize the Advising Center located in Fretwell 324 to verify the completion of their General Education Requirements.

**Graduation Process**

Complete an Application for Degree in the Registrar's office or online. APPLICATION FOR DEGREE MUST BE MADE NO LATER THAN THE FILING DATE SPECIFIED ON THE UNIVERSITY SCHEDULE. The application must be accompanied by the appropriate filing fee in effect at the time application is made. Degrees are awarded at commencement exercises held at the end of the Spring and Fall semesters. The diploma will reflect the term in which the student completed all requirements. The Registrar’s Office will mail your diploma to the address provided on the application for degree. Contact the Registrar’s Office in writing to change the address to which the diploma should be mailed.

CAREER INFORMATION

**Graduate Record Examination**

Any student who plans to attend graduate school should plan to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) sometime during the senior year. The results determine in great measure whether students will be admitted to graduate study or to the graduate school of choice. The GRE is administered several times yearly. The Learning Center offers GRE Preparation Workshops.
**Civil Service Employment**

There are no central offices or telephone numbers for information on Federal employment. Those wishing to apply for a federal government position must contact the appropriate agency for hiring information. The UNC Charlotte Placement Office has limited information on openings in federal agencies, and receives position listings from a number of local governments in North Carolina, including Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

**Foreign Service Entrance Examination**

Examinations for jobs with the U.S. government abroad are offered once each year in December. Times and locations can be determined from the Counseling Center.

**Career Opportunities in Political Science**

The American Political Science Association publishes a booklet entitled *Careers and the Study of Political Science: A Guide for Undergraduates*. It discusses various career fields open to Political Science majors, the educational preparation necessary to enter these fields, and the current status of various job markets. Booklets are available to majors in the Political Science Department.

The Political Science Department has a booklet entitled *Graduate School and Career Opportunities for Political Science Majors* which is available to students. The booklet attempts to help majors plan for life after college. It focuses primarily on positions in public service and business.

**FACILITIES**

**STUDY LOUNGE**

A student lounge is located on the first floor of the Fretwell Building.

**COMPUTING SERVICES**

Students are NOT permitted to use the computers and printers in the Political Science or MPA offices. Access to computers is available in the Barnard Commons, a 24 hr. computer center. Also the computer labs in the Friday building are available for student use. Check the Computing Service website for more information on computer lab availability. (www.uncc.edu/labs/LabInfo/index.asp)
CAMPUS INFORMATION

CAREER CENTER

The Career Center (132 King, 687-2231) assists in developing job seeking skills (resume writing, interviewing techniques, etc.) and obtaining full-time career positions. Special programs and workshops are offered throughout the year; call for more information.

COUNSELING CENTER

The Counseling Center (687-2105) provides personal and career counseling as well as a variety of educational workshops, such as Assertiveness Training, Building Self-Esteem, Career and Life Planning, Stress Management, Coping as a Minority, etc. These services are free to any student, faculty or staff member. Contact the Counseling Center to register for workshops.

DISABILITY SERVICES

The Office of Disability Services (Fretwell 230, 687-4354) provides a broad range of services for students who have disabilities. Documentation is required for permanent and temporary disabilities, and accommodations are determined based on the student’s documentation, course work and academic needs and goals.

LIBRARY

The Dalton Library has an on-line book check-out system and public service terminals. Electronic search services are available which provide access to local and worldwide resources.

LEARNING CENTER

The Learning Center (Fretwell 330, 687-2162) provides a number of services to assist students in improving academic performance. Services include counseling, assessment of academic skills, workshops and assistance in preparing for the GRE, GMAT, and other standardized tests.

EVENING SERVICES

Evening Services (Barnard, 687-2596) are provided after 5:00. Services are provided from the offices of the Registrar, Admissions, Learning Center, Academic Advising, Disability Services and many other offices on campus.
**STUDENT EMPLOYMENT**

Student Employment (101 King, 687-2261) assists students in career planning and exploration, obtaining part-time and summer employment off campus; call for further information.

**WRITING RESOURCE CENTER**

Writing Resources Center (Fretwell 220, 687-4357) is a service provided by the English Department to help students develop and refine their writing abilities. Programs include tutoring, workshops, library assistance and computer assisted instruction.

**NO POSTING OF GRADES OR EARLY NOTICE OF GRADES EXCEPT BY MAIL**

The Following policy applies to all Political Science Courses at UNC Charlotte:

1) Grades are not posted.
2) Instructors will not return papers or exams to anyone other than the student or leave them anywhere to be picked up. Thus academic exercises are to be returned to the class if possible. When this is not possible (e.g., after finals), students must go to the instructor’s office to retrieve their work.
3) Faculty are requested to retain exams and papers for one semester for students who may wish to get them. After one semester they may be destroyed.
4) Staff of this department will not give out grade information or distribute papers or exams. Students who wish to receive their grade before the regular notice of the University Registrar may supply the instructor with a postcard or stamped envelope with the student's name and complete address. The instructor may then mail the grade notice. Instructors are not required to agree to give special notice by mail, but may elect to do so.
5) Students may obtain their grades by accessing Banner Self Service. Contact the Registrar's office for further information.
6) Students who wish to receive their final exam, term paper, or other academic exercise in the mail may supply the instructor with a large self addressed and stamped envelope with sufficient postage to carry the weight. The instructor may then mail the materials to the student after grading is finished. Instructors are not required to agree to return materials by mail, but may elect to do so.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

From the UNC Charlotte Catalog:

The UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity governs the responsibility of students to maintain integrity in academic work, defines violations of the standards, describes procedures for handling alleged violations of the standards, and lists applicable penalties.

The following conduct is prohibited in the Code as violating those standards:

A. **Cheating.** Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices in any academic exercise. This definition includes unauthorized communication of information during an academic exercise.

B. **Fabrication and Falsification.** Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any
information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of altering information, while fabrication is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.

C. **Multiple Submission.** The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work (including oral reports) for credit more than once without authorization.

D. **Plagiarism.** Intentionally or knowingly presenting work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source). The sole exception to the requirement of acknowledging sources is when the ideas, information, etc. are common knowledge.

E. **Abuse of Academic Materials.** Intentionally or knowingly destroying, stealing or making inaccessible library or other academic resource material.

F. **Complicity in Academic Dishonesty.** Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

**GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW OF A FINAL COURSE GRADE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Students requesting a grade review assume the burden of proof. Therefore, the written “Request for Review” must include:

- a. A statement of the reasons the student believes the grade was impermissibly or arbitrarily assigned;
- b. The steps taken to resolve the disagreement over the assigned course grade; and
- c. The resolution sought.

The “Request for Review” shall be accompanied by any evidence the student believes supports the conclusion that the grade was impermissibly or arbitrarily assigned. Evidence might include papers, tests, syllabi, or written documentation from witnesses. The student must demonstrate that the instructor applied irrelevant or impermissible criteria in evaluating the student’s academic performance, that the instructor failed to follow his or her course evaluation standards, or that the course grade was assigned as the result of a clear and material mistake in calculating or recording grades. That the student disagrees with the assigned grade does not constitute a basis for a review. Students can obtain advice and assistance from the Dean of Students on how to request a grade review.

**IMPERMISSIBLE CRITERIA FOR ASSIGNING A GRADE**

1. The course grade was based upon the student’s race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or for some other arbitrary or personal reason unrelated to the instructor’s exercise of his or her professional academic judgment in the evaluation of the academic performance of the student; or

2. The course grade was assigned in a manner not consistent with the standards and procedures for
evaluation established by the instructor, usually at the beginning of the course in the course syllabus but supplemented on occasion during the semester in other written or oral communications directed to the class as a whole; or

3. The course grade assigned by the instructor was the result of a clear and material mistake in calculating or recording grades. Individual elements (e.g., assignments, tests, activities, projects) which contribute to a course grade are generally NOT subject to appeal or subsequent review during a grade appeals procedure. However, individual elements may be appealed under these procedures providing all of the following conditions are met:
   a. The student presents compelling evidence that one or more individual elements were graded on arbitrary or impermissible grounds (defined in 1-3 above in this section);

   b. Grounds can be established for determining a professionally sound grade for the appealed element(s); and

   c. The ensuing grade for each appealed element would have resulted in a different course grade than that assigned by the faculty member.

STUDENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Students who feel they have received unfair or improper treatment in the Department of Political Science must address the grievance through the appropriate department procedures, as follows:

1. The student will first seek an informal resolution of the matter with the appropriate faculty member or staff person.

2. If not satisfied with informal resolution, the student may discuss the grievance with the Chair. Before making any judgment on the matter, the Chair will discuss it privately with the faculty member or staff person involved. If the complaint involves the Chair, the student may go to another faculty member, who will then follow the procedures outlined herein for the Chair.

3. If the problem cannot be resolved by informal discussion among the principals and the Chair, the student will then prepare a statement of grievance, written, dated, and signed by the student. The statement must:

   a. describe succinctly the grievance and the facts related to the grievance;
   b. identify the individual(s) against whom the grievance is directed;
   c. state the relief sought with respect to the grievance;
   d. describe steps previously taken to resolve the grievance.

4. The Chair will review the grievance, make such investigations as he or she deems appropriate, and provide the student with a written response to the grievance within 10 working days. If still dissatisfied, the student may appeal to the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. However, the appeal must be filed with the Dean within 30 calendar days of the department response.

5. If the complaint involves the Chair, the written statement described in 3. above should be presented directly to the Dean of the College.
POLITICAL SCIENCE FACULTY

Theodore S. Arrington (Ph.D., University of Arizona), Professor. American Politics, Presidency, Congress, Political Parties, Methodology, Voting.

Claudia N. Avellaneda (Ph.D. Texas A&M University) Assistant Professor. Public Policy, Latin American Politics, Public Management, Comparative Public Administration.

Stephen B. Billings

William P. Brandon (Ph.D., Duke University), Metrolina Medical Foundation Distinguished Professor of Public Policy on Health. Iran: Nukes and Middle East Peace, Honors: Understanding Central Asia, Public Policy and Politics in Health Care Administration, Aging and Public Policy.


Cheryl L. Brown (Ph.D., The University of Michigan), Associate Professor. Politics of China and Japan, East Asia in World Affairs, Comparative Politics, Cyberspace and Politics.

Joanne Carman (Ph.D. University at Albany, SUNY), Assistant Professor. Public Administration and Non-profit Management.

Nicholas J. Caste (Ph.D., Emory University), Lecturer: Political Theory, Political Philosophy.

Harry I. Chernotsky (Ph.D., Rutgers University), Professor and Director of International Studies. International Relations, International Political Economy, U.S. Foreign Policy, U.S. and Japan.

Robert K. Christensen (Ph.D., Indiana University; JD/MPA Brigham Young University), Assistant Professor. Public Administration, Public Policy, Public Law, Nonprofit Studies).

Cynthia Combs (Ph.D., The George Washington University), The Bonnie E. Cone Distinguished Professor for Teaching. Terrorism, International Law, Homeland Security, Model UN.

James W. Douglas (Ph.D., University of Georgia), Associate Professor and Director of the Master in Public Administration Program. Public Administration, Public Budgeting and Finance, Managerial Economics for the Public Sector, Judicial Administration.

R. Kenneth Godwin, (Ph.D., University of North Carolina), Marshall Rauch Distinguished Professor of Political Science. Interest Groups, Education Policy, Environmental Policy.

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