

Political Science / International Relations (PSI)

Division of Social Sciences

- **Major: 42 credit hours (At least 18 taken at McKendree University)**
- **Minor: 21 credit hours (At least 12 taken at McKendree University)**
- **All courses for the major and minor must be completed with a grade of C- or better**

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- **Capstone: Senior Survey in Political Science (W) (PSI 498)**
- **Research: Research Methods (PSI 296)**

Description of Major: McKendree offers a major in both political science and international relations. These majors provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to be effective citizens in a globalizing world. Students learn the enduring ideas of political philosophy, multiple theoretical approaches within the discipline, and social science research skills. Students then apply the knowledge and skills of the discipline to both explore the many challenges of our contemporary world and to develop their values. Both majors culminate with a capstone experience which provides students with the opportunity to do extensive research and present their findings in a seminar setting.

Student Learning Outcomes

In both majors, students will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the major concepts of the discipline, particularly in the fields of American politics and international relations.
- Demonstrate the writing skills necessary to effectively participate in academic, civic, and political environments.
- Demonstrate the oral presentation skills necessary to effectively participate in academic, civic, and political environments.
- Demonstrate the critical thinking and research skills necessary to effectively participate in academic, civic, and political environments.

Preparation: Degrees in political science and international relations are a strong foundation for careers in a number of areas, including local, state or national government, law, non-governmental organizations, labor and industrial relations, city management and urban planning, political consulting and campaign management, interest groups and social interest lobbying, and journalism.

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR REQUIREMENTS		42 crs.
PSI 101	AMERICAN POLITICS	3
PSI 296	RESEARCH METHODS	3
PSI 498	SENIOR SURVEY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (W)	3
FOREIGN LANGUAGE		6

TWO COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING		
PSI 102	STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	3
PSI 210	INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS	3
PSI 220	INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS	3
PSI 230	INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY	3

15 CREDITS FROM THE FOLLOWING		
PSI 300	CONGRESS (W)	3
PSI 301	THE PRESIDENCY (W)	3
PSI 305	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW	3
PSI 307	CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS	3
PSI 309	PUBLIC POLICY	3
PSI 380-389	SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	1-3

SIX CREDITS FROM THE FOLLOWING		
PSI 311	INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (W)	3
PSI 312	INTERNATIONAL LAW	3
PSI 313	INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (W)	3
PSI 314	UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY	3
PSI 315	GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	3
PSI 316	MODEL UNITED NATIONS	1-3

POLITICAL SCIENCE
MINOR REQUIREMENTS **21 crs.**

PSI 101	AMERICAN POLITICS	3
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TWO COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING

PSI 102	STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	3
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PSI 210	INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS	3
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PSI 220	INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS	3
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PSI 230	INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY	3
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FOUR COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING

PSI 300	CONGRESS (W)	3
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PSI 301	THE PRESIDENCY (W)	3
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PSI 305	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW	3
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PSI 307	CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS	3
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PSI 309	PUBLIC POLICY	3
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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
MAJOR REQUIREMENTS **42 crs.**

PSI 210	INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS	3
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PSI 296	RESEARCH METHODS	3
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PSI 498	SENIOR SURVEY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (W)	3
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FOREIGN LANGUAGE		6
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TWO COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING

PSI 101	AMERICAN POLITICS	3
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PSI 220	INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS	3
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PSI 230	INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY	3
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FIFTEEN CREDITS FROM THE FOLLOWING

PSI 311	INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (W)	3
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PSI 312	INTERNATIONAL LAW	3
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PSI 313	INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (W)	3
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PSI 314	UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY	3
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PSI 315	GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	3
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PSI 316	MODEL UNITED NATIONS	1-3
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TWO COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING

PSI 300	CONGRESS (W)	3
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PSI 301	THE PRESIDENCY (W)	3
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PSI 305	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW	3
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PSI 309	PUBLIC POLICY	3
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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
MINOR REQUIREMENTS **21 crs.**

PSI 210	INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS	3
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TWO COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING

PSI 101	AMERICAN POLITICS	3
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PSI 220	INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS	3
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PSI 230	INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY	3
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TWELVE CREDITS FROM THE FOLLOWING

PSI 311	INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (W)	3
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PSI 312	INTERNATIONAL LAW	3
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PSI 313	INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (W)	3
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PSI 314	UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY	3
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PSI 315	GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	3
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PSI 316	MODEL UNITED NATIONS	1-3
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Political Science / International Relations (PSI)

<p>PSI 101 AMERICAN POLITICS A survey course focusing on the development, organization, and dynamics of American political processes and institutions. This course examines how the public, interest groups, the media, political parties, and the constitutional branches of government work together to produce public policies. Each semester. IAI-S5900</p>	3	<p>PSI 300 CONGRESS (W) A study of the organizational structure of Congress, the nature of its processes, and the behavior of its members. Specific topics include Constitutional powers, the role and importance of the committee and party systems, congressional decision making, and Congressional interaction with other parts of the political system. Prerequisite: PSI 101. Fall, odd years.</p>	3
<p>PSI 102 STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT Introductory course providing an understanding of how state and local governments function and their place within the American political system. Spring, annually.</p>	3	<p>PSI 301 THE PRESIDENCY (W) This course examines the historical development, organizational structure, and function of the Presidency. Specific topics include presidential leadership in foreign and domestic policy and the relationship between the President and other political actors, including the public, the media, Congress, and the bureaucracy. Prerequisite: PSI 101. Spring, even years.</p>	3
<p>PSI 201 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE A comprehensive introduction to the discipline of political science, including political theory, American politics, comparative politics, and international relations. Recommended for Social Science Education majors. Spring, odd years.</p>	3	<p>PSI 305 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW Analyzes the role of the judiciary by examining constitutional decisions about civil rights, civil liberties, federalism, contracts, property, and the relative power of the executive and legislative branches. Prerequisite: PSI 101. Fall, even years.</p>	3
<p>PSI 210 INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS This course studies the attempts of the international community to deal with current global security issues, including the proliferation of weapons, terrorism, civil war, genocide, and human rights violations. Fall, annually.</p>	3	<p>PSI 307 CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS This course examines the American electoral process for both Congress and the Presidency. Topics covered include voting behavior, public opinion, the nomination and general election process, and the role of interest groups, the media, and political parties in modern elections. Prerequisite: PSI 101. Fall, even years.</p>	3
<p>PSI 220 INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS This course is an introduction to the comparative study of politics and government. It includes both a regionally diverse selection of case studies as well as an introduction to cross-national comparison, especially democratization. Spring, odd years.</p>	3	<p>PSI 309 PUBLIC POLICY Analyzes how American public policy is formulated and how public policies can be evaluated. Includes a series of case studies to show how the policy process works and to develop a fuller understanding of contemporary public policy issues. Examples of policy areas include the federal budget reform, social security reform, welfare reform, education reform, environmental policies, and criminal justice policies. Prerequisite: PSI 101. Spring, odd years.</p>	3
<p>PSI 230 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY An introduction to the classical theorists, including Plato, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Mill, and Marx. Spring, even years.</p>	3	<p>PSI 311 INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (W) A study of the attempt to construct "global governance" through international organizations. Focuses on the United Nations, the European Union, and non-governmental organizations. Prerequisite: PSI 210. Spring, even years.</p>	3
<p>PSI 280-289 SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE As needed.</p>	1-3	<p>PSI 312 INTERNATIONAL LAW An analysis of contemporary international law. Specific topics include the laws of war, arms control treaties, human rights law, environmental law, and the global commons. Prerequisite: PSI 210. Fall, odd years.</p>	3
<p>PSI 296 RESEARCH METHODS This course introduces students to the basic skills required to conduct research in political science. The course examines a variety of quantitative and qualitative methods, including survey research, regression analysis, case studies, and policy analysis. This course is not intended as a substitute for MTH 170. Fall, annually.</p>	3		

Political Science / International Relations (PSI)

PSI 313 **3**

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (W)

Analyzes the relationship between states and markets, the nature of capitalism and globalization, international trade and finance regimes, international development, and the problem of global inequality. Prerequisite: PSI 210. Spring, odd years.

PSI 314 **3**

UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY

An analysis of post-World War II United States foreign policy from a variety of perspectives, including international relations theory, domestic politics, and group decision making. Prerequisites: PSI 101. Fall, even years.

PSI 315 **3**

GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

An analysis of feminist understandings of the major areas of international relations, including war and conflict resolution, globalization, development, and human rights. Prerequisite: PSI 210. Spring, odd years.

PSI 316 **.5**

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

This course provides students with opportunities to study the foreign policies of various countries and write policy papers in preparation for Model United Nations activities. Consent of the instructor is required. May be repeated for up to 3 credits. Each semester.

PSI 380-389 **1-3**

SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

As needed.

PSI 470 **3-8**

INTERNSHIP IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (W)

PSI 480 **1-4**

INDEPENDENT STUDY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (W)

PSI 498 **3**

SENIOR SURVEY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (W)

Selected topics to change yearly. Provides students with the capstone opportunity to do extensive research and present their findings in a seminar setting. Fall, annually. Prerequisite: PSI 296.