



Significant Change to an Undergraduate Major

Catalog Title of Major: BA in Political Science

Name and contact information for future correspondence:

Thomas Merrill (merrill@american.edu); Julian Escarraga (escarrag@american.edu)

Academic Unit - School/College:

- CAS
- KSB
- SOC
- SIS
- SPA
- SPExS
- Other:

Teaching Unit - Department or Program: Department of Government

Date effective:

Required Signatures	Name	Signature	Date
Teaching Unit Chair or Director	Thomas Merrill		1/30/17
EPC Chair	Susan Glover		2/15/17
Primary Academic Unit Dean	Paul Newman		2/16/17
Second Academic Unit Dean (if applicable)			
Faculty Senate Chair			
Provost			

Date sent to the Office of the University Registrar:

Proposal Template

Copy and paste the questions below into a new Microsoft Word document and address all questions. Please preserve the formatting (including numbering) to facilitate the review process.

I. Identifying Information

- a) **Academic unit** SPA
- b) **Teaching unit** Government
- c) **Degree affected** BA in Political Science
- d) **Proposed effective date** May 1, 2017 (Catalog Year 2017-2018)

II. Rationale

- a) **Please describe the significant change that you are proposing.**

This significant change proposal aims to cut the Political Science major from a total of 58-59 credit hours to 39-40 credits, mainly by eliminating classes not taught by the Department of Government but now required for the major.

1st Suggested Modification

(This significant change appears in the online catalog)

Eliminate SISU-105 World Politics and STAT-202 as course requirements for the BA major in political science.

2nd Suggested Modification

(This significant change appears in the online catalog)

On the Political Science (BA) catalog, the 12 credit hours required for classes from departments other than Government under the heading "Major Related Social Sciences" will be cut to 3 credit hours. The list of approved disciplines and courses under this heading will not be modified.

3rd Suggested Modification

(This significant change appears in the online catalog)

For the concentration, eliminate 1 of the current 9 classes beyond the foundation level classes currently required so that 24 credits will be required at this level, rather than 27, which is the number of credits that appear on the online catalog.

4th Suggested Modification

Cut down the nonconcentration major to require 24 (rather than 27) credits in approved courses with at least 18 credits at the 300 level or above and at least 6 credits at the 400-500 level.

b) What is the rationale behind the change?

The immediate impetus for this review of the Political Science major is a general request from Provost Bass to review and, if possible, cut the number of credits in the majors in departments across campus, as part of the more general curricular reforms associated with the new AU Core program. Two reasons have been suggested for this change. First, students want to be able to double major more easily, but the current size of the majors makes that difficult. Second, the number of credits required by our Political Science major is more than the number of credits for comparable majors at comparable institutions,

Our major in Political Science requires that our students complete 58-59 credits in order to receive a degree in Political Science. That number is just under half the total number of credits in a full-time, four-year program (120). (The number is 58 or 59 to reflect the fact that some students complete the 1 credit lab component in GOVT 110). Also bear in mind that both the old General Education program and the new AU Core program require students to take about 31 credits.

Under the old Gen Ed program, there was a fair amount of overlap between Gen Ed and major requirements, but that will be less true under the new AU Core program. That means that under our current major requirements, a Political Science student's Gen Ed or AU Core requirements together with the requirements for the major takes up about three quarters of their career at AU. This context helps put the three reasons that have been put forward for cutting the major in the right perspective.

In terms of double majoring, a major that is close to half a student's total credits at the university makes it difficult to double major, if the second major is the same size and Gen Ed/AU Core requirements take up a fourth of the student's total credits and there is limited overlap between these three commitments.

The case for cutting the number of credits in the major, therefore, is two-fold. First, doing so will make it easier for students to double major under the requirements of the new AU Core program, which is probably a good thing for the students and so good for us. Second, our major requirements could be focused more clearly on our own strengths and priorities as a department.

c) Please list all of the courses required for completion of the major and indicate whether each course is unchanged, has a minor change, has a significant change, or is a new course.

Course Requirements—Foundation

- GOVT-105 Individual Freedom vs. Authority (unchanged)
- GOVT-110 Politics in the United States (unchanged)
- GOVT-130 Comparative Politics (Unchanged)
- SISU-105 World Politics (no longer required for course requirements)

Research method

- GOVT-310 Introduction to Political Research (Minor change—STATS-202 or STATS 203 will be added as prerequisites for GOVT-310)

- STATS-202 Basic Statistics (Minor change—STATS-202 will no longer be listed on the online catalog as a requirement for research methods, but will be listed as a prerequisite for GOVT-310)

d) After the change is implemented, will the resulting major affect any other programs now offered by your teaching unit? By other teaching units? By other members of the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area? Explain.

We do not foresee these changes having any substantial effect upon any other programs or units. Removing SISU-105 World Politics from the required courses may result in a negligible reduction in enrollment for that course.

On the Political Science (BA) catalog, removing the 12 credit hours required for classes from departments other than Government under the heading “Major Related Social Sciences,” may result in a negligible reduction in enrollment in a wide spectrum of CAS courses.

Please see the attached statements of approval from CAS and SIS.

e) After the change is implemented, compare the resulting major’s requirements to the requirements of similar majors at other institutions nationally

In terms of the size of the political science major at comparable institutions, it is certainly true that our major requires more credits than many of our peers, as can be seen in this table.

<u>Institutions</u>	<u>Number of credits for a degree in Political Science</u>
American University	58-59 39-40 (After cutting the number of credits in the major.)
Boston University	33
Georgetown University	30
Bucknell University	24
George Washington University	57
Tufts University	30

The larger number of credits in our program is only in part due to a greater number of required classes in the Department of Government: a full 18 credits of our current major are assigned to classes taught in other departments.

f) Please include statements from the deans of the other academic units if the change affects majors or courses within their units and a statement from the University Librarian if the change affects library resources. Please see the attached statements of approval from CAS and SIS.

III. Student Interest

- a) What impact is the proposed change expected to have on student interest?

We predict increased student interest due to the reduction in credit hours required. Cutting down the number of credit hours that students must complete from 58-59 to 39-40 will allow students to double major under the requirements of the new AU Core program

IV. Resources available to support this program

- a) Will the proposed change have an impact on the resources needed to support this major? If so explain its impact on:

- i. Current faculty members (tenure-line and term) who will teach courses in the major.

There will be no additional faculty resources needed.

- ii. Current staff (full-time staff, part-time staff, graduate assistants, etc).

There will be no additional staff resources needed

- iii. Special facilities and/or equipment currently available to the teaching unit in support of this change?

N/A

- iv. Will there be a need for additional space (not currently controlled by the teaching unit) as a result of this change?

N/A

- b) In all of the above cases in part IV, what are the resource plans if the major exceeds its projected growth as a result of this change?**

Should the number of majors increase in the Political Science BA, we will work with our academic unit to request resources according to standard procedure.

V. Implementation plans

- a) **In what year will the changed major take effect?** AY 2017-2018
- b) **How will current students be accommodated?** Current students will remain under the catalog requirements during the year in which they entered the program. Any exceptions required will go through the standard academic advising channels.

VI. Enrollment projections

- a) **Will the change impact enrollment?** No.
- b) **Will the period of study (in semesters) change for full-time students and part-time students? If so, outline the period of study for each group:** The time to complete the major will be reduced by approximately one semester; however, the new university requirements will negate this change.
- c) **On the basis of the above, estimate the total number of students who will be actively taking courses in the major each year during the first five years:** We estimate no substantial change in enrollment from the current BA in Political Science.
- d) **What is the timing and sequencing for all required and elective courses. What will be done if enrollments exceed projections?** The timing and the sequencing will remain unchanged. The only possible difference will be that

student will not be able to take GOVT-310 until at least their second semester, once they take STATS-202 or STATS-203, which will be listed as the prerequisite. Should enrollments exceed projections, we will work with our academic unit to request further resources according to standard procedure.

VII. Financial considerations

Will the proposed change impact the major's budget and/or finances? No.

VIII. Assessment

- a) **Does this significant change in the major affect its learning outcomes, including the competencies that students are expected to demonstrate? No.**
- b) **If applicable, what are the learning outcomes for the new major? N/A.**
- c) **If applicable, what qualitative criteria and evidence should be used to assess learning outcomes for students who complete this major? N/A.**
- d) **Provide some examples of methods you plan to use to assess the programs learning outcomes. Learning outcomes will remain unchanged.**

IX. If applicable, list any new courses or changed courses including a brief description. Note that a New Course Proposal and/or Minor Change to a Course Proposal must be submitted separately for each affected course.

Minor Change: Added Prerequisite

GOVT-310 Introduction to Political Research (3) An introduction to political science research, including the logic of analysis, research design, and the basics of quantitative analysis. Application of gathering data and of analytic and statistical techniques to contemporary political problems. Usually offered every term. *Prerequisite:* GOVT-110 and STATS-202 or STATS-203. *Restriction:* minimum 2.5 GPA.

Minor Change: Modified Title

GOVT-464 Politics and Policy in the Digital Age (3) This course examines the impact technology, especially the Internet, has on the American political system. Specifically, students evaluate how technology impacts subsystems including interest groups, Congress, and executive agencies. The class focuses on real-world applications of technology in politics through guest speakers and site visits. Usually offered every summer and fall. Meets with GOVT-664. *Restriction:* minimum 2.5 GPA.

GOVT-664 Politics and Policy in the Digital Age (3) This course examines the impact technology, especially the Internet, has on the American political system. Specifically, students evaluate how technology impacts subsystems including interest groups, Congress, and executive agencies. The class focuses on real-world applications of technology in politics through guest speakers and site visits. Usually offered every summer and fall. Meets with GOVT-464. *Restriction:* minimum 2.5 GPA.

X. Catalog Copy

- a) Please attach a revised program listing for the major as it is to appear in the University Catalog, following the format of the current catalog.

REVISED CATALOG

Political Science (BA)

Offered by the Department of Government, School of Public Affairs.

Admission to the Program

New freshmen and transfer students are admitted through the university's Admissions Office. Students currently enrolled in the university who wish to transfer into the Department of Government or develop a double major or minor should have a grade point average of 2.50 or higher and the approval of the undergraduate academic advisor.

University Requirements

120 credit hours with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or better

Completion of college writing requirement

Completion of university mathematics requirement

General Education Requirements

A total of ten courses, consisting of two courses from each of the five foundational areas

At least one course from Area Five: The Natural and Mathematical Sciences must include a laboratory science component

No more than two courses may be taken in the same discipline

Major Requirements

39-40 credit hours with grades of C or better, including at least 18 credit hours at or above 300-level.

Portfolio requirement: all students submit a portfolio of 2-4 papers of their best written work from upper-level major courses in the final semester of their program for departmental assessment

Course Requirements

Foundation (12 credit hours)

GOVT-105 Individual Freedom vs. Authority FA2 (3)

GOVT-110 Politics in the United States FA4 (3-4)

GOVT-130 Comparative Politics FA3 (3)

GOVT-310 Introduction to Political Research (3)

Major Related Social Science (3 credit hours)

Complete 3 credit hours above the introductory level from one of the following disciplines: economics, history, international studies, sociology, and the following courses in the specified disciplines.

American Studies

AMST-200 American Dreams/American Lives (3)

AMST-240 Poverty and Culture FA4 (3)

AMST-320 American Cultural History (3)
AMST-330 Contemporary American Culture (3)
AMST-340 Community Activism and Regional Studies (3)
AMST-400 Interpreting American Culture (3)

Anthropology

ANTH-210 Race and Racism FA3 (3)
ANTH-215 Sex, Gender, and Culture FA3 (3)
ANTH-220 Living in Multicultural Societies FA3 (3)
ANTH-541 Public Anthropology and State Policy (3)

Communication

COMM-327 The PR Presidency (3)
COMM-360 Myths of the Media (3)
COMM-509 Politics and the Media (3)
COMM-514 Censorship and Media (3)

Justice

JLC-308 Justice, Morality, and the Law (3)
JLC-309 Justice and Public Policy (3)
JLC-451 Drugs, Crime, and Public Policy (3)
JLC-454 Violence, Justice and the Law (3)

Philosophy

PHIL-235 Theories of Democracy and Human Rights FA2 (3)
PHIL-240 Ethics in the Professions FA4 (3)

Psychology

PSYC-205 Social Psychology FA4 (3)

Women's and Gender Studies

WGSS-225 Gender, Politics, and Power FA4 (3)

Concentration (24 credit hours)

24 credit hours in the Department of Government with 6 credit hours at the 400- or 500-level. Students complete 15 credits in one concentration. The remaining credits are selected from other Government courses; courses may not be double counted.

Additional courses may be used with prior approval of the department. Up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area. Up to three 1 credit hour courses may be used toward the completion of a concentration.

American Government

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area. Up to three 1 credit hour courses may be used toward the completion of a concentration.

GOVT-210 Political Power and American Public Policy FA4 (3)
GOVT-240 Metropolitan Politics (3)
GOVT-315 Elections and Voting Behavior (3)
GOVT-320 The Presidency (3)
GOVT-321 Congress and Legislative Behavior (3)
GOVT-322 American Political Parties (3)
GOVT-323 Interest Group Politics (3)
GOVT-325 Minority Politics in the United States (3)
GOVT-352 Law and the Political System (3)
GOVT-422 Studies in Political Behavior (3) (topics)
GOVT-423 Advanced Studies in Public Policy (3) : Politics of Civil Rights
GOVT-426 U.S. Intelligence Community (3)
GOVT-427 Government Regulation and Deregulation (3)
GOVT-430 Principles of Homeland Security (3)
GOVT-431 Watergate: A Constitutional Crisis (3)
GOVT-440 Minority Representation and Ethnic Conflict (3)
GOVT-441 The Politics of Mass Communication (3)
GOVT-443 Applied Political Writing (3)
GOVT-444 Political Speechwriting (3)
GOVT-445 Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Lobbying (3)
GOVT-455 Equal Protection (3)
GOVT-461 Politics in the Television Age (3)
GOVT-469 Media and Political Intervention: Vietnam to Iraq (3)
GOVT-482 Women and Politics (3)
GOVT-483 Women, Politics, and Public Policy (3)
GOVT-484 Women and Political Leadership (3)
GOVT-485 Topics in Women and Politics (1-4)
GOVT-520 Advanced Studies in Campaign Management (4)
GOVT-521 Topics in Campaign Management (1)
GOVT-523 The Art and Craft of Lobbying (3-4)
GOVT-524 Topics in Public Affairs and Advocacy (1)
PUAD-260 Administrative Politics (3)
SPA-220 The American Constitution FA4 (3)
SPA-350 Constitutional Law I: Powers and Federalism (3)
SPA-351 Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties (3)

Comparative Politics

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area.

GOVT-231 Politics in the Developing World (3)
GOVT-232 Politics of State and Society (3)
GOVT-233 Communism and Capitalism in East Asia (3)

GOVT-235 Political Conflict FA3 (3)
GOVT-332 Comparative Environmental Politics (3)
GOVT-335 Democratization: Theory and Practice (3)
GOVT-349 The Middle East in Comparative Perspective (3)
GOVT-438 Mexico and the World in the 21st Century (3)
GOVT-440 Minority Representation and Ethnic Conflict (3)
GOVT-442 Bottom-up Comparative Politics (3)
GOVT-450 Politics in Cuba (3)
GOVT-487 Gender and Politics in the Middle East (3)
GOVT-523 The Art and Craft of Lobbying (3-4) :
European Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute (3)
JLC-402 Comparative Systems of Law and Justice (3)
JLC-405 Comparative Criminology and Criminal Justice (3)

Gender, Race, and Politics

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area. Up to three 1 credit hour courses may be used toward the completion of a concentration.

GOVT-231 Politics in the Developing World (3)
GOVT-240 Metropolitan Politics (3)
GOVT-325 Minority Politics in the United States (3)
GOVT-423 Advanced Studies in Public Policy (3) : Politics of Civil Rights
GOVT-440 Minority Representation and Ethnic Conflict (3)
GOVT-455 Equal Protection (3)
GOVT-482 Women and Politics (3)
GOVT-483 Women, Politics, and Public Policy (3)
GOVT-484 Women and Political Leadership (3)
GOVT-485 Topics in Women and Politics (1-4)
GOVT-486 Feminist Political Theory (3)
GOVT-487 Gender and Politics in the Middle East (3)
SPA-220 The American Constitution FA4 (3)
SPA-351 Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties (3)

Law and Politics

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area.

GOVT-226 The Constitution, Presidential Power, and the War on Terror (3)
GOVT-352 Law and the Political System (3)
GOVT-423 Advanced Studies in Public Policy (3) : Politics of Civil Rights

GOVT-455 Equal Protection (3)
GOVT-458 Landmark Law Cases (3)
SPA-220 The American Constitution FA4 (3)
SPA-350 Constitutional Law I: Powers and Federalism (3)
SPA-351 Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties (3)

Political Theory

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area.

GOVT-403 Ancient Political Thought (3)
GOVT-405 Modern Political Thought (3)
GOVT-406 American Political Thought (3)
GOVT-408 The Idea of America in European Political Thought: 1492-Present (3)
GOVT-409 Contemporary Political Thought (3)
GOVT-486 Feminist Political Theory (3)

Policy

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area. Up to three 1 credit hour courses may be used toward the completion of a concentration.

GOVT-210 Political Power and American Public Policy FA4 (3)
GOVT-240 Metropolitan Politics (3)
GOVT-315 Elections and Voting Behavior (3)
GOVT-321 Congress and Legislative Behavior (3)
GOVT-323 Interest Group Politics (3)
GOVT-423 Advanced Studies in Public Policy (3) (topics)
GOVT-427 Government Regulation and Deregulation (3)
GOVT-445 Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Lobbying (3)
GOVT-464 Politics and Policy in the Digital Age (3)
GOVT-483 Women, Politics, and Public Policy (3)

GOVT-523 The Art and Craft of Lobbying (3-4) :
Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute (4)
or
European Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute (3)

SPA-370 American Environmental Policy and Politics (3)

Non-Specialization

24 credit hours in the Department of Government with at least 18 credit hours at the 300-level and 6 credit hours at the 400- or 500-level

Combined Political Science (BA) and Political Science (MA)

American University offers students the opportunity to earn both undergraduate and graduate degrees through its combined bachelor's/master's programs. See [Combined Bachelor's and Master's Degrees](#) for more information.

In addition to meeting the minimum university requirements for combined bachelor's/master's programs:

Admission to the combined BA/MA program requires junior standing, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.30, a completed application form, two written faculty recommendation, an essay on the student's interests and abilities in political science, and an interview with a [Department of Government](#) graduate advisor. Students must apply for admission to the graduate program no later than junior year, after completion of 75-90 credits. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required for admission to the BA/MA program.

Students must finish the master's degree requirements within three years from the date of first enrollment in the master's program.

CURRENT CATALOG

Political Science (BA)

Offered by the [Department of Government](#), [School of Public Affairs](#).

Admission to the Program

New freshmen and transfer students are admitted through the university's Admissions Office. Students currently enrolled in the university who wish to transfer into the Department of Government or develop a double major or minor should have a grade point average of 2.50 or higher and the approval of the undergraduate academic advisor.

University Requirements

120 credit hours with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or better

Completion of college writing requirement

Completion of university mathematics requirement

General Education Requirements

A total of ten courses, consisting of two courses from each of the five foundational areas

At least one course from Area Five: The Natural and Mathematical Sciences must include a laboratory science component

No more than two courses may be taken in the same discipline

Major Requirements

58 credit hours with grades of C or better, including at least 18 credit hours at or above 300-level.

Portfolio requirement: all students submit a portfolio of 2-4 papers of their best written work from upper-level major courses in the final semester of their program for departmental assessment

Course Requirements

Foundation (12 credit hours)

GOVT-105 Individual Freedom vs. Authority FA2 (3)

GOVT-110 Politics in the United States FA4 (3-4)

GOVT-130 Comparative Politics FA3 (3)

SISU-105 World Politics FA3 (3)

Research Methods (7 credit hours)

GOVT-310 Introduction to Political Research (3)

STAT-202 Basic Statistics (4)

Major Related Social Science (12 credit hours)

Complete 12 credit hours above the introductory level from at least two of the following disciplines: economics, history, international studies, sociology, and the following courses in the specified disciplines.

American Studies

AMST-200 American Dreams/American Lives (3)

AMST-240 Poverty and Culture FA4 (3)

AMST-320 American Cultural History (3)

AMST-330 Contemporary American Culture (3)

AMST-340 Community Activism and Regional Studies (3)

AMST-400 Interpreting American Culture (3)

Anthropology

ANTH-210 Race and Racism FA3 (3)

ANTH-215 Sex, Gender, and Culture FA3 (3)

ANTH-220 Living in Multicultural Societies FA3 (3)

ANTH-541 Public Anthropology and State Policy (3)

Communication

COMM-327 The PR Presidency (3)

COMM-360 Myths of the Media (3)

COMM-509 Politics and the Media (3)

COMM-514 Censorship and Media (3)

Justice

JLC-308 Justice, Morality, and the Law (3)

JLC-309 Justice and Public Policy (3)

JLC-451 Drugs, Crime, and Public Policy (3)

JLC-454 Violence, Justice and the Law (3)

Philosophy

PHIL-235 Theories of Democracy and Human Rights FA2 (3)

PHIL-240 Ethics in the Professions FA4 (3)

Psychology

PSYC-205 Social Psychology FA4 (3)

Women's and Gender Studies

WGSS-225 Gender, Politics, and Power FA4 (3)

Concentration (27 credit hours)

27 credit hours in the Department of Government with 6 credit hours at the 400- or 500-level. Students complete 15 credits in one concentration. The remaining credits are selected from other Government courses; courses may not be double counted.

Additional courses may be used with prior approval of the department. Up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area. Up to three 1 credit hour courses may be used toward the completion of a concentration.

American Government

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area. Up to three 1 credit hour courses may be used toward the completion of a concentration.

GOVT-210 Political Power and American Public Policy FA4 (3)

GOVT-240 Metropolitan Politics (3)

GOVT-315 Elections and Voting Behavior (3)

GOVT-320 The Presidency (3)

GOVT-321 Congress and Legislative Behavior (3)

GOVT-322 American Political Parties (3)

GOVT-323 Interest Group Politics (3)

GOVT-325 Minority Politics in the United States (3)

GOVT-352 Law and the Political System (3)

GOVT-422 Studies in Political Behavior (3) (topics)

GOVT-423 Advanced Studies in Public Policy (3) : Politics of Civil Rights

GOVT-426 U.S. Intelligence Community (3)

GOVT-427 Government Regulation and Deregulation (3)

GOVT-430 Principles of Homeland Security (3)

GOVT-431 Watergate: A Constitutional Crisis (3)

GOVT-440 Minority Representation and Ethnic Conflict (3)

GOVT-441 The Politics of Mass Communication (3)

GOVT-443 Applied Political Writing (3)

GOVT-444 Political Speechwriting (3)

GOVT-445 Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Lobbying (3)

GOVT-455 Equal Protection (3)

GOVT-461 Politics in the Television Age (3)

GOVT-469 Media and Political Intervention: Vietnam to Iraq (3)

GOVT-482 Women and Politics (3)

GOVT-483 Women, Politics, and Public Policy (3)

GOVT-484 Women and Political Leadership (3)

GOVT-485 Topics in Women and Politics (1-4)
GOVT-520 Advanced Studies in Campaign Management (4)
GOVT-521 Topics in Campaign Management (1)
GOVT-523 The Art and Craft of Lobbying (3-4)
GOVT-524 Topics in Public Affairs and Advocacy (1)
PUAD-260 Administrative Politics (3)
SPA-220 The American Constitution FA4 (3)
SPA-350 Constitutional Law I: Powers and Federalism (3)
SPA-351 Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties (3)

Comparative Politics

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area.

GOVT-231 Politics in the Developing World (3)
GOVT-232 Politics of State and Society (3)
GOVT-233 Communism and Capitalism in East Asia (3)
GOVT-235 Political Conflict FA3 (3)
GOVT-332 Comparative Environmental Politics (3)
GOVT-335 Democratization: Theory and Practice (3)
GOVT-349 The Middle East in Comparative Perspective (3)
GOVT-438 Mexico and the World in the 21st Century (3)
GOVT-440 Minority Representation and Ethnic Conflict (3)
GOVT-442 Bottom-up Comparative Politics (3)
GOVT-450 Politics in Cuba (3)
GOVT-487 Gender and Politics in the Middle East (3)
GOVT-523 The Art and Craft of Lobbying (3-4) :
European Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute (3)
JLC-402 Comparative Systems of Law and Justice (3)
JLC-405 Comparative Criminology and Criminal Justice (3)

Gender, Race, and Politics

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area. Up to three 1 credit hour courses may be used toward the completion of a concentration.

GOVT-231 Politics in the Developing World (3)
GOVT-240 Metropolitan Politics (3)
GOVT-325 Minority Politics in the United States (3)
GOVT-423 Advanced Studies in Public Policy (3) : Politics of Civil Rights
GOVT-440 Minority Representation and Ethnic Conflict (3)

GOVT-455 Equal Protection (3)
GOVT-482 Women and Politics (3)
GOVT-483 Women, Politics, and Public Policy (3)
GOVT-484 Women and Political Leadership (3)
GOVT-485 Topics in Women and Politics (1-4)
GOVT-486 Feminist Political Theory (3)
GOVT-487 Gender and Politics in the Middle East (3)
SPA-220 The American Constitution FA4 (3)
SPA-351 Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties (3)

Law and Politics

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area.

GOVT-226 The Constitution, Presidential Power, and the War on Terror (3)
GOVT-352 Law and the Political System (3)
GOVT-423 Advanced Studies in Public Policy (3) : Politics of Civil Rights
GOVT-455 Equal Protection (3)
GOVT-458 Landmark Law Cases (3)
SPA-220 The American Constitution FA4 (3)
SPA-350 Constitutional Law I: Powers and Federalism (3)
SPA-351 Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties (3)

Political Theory

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area.

GOVT-403 Ancient Political Thought (3)
GOVT-405 Modern Political Thought (3)
GOVT-406 American Political Thought (3)
GOVT-408 The Idea of America in European Political Thought: 1492-Present (3)
GOVT-409 Contemporary Political Thought (3)
GOVT-486 Feminist Political Theory (3)

Policy

With prior department approval, in addition to the courses below, up to 9 credit hours may be taken from the following: internship, independent study, independent reading, honors thesis, international service (SIS/SISU) courses, Washington Semester, and American University study abroad programs, with a maximum of 6 credit hours from any one area. Up to three 1 credit hour courses may be used toward the completion of a concentration.

GOVT-210 Political Power and American Public Policy FA4 (3)

GOVT-240 Metropolitan Politics (3)
GOVT-315 Elections and Voting Behavior (3)
GOVT-321 Congress and Legislative Behavior (3)
GOVT-323 Interest Group Politics (3)
GOVT-423 Advanced Studies in Public Policy (3) (topics)
GOVT-427 Government Regulation and Deregulation (3)
GOVT-445 Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Lobbying (3)
GOVT-464 Politics and Policy in the Electronic Age (3)
GOVT-483 Women, Politics, and Public Policy (3)

GOVT-523 The Art and Craft of Lobbying (3-4) :

Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute (4)

or

European Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute (3)

SPA-370 American Environmental Policy and Politics (3)

Non-Specialization

27 credit hours in the Department of Government with 18 credit hours at the 200- or 300-level and 6 credit hours at the 400- or 500-level

Combined Political Science (BA) and Political Science (MA)

American University offers students the opportunity to earn both undergraduate and graduate degrees through its combined bachelor's/master's programs. See Combined Bachelor's and Master's Degrees for more information.

In addition to meeting the minimum university requirements for combined bachelor's/master's programs:

Admission to the combined BA/MA program requires junior standing, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.30, a completed application form, two written faculty recommendation, an essay on the student's interests and abilities in political science, and an interview with a Department of Government graduate advisor. Students must apply for admission to the graduate program no later than junior year, after completion of 75-90 credits. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required for admission to the BA/MA program. Students must finish the master's degree requirements within three years from the date of first enrollment in the master's program.

STATEMENTS OF APPROVAL--CAS

Department of Anthropology

Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 3:22:19 PM Eastern Standard Time

Subject: Re: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 3:20:34 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Daniel Sayers
To: Celine-Marie Pascale

Hi Celine

Here is the response:

" The Department of Anthropology has no specific areas of concern with regard to the EPC proposal. It appears to be an interesting direction to for us to move in. And, as long as the opportunities for multi-discipline learning remain, or are strengthened, for majors across the university we look forward to the changes elaborated in the proposal",

Dan

From: Celine-Marie Pascale
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2017 8:09:40 AM
To: Daniel Sayers
Subject: Re: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major

Hi Dan,

The comments that I am collecting will go forward as part of a public record. The will join the EPC proposal in SPA and travel to associate deans, the VPUG, the Provost and the Senate. I am happy to pass along whatever you send but want you to be clear about where this is going.

Second, many departments are seeing this change—which will enable students to take more electives and second majors—as opening opportunities rather than closing them. I don't know if that is true for Anthro but certainly worth considering.

Will you please send me—in a clean email—whatever response you want to move forward?

Thanks,
Celine

Celine-Marie Pascale, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, College of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Sociology & Affiliate Professor School of Communication
206 Battelle-Tompkins Hall
American University

Tel: 202-885-2524
Fax: 202-885-2182
<http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm>

From: Daniel Sayers <sayers@american.edu>
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 9:53 PM
To: Celine-Marie Pascale <pascale@american.edu>
Subject: Re: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major

Hi Celine

AMST

Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 10:38:14 AM Eastern Standard Time

Subject: Re: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 4:27:43 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: THERESA RUNSTEDTLER
To: Celine-Marie Pascale
CC: Tristan Cabello, Lauren Weis

Dear Celine:

I heard back from Tristan and it is his assessment that the potential to attract double majors will outweigh the impact of the proposed curriculum changes on enrollments in AMST. The Collaborative supports this revision and looks forward to working with SPA to encourage double majors.

Best,
Theresa

Theresa Runstedtler
Associate Professor of History
Chair of the Critical Race, Gender & Culture Studies Collaborative
American University, Washington, DC
Author of *Jack Johnson, Rebel Sojourner: Boxing in the Shadow of the Global Color Line*

On Jan 25, 2017, at 1:38 PM, Celine-Marie Pascale <pascale@american.edu> wrote:

Hi Theresa,

Yes, SPA is drastically cutting their required courses—hence the request to AMST which had a course included among their requirements. All requirements outside of SPA will be canceled; when Saul wrote to me he didn't mention WGSS, so I can't speak to that specifically. If you know there has been a requirement, it is safe to assume it no longer exists. Please keep in mind this different than allowing a course to count toward a major in SPA.

These cuts are going through—they are an AU mandate. Departments have been asked to weigh in with a statement of support (or not). With that said, many departments are seeing this as a terrific opportunity for double majors, since SPA is reducing requirements to increase double majors. If you see that potential, please note it in your formal email response later today. Questions? Please call.
Celine

Celine-Marie Pascale, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, College of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Sociology & Affiliate Professor School of Communication
206 Battelle-Tompkins Hall
American University

Tel: 202-885-2524
Fax: 202-885-2182
<http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm>

From: THERESA RUNSTEDTLER <runstedtler@gmail.com>

Department of Economics

Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 8:10:48 AM Eastern Standard Time

Subject: RE: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 4:23:40 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Thomas A. Husted
To: Celine-Marie Pascale

Hi Celine,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal to reduce the number of political science major credits in SPA. It is our desire that this reduction does not come at the expense of Economics. The department believes a good understanding of advanced economics is critically important for students majoring in political science.

Tom

Thomas Husted
Professor and Chair
Department of Economics
American University

From: Celine-Marie Pascale
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 7:53 AM
To: Chris Mitchell <mitchell@american.edu>; Joshua Lansky <lansky@american.edu>; Thomas A. Husted <husted@american.edu>; Tristan Cabello <cabello@american.edu>; Daniel Sayers <sayers@american.edu>; David A. Haaga <dhaaga@american.edu>
Subject: Re: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major
Importance: High

Dear Chairs,
This is a friendly reminder that I need you to weigh in on the SPA proposal by tomorrow.
Thanks,
Celine

Celine-Marie Pascale, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, College of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Sociology & Affiliate Professor School of Communication
206 Battelle-Tompkins Hall
American University

Tel: 202-885-2524
Fax: 202-885-2182
<http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm>

From: Celine-Marie Pascale <pascale@american.edu>
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 2:55 PM
To: Gloria Young <gyoung@american.edu>, Chris Mitchell <mitchell@american.edu>, Joshua Lansky <lansky@american.edu>, "Thomas A. Husted" <husted@american.edu>, Tristan Cabello <cabello@american.edu>, Eric Lohr <elohr@american.edu>, Daniel Sayers <sayers@american.edu>, "David A. Haaga" <dhaaga@american.edu>
Cc: Saul Newman <snewman@american.edu>
Subject: FW: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major

Subject: RE: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 11:33:32 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: David A. Haaga
To: Celine-Marie Pascale

Hi Celine. I was hoping to get more of a response from our undergrad curriculum committee, but they have not gotten back to me in time. Informally I have the sense from one or two of them [and I share it] that...

- (a) We'd like Political Science students to take Psyc classes and think they might benefit from them
- (b) We are unable in this time frame to come up with data on how many are currently taking what PSYC classes, let alone to estimate how many fewer would do so after the proposed change, so we can't comment intelligently on impact on our enrollments;
- (c) We respect that it's the prerogative of SPA faculty to decide whether Poli Sci students need PSYC courses as part of their major. Just as we wouldn't want them telling us that our students have to take Poli Sci to complete a PSYC major, we don't propose to tell them they have to include PSYC as major electives

All told, "support for these changes" might be an exaggeration, but maybe "PSYC agrees not to give you a hard time about making these changes"

Thanks

dave

From: Celine-Marie Pascale
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 7:53 AM
To: Chris Mitchell <mitchell@american.edu>; Joshua Lansky <lansky@american.edu>; Thomas A. Husted <husted@american.edu>; Tristan Cabello <cabello@american.edu>; Daniel Sayers <sayers@american.edu>; David A. Haaga <dhaaga@american.edu>
Subject: Re: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major
Importance: High

Dear Chairs,
This is a friendly reminder that I need you to weigh in on the SPA proposal by tomorrow.
Thanks,
Celine

Celine-Marie Pascale, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, College of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Sociology & Affiliate Professor School of Communication
206 Battelle-Tompkins Hall
American University

Tel: 202-885-2524
Fax: 202-885-2182
<http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm>

From: Celine-Marie Pascale <pascale@american.edu>
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 2:55 PM
To: Gloria Young <gyoung@american.edu>, Chris Mitchell <mitchell@american.edu>, Joshua Lansky

Subject: SPA - Political Science changes

Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 4:34:48 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: Gloria Young

To: Celine-Marie Pascale

Dear Celine – I have no problem with the SPA/Political Science plan, but I wonder if they would consider Socy 321 as an alternative to Stat 202 as a prerequisite. The description is below. I raise this possibility for two reasons: One is that the specific social science focus of the analysis might be beneficial; the other is that the reduction of credits required for the Political Science major might increase the likelihood that students would look to Sociology as a second major (for which Socy 321 is a requirement). If they are interested we could amend the prerequisite statement for the Sociology course – perhaps “permission of instructor.”

This course introduces the basics of sociological reasoning with quantitative data. In the course, students learn what kinds of sociological questions can be answered with quantitative data, develop a sense of statistical thinking, and gain the ability to conduct basic statistical analysis with SPSS. Usually offered every fall. Prerequisite: SOCY-100 or SOCY-110 or SOCY-150. Note: This course does not satisfy the University Mathematics requirement.

Regards,

Gay Young
Professor & Chair
Department of Sociology
American University
Washington, DC 20016
202.885.2254

Subject: Re: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 9:20:53 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Joshua Lansky
To: Celine-Marie Pascale
Priority: High

Dear Celine,

It doesn't look like the Math/Stat Department has objections to the proposed changes. The removal of STAT-202 from the list of requirements seems to be balanced by the fact that it's a proposed prerequisite for GOVT-310, which is a requirement.

Best,

Josh

Dear Chairs,

As you are likely aware, Scott Bass has issued a mandate that departments "right size" majors by reducing required credit hours. For some programs, this means downsizing majors to enable students to complete double majors, a wide array of electives, and CORE requirements. SPA is at the leading edge of the effort and is in the process of reducing their Political Science major from 58-59 to 36-37 credit hours. I am writing to each of you because this may affect enrollments in your courses.

Given the extensive pruning of in-house requirements that SPA is undertaking, they are no longer in a position to require CAS courses. This may directly affect your programs, however the extent of this impact on your programs is unclear, since students will continue to take courses in CAS.

The proposed changes are attached above. This is an advance look at documents before they reach the SPA EPC. In return for this courtesy we will need to respond in a timely way. Please send me either a statement of support for these changes, or a request to meet by January 26.

Thank you,
Celine

Subject: Re: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 6:21:26 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Eric Lohr
To: Celine-Marie Pascale

Celine: This is great news! I suspect History will get a bump in double majors with SPA and minors once this goes through. History courses seem popular as electives across campus, so this should be a boon to History in every case of downsizing.

best,
Eric

Chair, History Department
Susan Carmel Lehrman Chair of Russian History and Culture
American University

From: Celine-Marie Pascale
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 2:55:42 PM
To: Gloria Young; Chris Mitchell; Joshua Lansky; Thomas A. Husted; Tristan Cabello; Eric Lohr; Daniel Sayers; David A. Haaga
Cc: Saul Newman
Subject: FW: Cutting the number of Credit Hours in the Major

Dear Chairs,

As you are likely aware, Scott Bass has issued a mandate that departments "right size" majors by reducing required credit hours. For some programs, this means downsizing majors to enable students to complete double majors, a wide array of electives, and CORE requirements. SPA is at the leading edge of the effort and is in the process of reducing their Political Science major from 58-59 to 36-37 credit hours. I am writing to each of you because this may affect enrollments in your courses.

Given the extensive pruning of in-house requirements that SPA is undertaking, they are no longer in a position to require CAS courses. This may directly affect your programs, however the extent of this impact on your programs is unclear, since students will continue to take courses in CAS.

The proposed changes are attached above. This is an advance look at documents before they reach the SPA EPC. In return for this courtesy we will need to respond in a timely way. Please send me either a statement of support for these changes, or a request to meet by January 26.

Thank you,
Celine

Celine-Marie Pascale, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, College of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Sociology & Affiliate Professor School of Communication
206 Battelle-Tompkins Hall
American University

Tel: 202-885-2524
Fax: 202-885-2182
<http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm>

STATEMENT OF APPROVAL--SIS

School of International Service

Julian Escarraga

From: Saul Newman
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:42 PM
To: Julian Escarraga; Thomas Merrill
Subject: FW: SPA Curricular Reforms

From: Rose Shinko
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:39 PM
To: Saul Newman <snewman@american.edu>
Subject: Re: SPA Curricular Reforms

certainly and we also are no longer requiring Govt 110,210, or SPA 220, can I have your support for that as well? thanks Saul.

Rosemary E. Shinko, Ph.D.
Acting Associate Dean for Curriculum and Learning
Undergraduate Program Director
Assistant Professor
School of International Service
American University
(202) 885-2467

From: Saul Newman
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:36:12 PM
To: Rose Shinko
Subject: SPA Curricular Reforms

Rose,

As we have previously discussed, GOVT is sending forward the reform to its Political Science major. Although many PS students may still want to take World Politics, it will no longer be required. This should free up some tight SIS resources given the arrival of AU Core. Can I have SIS support please?

Saul Newman
Interim Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education
School of Public Affairs
American University
4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016
snewman@american.edu
202 885-6240

Julian Escarraga

From: Saul Newman
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 3:19 PM
To: Julian Escarraga; Thomas Merrill
Subject: FW: SPA Curricular Reforms

Please include this in the PS file.

From: Rose Shinko
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:48 PM
To: Saul Newman <snewman@american.edu>
Cc: Lee Schwentker <lschwent@american.edu>
Subject: Re: SPA Curricular Reforms

SIS supports SPA's request to drop SISU-105 "World Politics" from its major requirements.

Rosemary E. Shinko, Ph.D.
Acting Associate Dean for Curriculum and Learning
Undergraduate Program Director
Assistant Professor
School of International Service
American University
(202) 885-2467