



Department of Political Science

Bush School of Government and Public Service



NSC NEW
STUDENT
CONFERENCE

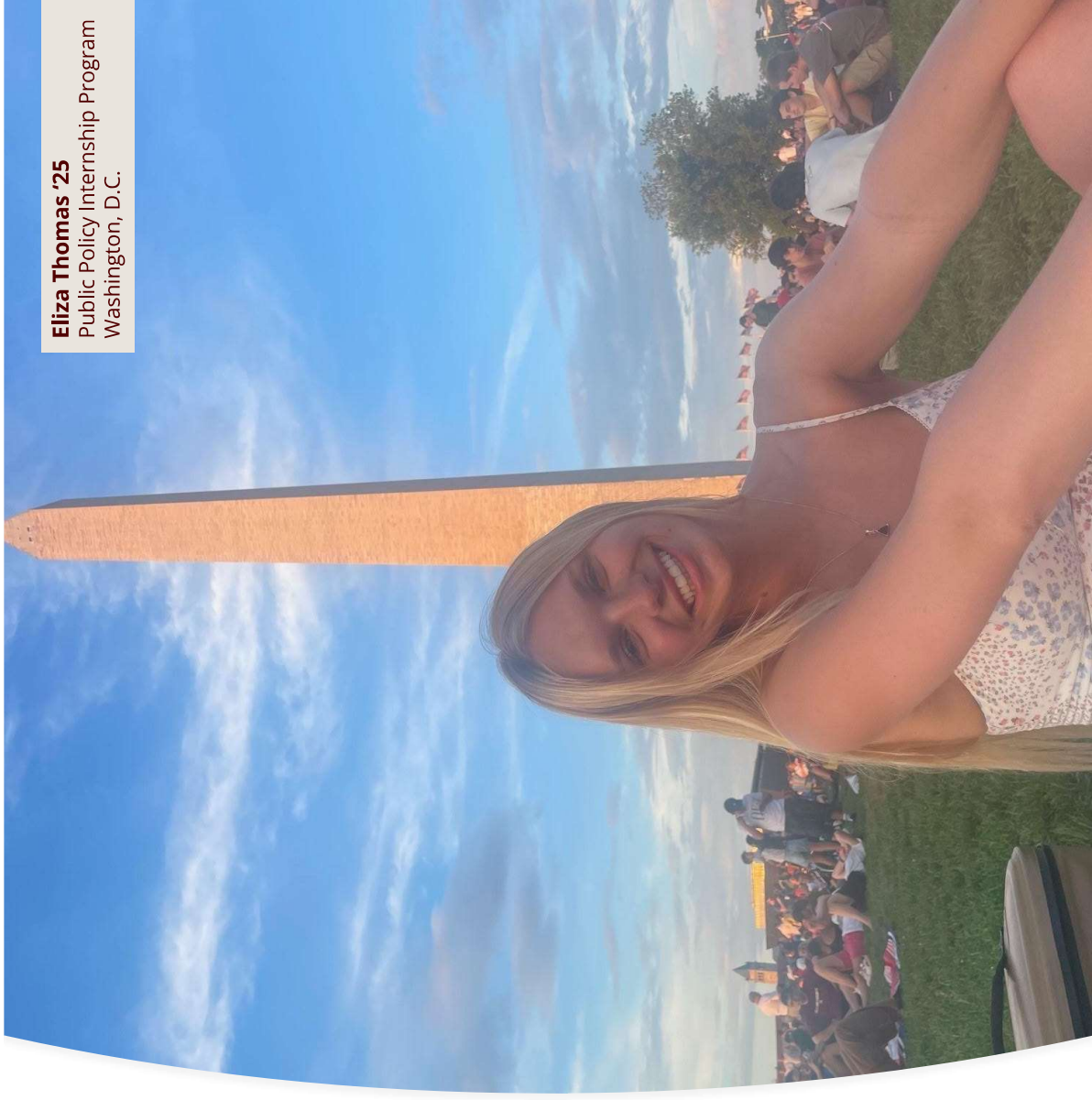
Day 2 Agenda



POLS Day 2 Agenda

- Bush School Advising
- Department of Political Science
- POLS Degree Requirements
- Credits and Registration

Eliza Thomas '25
Public Policy Internship Program
Washington, D.C.



Haley Collins '27
Universidad Antonio de Nebrija
Madrid, Spain

Advising & Department Information



Office of Undergraduate Programs and Advising

Academic Advising Information:

📍 Allen Building, Ste. 1112

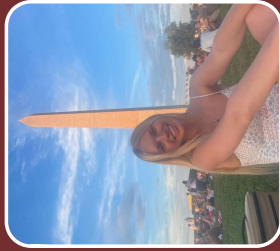
✉ BushSchoolAdvisingUG@tamu.edu

📞 (979) 458-7039

🌐 bush.tamu.edu/advising



Department of Political Science



Bachelor's Degree

- Political Science (BA)
- Political Science (BS)



Graduate School

- Master of Arts (MA)
- Master of Science (MS)
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Dr. Todd Kent

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Supports students with

- Undergraduate student issues
- POLS Summer Academy (abroad)
- POLS Subject Matter Expert
- Non-traditional course approval

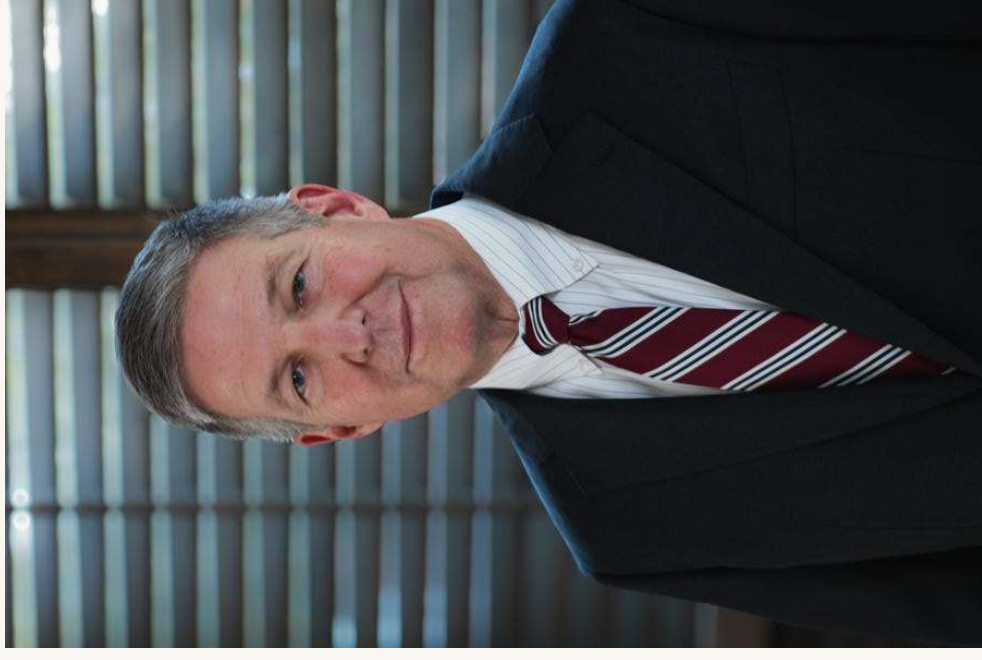
Contact Information

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 (979) 845-0264

 bush.tamu.edu/faculty/ckent/



POLS Degree Requirements



Political Science (POLS) Overview

BA POLS

 Major Coursework: 36 hrs

 Supporting Coursework: 3 hrs

 Foreign Language: 14 hrs

 Math: 6 hrs

 Core Curriculum: 42 hrs

 General Electives: 19 hrs

BS POLS

 Major Coursework - 36 hrs

 Supporting Coursework - 9 hrs

 Math: 9 hrs

 Core Curriculum: 42 hrs

 General Electives: 24 hrs

POLS Degree Total Hours: 120 hrs

POLS Major Coursework (36 hours)

Foundation Courses (12 hours)

- POLS 206: American National Government
- POLS 207: State and Local Government
- POLS 209: Introduction to Political Science Research
- POLS 200: Foundations of Political Science

Introductory Courses (9 hours)

- POLS 203: Introduction to Political Theory
- POLS 229: Introduction to Comparative Politics
- POLS 231: Introduction to World Politics
- POLS 233: Politics and Policy in the United States

POLS Electives (15 hours)

- POLS 300-499

POLS Supporting Coursework (3-9 hours)

**Student Success
Seminar**
3 hours

- BUSH 141 or BUSH 241

**POLS Data
Analysis (BS only)**
6 hours

- POLS 308: Game Theory
- POLS 309: Polimetrics

POLS Foreign Language (14 hours)

14 hrs of Foreign Language (BA)

Beginning Language I

Beginning Language II

Intermediate Language I

Intermediate Language II

State Language Requirement (BS)

2 years of the same language in high school

or

2 semesters of the same language in college



Arabic



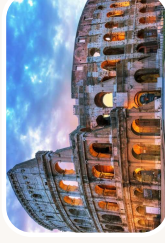
Chinese



French



German



Italian



Japanese



Russian



Spanish

Foreign Language Placement Exam

Who takes it?

Any student with prior knowledge of a foreign language that has not received college credit for it.

- High School Foreign Language
- Native Language
- Language Commonly Spoken at Home

Who does not take it?

Any student with no prior knowledge of a foreign language.

- AP Credit
- Dual Credit
- First time enrollment

You will not be able to enroll in a foreign language with prior knowledge until a placement exam is completed!

University & School Requirements (48-51 hours)

- **Communication - 6 hrs**
 - ◆ ENGL 104
 - ◆ Select from any KCOM course
- **Mathematics - 6-9 hrs**
 - ◆ MATH 140
 - ◆ MATH 142 and/or PHIL 240
- **Life & Physical Sci. - 9 hrs**
 - ◆ Select from any KLPS courses
- **Lang., Phil., Culture - 3 hrs**
 - ◆ Select from any KLPC course
- **Creative Arts - 3 hrs**
 - ◆ Select from any KCRA course
- **Social & Behavioral Sci. - 6 hrs**
 - ◆ Select from any KSOC course
- **American History - 6 hrs**
 - ◆ Select from any KHIS courses
- **Humanities - 9 hrs**
 - ◆ Select from any Humanities Directed Elective courses

Regents' Scholars in DC '25
US Capitol Rotunda



Credits & Registration

College Credits

Credit by Examination

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP)
- SAT Subject Test (SAT)
- Foreign Language Placement Exam (PE)

Transfer Credit

- TAMU Equivalent
 - HIST 1301 at Blinn = HIST 105 at TAMU
- Transfer-by-Title
 - TRNS XXX ARTS 1301 Art Appreciation
- Non-transferrable
 - NTRN XXX INEW 2438 Advanced Java Programming

POLS Degree Plan

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE 2025-2026

Name:

UIN:

CORE REQUIREMENTS		
ENGL 104	3	
Communication [KCOM]*	3	
Physical Science [KLPS]*		
Physical Science [KLPS]*		
Physical Science [KLPS]*		
Language, Philosophy & Culture [KLPC]*	3	
Creative Arts [KCRA]*	3	
Social Science [KSOC]*	3	
Social Science [KSOC]*	3	
American History [KHIS]*	3	
American History [KHIS]*	3	
Humanities	3	
Humanities	3	

*Course options may be found in [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR (36 HRS)		
Foundations		
POLS 206	3	
POLS 207	3	
POLS 209 [UWIRT]	3	
POLS 200 [UWIRT]	3	
Introductory Courses (choose 3 courses)		
POLS 203	3	
POLS 229	3	
POLS 231	3	
POLS 233	3	
Major Electives (15 hours total)		
POLS	3	
POLS	3	
POLS	3	
POLS	3	
POLS	3	

This document is intended to serve as a general outline for the student to follow in order to meet the requirements for a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. It does not constitute a contract nor does it imply assurance of graduation. It is NOT to be used in place of a consultation with your academic advisor.

ADDITIONAL BA REQUIREMENTS		
Supporting Coursework		
BIUSH 141	3	
Modern Language (14 hours total) <i>(choose from ARAB, CHIN, FREN, GERM, CLAS, ITAL, JAPN, RUSS, or SPAN)</i>		
Foreign Lang. I	4	
Foreign Lang. II	4	
Foreign Lang. III	3	
Foreign Lang. IV	3	
Mathematics (6 hours total)		
MATH 140	3	
MATH 142 or PHIL 240	3	

ADDITIONAL BS REQUIREMENTS		
Supporting Coursework		
BIUSH 141	3	
POLS 308	3	
POLS 309	3	
Mathematics (9 hours total)		
MATH 140	3	
MATH 142	3	
PHIL 240	3	

GENERAL ELECTIVES (19 hours for BA; 24 hrs for BS)		

OTHER REQUIREMENTS		
Residency: At least 36 credit hours of 300 or 400-level coursework must be completed at Texas A&M or through an approved study abroad program. A minimum of 12 of these 36 credit hours must be in the major.		
International & Cultural Diversity: Students must complete 3 hours of approved [KICD] coursework.		
Cultural Discourse: Students must complete 3 hours of approved [KICD] coursework.		
University Foreign Language: Students must complete at least 2 semesters of college-level foreign language OR 2 years of the same foreign language in high school.		
Writing Intensive Coursework: Students must complete 6 hours of approved [UWIRT] coursework.		

Recommended Fall Schedule

12-16 Credit Hours

- ☐ First Semester Success Course: BUSH 141 (3 hrs)
 - ☐ Some may have additional FYEs due to programming
- ☐ POLS 206 or 207 (3 hrs)
- ☐ POLS 229 or 233 (3 hrs)
- ☐ MATH 140 or PHIL 240 (3 hrs)
- ☐ 1 Core Curriculum Course (3 hrs)
 - ☐ American History
 - ☐ Life & Physical Science
 - ☐ Foreign Language
 - ☐ Corps of Cadets required coursework

Use your POLS Degree Plan to avoid repeating courses you already have credit for when scheduling.

Recommended Fall Schedule

12-16 Credit Hours

- ☐ First Semester Success Course: BUSH 241 (3 hrs)
 - ☐ Some may have additional FYEs due to programming
- ☐ POLS 200 or 209 (3 hrs)
- ☐ POLS 229 or 233 (3 hrs)
- ☐ Math or Foreign Language (3-4 hrs)
- ☐ 1 Core Curriculum Course (3 hrs)
 - ☐ Language, Philosophy, Culture
 - ☐ Life & Physical Science
 - ☐ Creative Arts
 - ☐ Corps of Cadets required coursework

Use your POLS Degree Plan to avoid repeating courses you already have credit for when scheduling.

Next Steps



Up Next: Dean's Meeting

Where: Hagler Auditorium, Annenberg Presidential Conference Center

Follow us to the APCC!



Registration Assistance

When: 1:00 PM

Where: Allen Building, Room 2002 & 2003