Political Science and Geography

Francis Adams, Chair

The Department of Political Science and Geography offers undergraduate degrees in political science and geography.

In political science, the department offers Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. The political science program is designed to give students an essential core of basic knowledge and analytical skills, while providing an opportunity to specialize in one of two emphasis areas: American politics and public law, or international relations and comparative politics.

In geography the department offers Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. The geography program is designed to give students a broad base of geographical training and an understanding of human-environment interrelationships, while providing an opportunity to specialize in one of three concentration areas: urban planning and emergency/hazards management, environment and resources, and geographical information systems (B.S. only). Undergraduate and graduate certificates in geographic information science and in spatial analysis of coastal environments are also offered.

In addition to developing subject-area expertise, political science and geography courses are designed to build analytic and communication skills. Writing skills are emphasized throughout the curriculum. Undergraduates in most 400-level courses in political science and geography are required to make oral presentations in class. Instructors also strengthen students’ verbal competency skills through in-class discussions. Students gain technical skills in lower and upper-level methods classes where computers are employed for data analysis and social science research.

Undergraduate students may earn honors in the major in political science or geography by fulfilling all the requirements for the specific degree (B.A. and B.S.) and meeting the honors requirements indicated below. The requirements for honors do not increase the credit hours necessary for the major.

Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts—Political Science Major

To be named, Chief Departmental Advisor

Lower Division General Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Communication *</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics **</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and Culture **</td>
<td>0-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Literacy and Research ****</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Creativity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpreting the Past</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy and Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Nature of Science</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Behavior *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 201S Principles of Macroeconomics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 38-50

* Grade of C or better required in both courses and in ENGL 110C before declaring major.

** BS requires C- or better in STAT 130M. STAT 130M is also recommended for the BA degree though MATH 102M, MATH 103M or MATH 162M are also acceptable.

*** BS students’ competence must be at the 102 level. BA students must have competence through the 202 level. Competence is not met by the associate degree for BA students.

**** Satisfied in the major with POLS 308.

+ ECON 201S is a departmental requirement and is not met by the associate degree.

Foundation courses (B.A. 15 hours, B.S. 18 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 100S</td>
<td>Introduction to International Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 101S</td>
<td>Introduction to American Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 102S</td>
<td>Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 308</td>
<td>Research Design (C- or better) *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 418</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods (BS only)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 202S</td>
<td>Principles of Microeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 100S</td>
<td>Cultural Geography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Meets information literacy and research requirement.

Political Science 300-400 level electives (B.A. 24 hours, B.S. 21 hours)

Both the B.A. and B.S. require that at least nine hours are at the 400 level. Both require a minimum of nine hours in each of two emphasis areas: American politics/public law and international relations/comparative politics. No more than three hours can be taken from POLS 367 and POLS 368 and no more than three hours can be taken from POLS 497. One elective must be writing intensive. All majors must complete and submit to the department a capstone paper in the junior or senior year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 300-400 electives *</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 300-400 level writing intensive (W) course *</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 300-400 (BA only)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 400-level electives *</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* C or better required.

See course listings in this Catalog for elective choices.

Electives

Elective courses may be taken for the remainder of the minimum 120 credits required for the degree.

Upper Division General Education

- Option A. Approved Minor, 12-24 hours; also second degree or second major.
- Option B. Interdisciplinary Minor, 12 hours specified by the department, 3 of which may be in the major area of study.
- Option C. International business and regional courses or an approved certification program, such as teaching licensure.
- Option D. Two Upper-Division Courses from outside the College of Arts and Letters or from the Arts and Humanities Component within the College of Arts and Letters that are not required by the major (6 hours).

Graduation requirements include a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 overall and in the major, 120 credit hours, which must include both a minimum of 30 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours of upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University, completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or 221C or 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better, and completion of Senior Assessment.

Double Majoring in Philosophy and Political Science

The departments of Political Science and Geography and Philosophy and Religious Studies have established an arrangement that makes it possible to complete a double major in as few as 55 hours, little more than the 45-49
hours needed for a major in one and minor in the other. Political Science majors double-majoring in Philosophy (on the Political-Legal Studies track) will be allowed to count any two of the following Philosophy courses as Political Science electives:

PHIL 304 Marx and the Marxists 3
PHIL 410 Social and Political Philosophy 3
PHIL 411 Postmodernism and Political Philosophy 3
PHIL 412 Philosophy of Law 3

These courses will not count toward the requirement to take a specific number of hours in the American politics/public law and international relations/comparative politics emphasis areas. Philosophy "topics" courses and PHIL 442E may also be counted as Political Science electives when the topic covered is appropriate; prior approval is required from the chief departmental advisor of Political Science and Geography. Philosophy will also count certain Political Science courses towards its major for double majors; see the Philosophy section of this Catalog for details.

**Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science—Geography Major**
Jonathan Leib, Chief Departmental Advisor

**Lower Division General Education**

- Written Communication * 6
- Oral Communication 3
- Mathematics ** 3
- Language and Culture *** 0-12
- Information Literacy and Research **** 3
- Human Creativity 3
- Interpreting the Past 3
- Literature 3
- Philosophy and Ethics 3
- The Nature of Science ***** 8
- Impact of Technology * 0-3
- Human Behavior ** 3

Total Hours 35-50

* Grade of C or better required in both courses and in ENGL 110C before declaring major.
** BS students must earn C- or better in STAT 130M.
*** BS Students’ competence must be at the 102 level. BA students must have competence through the 202 level. Competence is not met by the associate degree for BA students.
**** Satisfied in the major with GEOG 308.
***** OEAS 106N, OEAS 108N, OEAS 111N, or OEAS 112N is recommended for one of the two nature of science courses.
+ Can be met with GEOG 306T.
++ GEOG 100S and GEOG 101S cannot be used to satisfy this requirement.

**Required Courses** 12-18

- GEOG 100S Cultural Geography
- GEOG 101S Environmental Geography
- GEOG 300 Maps and Geographic Information
- GEOG 308 Research Design *
- GEOG 418 Quantitative Methods **

Select one of the following:** **

- GEOG 400W Seminar in Geography or
- GEOG 422W Coastal Geography

** or

- GEOG 454W Latin America

or

- GEOG 480W Senior Seminar in International Studies

* C- or better. Meets information literacy and research requirement.
** BS only. GEOG 402 and GEOG 404 may be substituted for GEOG 418.
*** C or better required.

**Geography 300-400 level electives (B.A. 21 hours, B.S, 18 hours)**

At least nine credit hours must be taken at the 400 level. Those wishing to pursue a physical geography concentration may substitute the following ocean, earth and atmospheric science courses for up to 12 hours of Geography credit:

OEAS 306 Oceanography 3
OEAS 310 Global Earth Systems 3
OEAS 344W Geomorphology 3
OEAS 412 Global Environmental Change 3
OEAS 443 General Meteorology 3
OEAS 448 Population Ecology 3

Three hours of internship count toward the 36 hours of geography courses. All majors must complete a capstone paper in the junior or senior year.

**General Program**

- GEOG 300-400 electives (BA only) 12
- GEOG 300-400 electives (BS only) 9
- GEOG 400-level electives 9

**Urban Concentration**

- GEOG 310 Geography of the City 3
- GEOG 410 Seminar in Urban Geography 3
- GEOG 300-400 electives 6

Select two of the following: 6

- GEOG 306T Hazards: Natural and Technological
- GEOG 321 World Economic Geography
- GEOG 368 Internship in Geography
- GEOG 402 Geographic Information Systems
- GEOG 411 Urban and Regional Planning
- GEOG 412 Cities of the World

Total Hours 18

**Environment and Resources Concentration**

- GEOG 305 World Resources 3
- GEOG 405 Seminar in International Resource Management 3

Select two of the following: 6

- GEOG 306T Hazards: Natural and Technological
- GEOG 321 World Economic Geography
- GEOG 368 Internship in Geography
- GEOG 420 Marine Geography
- GEOG 422W Coastal Geography
- GEOG 451 Europe
- GEOG 452 Africa
- GEOG 453 Asia
- GEOG 454W Latin America
- GEOG 455 The Middle East

Approved Study Abroad options

Total Hours 12
Geographic Information Systems Concentration
(B.S. only)

GEOG 402  Geographic Information Systems  3
GEOG 404  Digital Techniques for Remote Sensing  3

Select two of the following:  6
  GEOG 419  Spatial Analysis of Coastal Environments
  GEOG 432  Advanced GIS
  GEOG 490  Applied Cartography/GIS

Total Hours 12

Electives: Elective courses may be taken for the remainder of the minimum 120 credits required for the degree.

Upper Division General Education

• Option A. Approved Minor, 12-24 hours; also second degree or second major.
• Option B. Interdisciplinary Minor, 12 hours specified by the department, of which 3 may be in the major area of study.
• Option C. International business and regional courses or an approved certification program, such as teaching licensure.
• Option D. Two Upper-Division Courses from outside the College of Arts and Letters or from the Arts and Humanities Component within the College of Arts and Letters that are not required by the major (6 hours).

Requirements for graduation include a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 overall and in the major, 120 credit hours, which must include both a minimum of 30 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours of upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University, completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or 221C or 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better, and completion of Senior Assessment.

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science with Honors–Political Science Major

The requirements are as follows:

1. Attain an overall grade point average of 3.25.
2. Attain a grade point average in the major of 3.50.
3. Earn honors in nine hours of courses in the major at the 300/400 level, excluding internship and independent study courses, with no more than six hours taken from the same instructor.

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science with Honors–Geography Major

The requirements are as follows:

1. Attain an overall grade point average of 3.25.
2. Attain a grade point average in the major of 3.50.
3. Earn honors in nine hours of courses in the major at the 300/400 level, excluding internship and independent study courses, with no more than six hours taken from the same instructor.

Minors in Political Science

One general minor and a minor with a specialization in public law are offered in political science. Each requires an introductory course as a prerequisite and 12 hours of 300/400-level courses. For completion of a minor, a student must have a minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all courses required for the minor exclusive of lower-level courses and prerequisite courses and complete a minimum of six hours in upper-level courses in the minor requirement through courses offered by Old Dominion University.

1. Political Science. POLS 100S, POLS 101S or POLS 102S is a prerequisite for the minor and is not included in the calculation of the grade point average for the minor. The minor requires 12 hours of 300/400-level political science electives.
2. Public Law. POLS 101S is a prerequisite for the minor and is not included in the calculation of the grade point average for the minor. The minor requires 12 hours from the following:

Select four of the following:

- POLS 301W Introduction to Public Law
- POLS 306 Judicial Process and Behavior
- POLS 307 Constitutional Criminal Procedure
- POLS 403 First Amendment Freedoms
- POLS 408 American Constitutional Law and Politics I
- POLS 409 American Constitutional Law and Politics II
- POLS 419 Jurisprudence
- POLS 421 International Law

Public law topics courses such as:

- POLS 495/496 Topics in Political Science

Total Hours 12

Minors in Geography

One general minor and a minor with a specialization in environment and resources are offered in geography. Each requires an introductory course as a prerequisite and 12 hours of 300/400-level courses. For completion of a minor, a student must have a minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all courses required for the minor exclusive of lower-level courses and prerequisite courses and complete a minimum of six hours in upper-level courses in the minor requirement through courses offered by Old Dominion University.

1. Geography. GEOG 100S or GEOG 101S is a prerequisite for the minor and is not included in the calculation of the grade point average for the minor. The minor requires 12 hours of 300/400-level geography electives.
2. Environment and Resources. GEOG 100S or GEOG 101S is a prerequisite for the minor and is not included in the calculation of the grade point average for the minor. Requirements for the minor are:

GEOG 305  World Resources  3
GEOG 405  Seminar in International Resource Management  3

Select two of the following courses:  6

- GEOG 306T Hazards: Natural and Technological
- GEOG 420  Marine Geography
- GEOG 422W Coastal Geography

Total Hours 12

Advanced Placement

Students interested in advanced placement credit should confer with the department chair.

Certificate in Geographic Information Science

The certificate in geographic information science (GISci) provides a program for students and professionals pursuing careers in geographic information systems (GIS) and related spatial technologies (remote sensing, global positioning systems, cartography, and spatial data handling and analysis). Awarded upon completion of the requirements, the certificate is an affidavit of academic proficiency and is administered by the Department of Political Science and Geography. Students must take courses in the areas listed below and complete them with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher and no grade below a C (2.00). The certificate is available to undergraduate students and non-degree seeking professionals who meet the requirements. Students with comparable professional experience may be able to satisfy competencies in selected courses through examination.

Old Dominion University 3
Students must complete the following courses:

**Core Courses**
- GEOG 300  Maps and Geographic Information  3
- GEOG 402  Geographic Information Systems  3
- GEOG 404  Digital Techniques for Remote Sensing  3

**Developmental Courses**
Select three of the following:  9
- GEOG 330  Field Methods
- GEOG 368  Internship in Geography
- GEOG 400W  Seminar in Geography
- GEOG 408  Cartography
- GEOG 411  Urban and Regional Planning
- GEOG 419  Spatial Analysis of Coastal Environments
- GEOG 425  Internet Geographic Information Systems
- GEOG 432  Advanced GIS
- GEOG 490  Applied Cartography/GIS
- GEOG 495  Topics in Geography
- GEOG 497  Independent Research in Geography

**Total Hours**  18

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**Certificate in Spatial Analysis of Coastal Environments**

The certificate in spatial analysis of coastal environments provides an interdisciplinary program for students wishing to pursue careers in coastal management or research, remote sensing, or geographic information systems (GIS) applications. Rendered upon completion of the requirements, the certificate is an academic affidavit comprised of courses in geography and ocean, earth and atmospheric sciences and is administered by the two departments. Students must take courses in the areas listed below and complete them with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher and no grade below a C (2.00). The certificate is available to postgraduate professionals who meet the requirements. Students with comparable professional experience may be able to show competence in selected courses through examination.

Students seeking graduate certification should refer to the Graduate Catalog.

**Undergraduate Certification**

**Core Courses**
- GEOG 404  Digital Techniques for Remote Sensing  3

Select one of the following:  3
- BIOL 419  Wetland Plants
- BIOL 450  Principles of Plant Ecology
- OEAS 411  Structural Geology
- OEAS 426  Concepts in Oceanography for Teachers

**Interpretive Analysis Courses**
Select two of the following:  6
- GEOG 402  Geographic Information Systems
- GEOG 422W  Coastal Geography
- GEOG 490  Applied Cartography/GIS
- OEAS 495  Special Topics

**Capstone Seminar**
Select one of the following:  3
- GEOG 419  Spatial Analysis of Coastal Environments
- OEAS 419  Spatial Analysis of Coastal Environments

**Total Hours**  15