

**POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR
ADVISING AND PRE-REGISTRATION INFORMATION
SPRING 2011**

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR POSC MAJORS:

- The INTA major is a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree program. To earn the B.A. degree, you must complete a philosophy course. This may be any PHIL course or GPHIL 101 (if you are NOT using GPHIL 101 to fulfill your Cluster One or Cluster Two requirements).
 - Students who entered JMU *_before_* the 2008-2009 academic year are permitted to take GPHIL 120 to fulfill that BA degree requirement -- provided that they abide by the principle of not needing to count GPHIL 120 simultaneously toward completion of Cluster One in GenEd. Students who began their JMU careers in the FALL 2008 semester or later are not permitted to take GPHIL 120 to fulfill that BA degree requirement under any circumstances.
 - **You cannot use GPHIL 150 to complete this B.A. degree requirement.**
- For the B.A. degree, you must also complete a foreign language through the intermediate level—through course number 232 for most languages.
- MATH 220 is a prerequisite for POSC 295. POSC 295 is a prerequisite for POSC 492, the senior seminar. **None of these courses may be taken during the same semester.** That is, you should take MATH 220, then POSC 295, then POSC 492. Ideally, POSC 295 should be taken no later than the second semester of your junior year. You will NOT be permitted to take MATH 220 and POSC 295 at the same time, nor may you enroll in POSC 295 and POSC 492 in the same semester. There are **no exceptions** to this policy, so plan accordingly
- Internships are strongly encouraged. To receive credit for the internship experience, students must register for POSC 495. This course may be counted as an elective in the POSC major. Students interested in participating in the Washington Semester should save internship credit for that semester. For more information about internships, contact the internship coordinator, Dr. Gary Kirk (e-mail: kirkgr@jmu.edu). For qualifications, requirements and forms related to internship-for-credit see www.jmu.edu/polisci/internships.html
- No overrides are permitted into multiple sections of POSC 295 until all sections are full. This measure is designed to protect students from overcrowded classes and to distribute the workload fairly among professors. *In turn, enrollment in POSC 492 is by override only. If you are eligible to request a senior seminar, you will receive instructions in a separate e-mail message.*
- Students interested in writing an honors thesis must contact Dr. Jon Keller (kelle2jn@jmu.edu) as they begin the process. All students pursuing an honors thesis in the Political Science department must register for the honors colloquium (POSC 499A, B or C, depending on which phase of the thesis project you are in). Enrollment in these courses requires permission from the instructor. In addition to Honors Program requirements, we require junior standing and a **3.25 GPA in the major** to register. You must register for this course **before** the beginning of the semester. The honors colloquium is never offered as a block course.
- For various reasons, courses are sometimes not offered in their regular rotation. As you approach your senior year, you should plan your schedule carefully in consultation with your advisor to make sure needed courses will be offered.
- When offered, topics courses in political science count for the POSC major as follows:
 - POSC 351 upper-level U.S. Government
 - POSC 361 upper-level International Relations
 - POSC 371 upper-level Comparative Politics
 - POSC 381 upper-level Political Theory
 - POSC 391 upper-level U.S. Government

MAJOR ADVISING:

Please contact your major advisor if you have specific questions regarding fall registration or future schedule planning. If you do not know who your major advisor is, you can find out in the POSC department office, Miller 2120.

You may pick up a current major checksheet from outside the department office (Miller 2120) or print one from the POSC website.

Students needing study abroad or other forms of transfer credit approval should contact the department chair, Dr. Charles Blake (His e-mail address is: blakecb@jmu.edu).

SPRING 2011 POSC MAJOR COURSE OFFERINGS:

See your course catalog for descriptions of these courses.

Core courses

- GPOSC 200 Global Politics
- GPOSC 225 U.S. Government [3 sections]
- GPOSC 200H Honors U.S. Government
- POSC 201 Western Political Theory
- POSC 230 International Relations [2 sections]
- POSC 240 Comparative Politics
- POSC 295 Research Methods [2 sections]
- POSC 492 Senior Seminar in Political Science [6 sections]

U.S. Government Courses

- POSC 302 State and Local Government
- POSC 326 Civil Rights
- POSC 362 Political Behavior
- POSC 380 U.S. Presidency
- POSC 384 Minority Group Politics
- POSC 391 Topics in Public Policy
- POSC 472 Media and Politics

Comparative Courses

- POSC 344 Politics of the European Union
- POSC 347 Comparative Public Policy
- POSC 350 Latin American Politics
- POSC 353 African Politics
- POSC 355 East Asian Politics

International Relations Courses

- POSC 331 Human Rights in Theory and Practice
- POSC 370 U.S. Foreign Policy [2 sections]
- POSC 372 Ethics and International Politics
- POSC 397 Politics of International Economic Relations

Political Theory Courses

- POSC 315 Early Modern Theory