Government and Politics (B.A.)

Government and Politics includes the study of political institutions, organizations, processes, and ideas. It provides an understanding of the workings of government, the activities of politicians and public officials, both elected and appointed, and the ways government affects and is affected by various actors, including individuals. Political scientists and public administrators pay particular attention to the formulation, adoption, implementation, and evaluation of laws and public policies.

The Government and Politics program at The University of Texas at Dallas (1) lays the foundations for more intensive studies of government and politics; (2) promotes acquisition of skills and knowledge useful for careers in federal, state, and local governments, social service, educational, community development, arts and other nonprofit organizations, and business firms; (3) provides students with the special skills needed for subsequent training in law, international relations, public policy analysis or other areas of graduate study in political science; and (4) offers students the opportunity to acquire skills and information necessary to become effective citizens.

Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics Degree Requirements (120 hours)

I. Core Curriculum Requirements1: 42 hours

A. Communication (6 hours)
3 hours Communication (RHET 1302)
3 hours Communication Elective (GOVT 3325)2
B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
6 hours Government (GOVT 2305 and 2306)
6 hours History (HST 1301 and 2301)
3 hours Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective (SOC 1301 or 2301)2
C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
3 hours Fine Arts (AP 1301)
3 hours Humanities (A&H 1301)
D. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 hours)
3 hours Mathematics (at or above level of College Algebra, recommended: MATH 1300 or 1314)
3 hours Quantitative Reasoning (SOCS 3303)2
E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

1 Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from accredited institutions of higher education. The courses listed in parenthesis are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at U.T. Dallas.

II. Major Requirements: 55 hours

Major Preparatory Courses (3 hours)
ECO 2301 Principles of Macroeconomics
or ECO 2302 Principles of Microeconomics
SOC elective2
Major Core Courses (22 hours)
SOCS 3303 Social Statistics2
SOCS 3103 Social Statistics Lab
GOVT 3325 American Public Policy2
GOVT 3301 Political Theory
GOVT 3322 Constitutional Law
GOVT 3333 Political Behavior
GOVT 3362 The American Political Institutions
GOVT 4329 Global Politics
One of the following:
CJS 3301 Theories of Justice
ECO 4320/PA 4313 Public Sector Economics
GOVT 3353/SOC 3353 Law and Gender
GOVT 4364/SOC 4364 Civil Rights Law and Society
GOVT 4334/SOC 4334 Gay and Lesbian Politics
GOVT 4333/SOC 4333 Sex and Politics
GOVT 4361 Law and Society
SOC 4356 Social Welfare Policy
One of the following:
ISSS 3336 Culture Regions
ISSS 3347 World's Advanced Economies
ISSS 3349 World Resources and Development
ISSS 4366 Japanese Organization and Management
ECO 3370 Global Economy
ECO 4360 International Trade
ECO 4362 Development Economics
ECO 4382 International Finance
GOVT 3328 International Relations
GOVT 3350 Comparative Politics
CJS 3319 Comparative Justice Systems
Major Core Concentration (9 hours)
Three courses from one of the following concentrations:

**Theory Concentration**
GOVT 3306 Political Economy
GOVT 3323 American Federalism
GOVT 4354 Contemporary Political Thought
GOVT 4330 The Bible and Politics
GOVT 4333 Sex and Politics

**Law Concentration**
GOVT 3303 Civil Liberties
GOVT 3320 Law and Criminal Justice
GOVT 3353 Law and Gender
GOVT 4341 Politics of the Judicial Process
GOVT 4345 Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
GOVT 4363 Affirmative Action
GOVT 4364 Civil Rights Law and Society
GOVT 4365 Law and Medicine

**American Politics Concentration**
GOVT 3310 Public Administration
GOVT 3340 Film and Politics
GOVT 3364 Campaigns and Elections
GOVT 4334 Gay and Lesbian Politics
GOVT 4335 Immigrants, Immigration and Society
GOVT 4338 Minority Politics
GOVT 4342 Legislative Decision Making
GOVT 4343 Congress and Public Policy
GOVT 4364 Civil Rights Law and Society
Global Politics Concentration
GOVT 3327 US Foreign Policy
GOVT 3328 International Relations
GOVT 3330 Model UN
GOVT 3350 Comparative Politics
GOVT 4331 Mexican Politics
GOVT 4332 Latin American Politics
GOVT 4346 War and Peace
GOVT 4355 National and International Security

Public Policy Concentration
GOVT 3326 Politics and Business
GOVT 3327 US Foreign Policy
GOVT 3340 Film and Politics
GOVT 3353 Law and Gender
GOVT 4333 Sex and Politics
GOVT 4334 Gay and Lesbian Politics
GOVT 4335 Immigrants, Immigration and Society
GOVT 4363 Affirmative Action

Major Related Courses (21 hours)
21 hours Major and Related electives

III. Elective Requirements: 23 hours

Advanced Electives (6 hours)
All students are required to take at least six hours of advanced electives outside their major field of study. These must be either upper-division classes or lower-division classes that have prerequisites.

Free Electives (17 hours)
This requirement may be satisfied with lower- and upper-division courses from any field of study. Students must complete at least 51 hours of upper-division credit to qualify for graduation.

Minor in Government and Politics (18 hours)
For a minor in Government and Politics, students must take GOVT 2305 and GOVT 2306. In addition students must take four upper-division courses with a GOVT prefix.

Specified Course Descriptions

A&H 1301 (HUMA 1301) Exploration of the Humanities (3 semester hours) An introduction to the concept of cultural tradition through the study of selected works of literature, philosophy, music, and visual art. Emphasis on the relations among various forms of cultural expression and developing students' ability to interpret complex artistic works in their historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts. General education core course. (3-0) S

AP 1301 (ARTS 1301) Exploration of the Arts (3 semester hours) This course introduces students to the physical and intellectual demands required of the author, the performer, and the visual artist. This introduction includes, but is not limited to, the student's production of a creative project as well as written assessments of art and performance. (3-0) Y

CJS 3301 Theories of Justice (3 semester hours) A survey of the basic theoretical rationales and perspectives concerning the concept of "justice" with selected readings from classical and contemporary theorists. (3-0) Y

CJS 3319 Comparative Justice Systems (3 semester hours) A survey of the differing policies, practices, and procedures
of crime and justice cross-nationally. Special emphasis will be devoted to U.S. / Mexico comparisons, while additional emphasis will be placed on such comparisons as U.S. / Canada and U.S. / England. (3-0) R

ECO 2301 (ECON 2301) Principles of Macroeconomics (3 semester hours) An introduction to theories of the determination of national production and income, interest rates, inflation, and unemployment. Other topics include the banking system, the balance of payments, economic growth and development. (3-0) S

ECO 2302 (ECON 2302) Principles of Microeconomics (3 semester hours) An introduction to theories of the behavior of markets. Topics include the theory of demand and supply, market structure, resource markets, international interdependence in commodity markets, the role of government policy and regulation. (3-0) S

ECO 3370 The Global Economy (3 semester hours) Considers the changing relationships of population, resources, and the economy, the transformation of classical spatial economies, and the processes producing increasing globalization. Particular attention is paid to technological change and to the dynamics of world trade and investment. This course is also recommended for students who are not economics majors. (Same as GEOG 3370.) (3-0) T

ECO 4320 Public Sector Economics (3 semester hours) A study of the economics of the public sector, including taxation, public expenditures, and fiscal policy. Examines the theoretical foundation for government intervention in the economy, and the incentive effects of government policies on work, investment, and the spending of income. (Same as PA 4313.) Prerequisite: ECO 3310. (3-0) R

ECO 4360 International Trade (3 semester hours) Studies international relationships among national economies with a principal focus on trade relationships. Examines theories of trade, rationale for protectionism, and the foundation of exchange markets. Prerequisite: ECO 3310. (3-0) Y

ECO 4362 Development Economics (3 semester hours) A study of development and economic growth, with a principal focus on less-developed countries. Includes theories and patterns of development, the role of human resources, capital resources, agriculture, and international markets. Prerequisites: ECO 2302 and ECO 3311. (3-0) Y

ECO 4382 International Finance (3 semester hours) Studies the international financial system, including the foreign exchange markets and the balance of payment accounts and a discussion of international monetary theory. Prerequisite: ECO 3311. (3-0) T

GOVT 2305 (GOVT 2305) Constitutional Foundations and Political Behavior in the U.S. and Texas (3 semester hours) This course examines the evolution and current state of political behavior and public policy making in the U.S. and Texas. Topics discussed will include the constitutions, federalism, intergovernmental relations, voting, elections, political parties, public opinion, and interest groups. (Fulfills one-half of the legislative requirement of 6 hours of American government.) (3-0) S

GOVT 2306 (GOVT 2306) Political Institutions in the U.S. and Texas (3 semester hours) This course explores the primary institutions of U.S. and Texas government. It examines the bureaucracy as well as the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government at the state and federal level. (Fulfills one-half of the legislative requirement of 6 hours of American government.) (3-0) S

GOVT 3301 Political Theory (3 semester hours) An examination of perennial issues in political thought through a study of the work and research methods of selected theorists in the history of political thought. (3-0) T

GOVT 3303 Civil Liberties (3 semester hours) An examination of the development of constitutional law in the area of civil liberties. (3-0) T

GOVT 3306 Political Economy (3 semester hours) Investigates various conceptual perspectives for understanding the relationship between economic processes and political institutions. Focuses particular attention on the normative and policy debates separating conservative, liberal, and radical schools of thought. (3-0) T

GOVT 3310 Public Administration (3 semester hours) Overview of management responsibilities, functions, and activities in government agencies within the framework of political values and organizational dynamics. (Same as PA 3310). (3-0) Y

GOVT 3320 Law and Criminal Justice (3 semester hours) Examines court decisions in the criminal justice area with particular reference to due process and other constitutional provisions. (3-0) T

GOVT 3322 Constitutional Law (3 semester hours) Students will examine the methods used in legal research, the evolution of the Constitution of the United States, and the role of the Supreme Court of the United States in the development of the American constitutional system. (3-0) T

GOVT 3323 American Federalism (3 semester hours) An examination of how local, state, and national governments share power in such important areas as education, environmental regulation, public finance, welfare, housing and community
development, and criminal justice. There will also be discussions of recent innovations, such as judicial supervision and deregulation. (3-0) Y

**GOVT 3325 American Public Policy** (3 semester hours) This course examines the making of public policy in the U.S. political system. Students will examine the various public policy models and case studies related to specific policy areas. All students are required to write a policy related term paper to fulfill the University's writing requirement. (3-0) Y

**GOVT 3326 Politics and Business** (3 semester hours) An investigation of the role played by business in American politics. Particular attention will be focused on the regulatory process and the changing relationship between business and government in it. (-0) R

**GOVT 3327 United States Foreign Policy** (3 semester hours) Examines the way in which the policy-making process structures the premises, concepts, and objectives of U.S. policy and the U.S. role in international politics. (3-0) R

**GOVT 3328 International Relations** (3 semester hours) This course explores the power relationships among national actors and organizations. Topics may include origins of the state system, international security, globalization, north-south relations, ecological security, and the implications of world demographic patterns. (3-0) R

**GOVT 3330 The Model U.N.** (3 semester hours) This course will introduce students to the purposes, structure, principal arms, and specialized agencies of the United Nations. It will develop students' skills in negotiation and diplomacy and increase their understanding of regional and other issues before the General Assembly and the Security Council. The course will serve as preparation for participation in an intercollegiate Model United Nations simulation in the spring. (3-0) T

**GOVT 3333 Political Behavior** (3 semester hours) An overview of political behavior and the research methodologies that are used in this area of political inquiry. Topics include voting, public opinion, campaigns, and interest groups. (3-0) T

**GOVT 3340 Film and Politics** (3 semester hours) This course examines the role of one form of media in shaping political discourse. It examines the role of documentaries, drama, and comedy in shaping, exposing, and reflecting public political sentiments of the day. (Same as SOC 3340.) (3-0) T

**GOVT 3350 Comparative Politics** (3 semester hours) A comparative analysis of political life in different cultural and national settings. A consideration of different theoretical approaches to comparative politics. (3-0) T

**GOVT 3353 Law and Gender** (3 semester hours) Examines how laws and legal institutions reflect and reproduce cultural notions of gender. Focuses on how legal equality and sex discrimination have been defined and challenged. Topics include rape law, reproductive issues, marriage and divorce, pornography, workplace regulations, and, generally, how gender and race ideologies interact in legal decision making. (3-0) R

**GOVT 3362 The American Political Institutions** (3 semester hours) This course examines the constitutional foundations and historical development of the congress, the presidency, the executive, and the courts. Attention will be paid to both the interactions of these institutions, research methodologies employed in examining these institutions, and the internal workings of each. (3-0) R

**GOVT 3364 Campaigns and Elections** (3 semester hours) An examination of the electoral process and the changing role that political parties have played in the development of American political institutions and public policy. (3-0) R

**GOVT 4329 Global Politics** (3 semester hours) This course will introduce students to the study of global politics. It will explore the teachings from comparative politics and international relations in examining changing global relationships and power structures, and the research methodologies used in this analysis. (3-0) T

**GOVT 4330 The Bible and Politics** (3 semester hours) An investigation of the Bible as a political text. Includes discussion of the political context and themes of the Bible and analysis of political theories based upon biblical perspectives. (3-0) R.

**GOVT 4331 Mexican Politics** (3 semester hours) This course explores the changing face of the Mexican political economy. Topics will include the evolution and decline of the PRI, the revolt in Chiapas, NAFTA, Mexico's role in Latin America, and the changing nature of its relations with the U.S. (3-0) T

**GOVT 4332 Latin American Politics** (3 semester hours) After a brief review of the region's history from conquest and independence up to the 20th century, the course will include discussions of current issues confronting the region. These issues may include U.S./Latin American relations including NAFTA, demographic changes, religion, guerilla groups, revolution, and the transition from authoritarianism to democracy. (3-0) T

**GOVT 4333 Sex and Politics** (3 semester hours) This course examines the role of gender and sexuality in shaping our society. Topics include the biology, psychology and sociology of gender and sexuality in shaping the current debates about reproduction of equality. (Same as SOC 4333.) (3-0) T

**GOVT 4334 Gay and Lesbian Politics** (3 semester hours) This course examines the rise of the Gay Movement in the
United States. It examines the origins of the movement, the shift towards militancy and the current issues facing gays and lesbians in the United States. Specific topics include Stonewall, gays in the military, AIDS, and the Gay Rights struggle in litigation. (Same as SOC 4334.) (3-0) R

**GOVT 4335 Immigrants, Immigration, and American Society** (3 semester hours) An examination of immigrants and immigration policy in relation to the U.S. labor market, industry, and economy, as well as American politics and political culture. Also examined are the processes of occupational and settlement adaptation, becoming legal, and attaining citizenship. (Same as SOC 4335.) (3-0) R

**GOVT 4338 Minority Politics** (3 semester hours) Issues and politics affecting minority groups in the United States, with particular focus on blacks, Hispanics, women, and gays. (Same as SOC 4338.) (3-0) R

**GOVT 4341 Politics of the Judicial Process** (3 semester hours) The study of judicial decision making, the political impact of court decisions, and the role of lawyers and judges at the local, regional, and national levels. (3-0) R

**GOVT 4342 Legislative Decision Making** (3 semester hours) This course examines the politics of the Texas Legislature in detail. It is offered only during legislative sessions and uses the session as a backdrop to examine policy making and politics in this branch of state government. (3-0) T

**GOVT 4343 Congress and Public Policy** (3 semester hours) This course explores the history and development of both the place of Congress in the Constitutional order and the internal structures and behaviors of the legislative process. Topics include congressional-presidential relations, elections, representation, committees, parties and leadership, collective action and coalition building, and Congress's capacity to deliberate and make public policy in "the public interest." (3-0) T

**GOVT 4344 Politics of the Judicial Process** (3 semester hours) The study of judicial decision making, the political impact of court decisions, and the role of lawyers and judges at the local, regional, and national levels. (3-0) R

**GOVT 4345 Negotiation and Conflict Resolution** (3 semester hours) This course will introduce students to the theory and practice of negotiations in the public sector. Students will learn to analyze the parties, issues, and strategies in negotiations and will take part in many negotiation simulations to develop their skills in issues identification and problem resolution. The course will begin with the study of two-party negotiations and progress to multi-party, multi-issue negotiations. (Same as PA 4345.) (3-0) T

**GOVT 4346 War and Peace** (3 semester hours) This course examines the processes of conflict resolution and peacemaking in the modern world by analyzing emerging trends and patterns in global conflict, and the prospects for peace in an evolving world order. The course will consider the roles of the individual, social movements and institutions, culture and values, and state, regional and international institutions in making war and peace. In addition, it will examine the causes and prevention of war, ethnic conflict, terrorism, and security issues. (3-0) T

**GOVT 4354 Contemporary Political Thought** (3 semester hours) Investigates the moral and political controversies shaping contemporary political thought. Considers such issues as legitimacy, justice, distribution, and representation. (3-0) R

**GOVT 4355 National and International Security** (3 semester hours) Investigates problems associated with national and international security in the post-cold war world. Includes analysis of the use of military force, nuclear arms, terrorism, international treaties, and the economic dimensions to national security. (3-0) R

**GOVT 4363 Affirmative Action Debate** (3 semester hours) Examines the historical, social, political, and legal dimensions of debate over affirmative action in education and the workplace. Topics include the black-white test score gap, the evolution of legal doctrine, the efficacy of affirmative action, and political efforts to curb affirmative action. (Same as SOC 4363.) (3-0) T

**GOVT 4364 Civil Rights Law and Society** (3 semester hours) Examines the development of civil rights law, and how social ideologies are reflected and reproduced in race and sex discrimination law. Explores how power is exercised through law, and how legal change is pursued as a strategy for social reform. Topics include antislavery and the judicial process, the Reconstruction Amendments, the role of the Supreme Court in U.S. society, school segregation cases, and hate speech. (Same as SOC 4364.) (3-0) Y

**GOVT 4365 Law and Medicine** (3 semester hours) Examines the relationship between law and medical ethics. Emphasis is placed on court cases involving reproductive privacy, wrongful life, informed consent, the right to treatment, and the right to refuse treatment. (3-0) T

**HST 1301 Themes and Ideas in American History** (3 semester hours) An introduction to the methods of historical inquiry through the study of selected main themes in American history. A course designed to offer students an understanding of the
historical and cultural context of America in the contemporary world. Fulfills one-half of the Texas legislative requirement for six hours in American history. (3-0) S

**HST 2301 Issues in American History** (3 semester hours) Readings, commentary, and discussion aimed at varying aspects of history and culture. Fulfills one-half of the Texas legislative requirement for six hours in American history. (3-0) Y

**ISSS 3336 Culture Regions** (3 semester hours) Survey of a major region of the world as defined by a set of common cultural traditions and institutions such as Latin America, the Islamic World, Africa south of the Sahara, or South Asia. Each time the course is offered it will review both the key cultural features and the major disciplinary approaches needed to create an interdisciplinary comprehension of the region. Areas will be announced in advance, and the course may be repeated for credit when a different culture region is treated. (3-0) Y

**ISSS 3347 The World's Advanced Economies** (3 semester hours) This course examines the U.S. economy in relation to the world's advanced industrial economies using conceptual tools from several social sciences disciplines. Primary emphasis will be placed on comparative economic performances and the influences of differing models of capitalism, macroeconomic and cyclical patterns, demographics, income and employment trends, and patterns of economic integration. (3-0) T

**ISSS 3349 World Resources and Development** (3 semester hours) Analysis of resource mobilization, technological changes, and economic development from a multidisciplinary perspective. Primary focus on the problems of the less-developed countries. Topics include: technology transfer, industrialization strategy, education policy, population growth, nutrition, and foreign aid. (3-0) R

**ISSS 4366 Japanese Organization and Management** (3 semester hours) An examination of the structure of Japanese organizations: small and large business firms, government ministries, and multinational corporations. Consideration is also given to the relationships between the education system and labor market, and government and business. (3-0) R

**MATH 1300 Computerized College Algebra with Applications** (3 semester hours) This computer-based course is intended for students NOT continuing on to precalculus or calculus. Topics chosen from areas such as operations with fractions, exponents, inequalities, linear equations and graphs, use of algebra to model a variety of problems encountered in ordinary life. Cannot be used to satisfy major requirements for majors in the Schools of Natural Sciences and Mathematics or Management, or degree requirements for the School of Engineering and Computer Science. Credit given for only one of MATH 1300, 1306, or 1314. Prerequisite: High School Algebra II. (3-0) S

**MATH 1314 (MATH 1314) College Algebra** (3 semester hours) Topics chosen from areas such as equations and inequalities, rational expressions, exponents, radicals and logarithms, functions, and graphs. Cannot be used to satisfy major requirements for majors in the Schools of Natural Sciences and Mathematics or Management, or degree requirements for the School of Engineering and Computer Science. Credit given for only one of MATH 1300, 1308, or 1314. Prerequisite: High School Algebra II. (3-0) S

**RHET 1302 (ENGL 1302) Rhetoric** (3 semester hours) The course presents an integrated approach to writing, reading, and critical thinking by developing the grammatical, logical, and rhetorical skills necessary for university writing. All classes work in a computerized learning environment. Students are taught basic computer literacy and submit all work electronically and on paper. (3-0) S

**SOC 1301 (SOCI 1301) Introduction to Sociology** (3 semester hours) An overview of the sociological perspective and its application to social research and social policy. (3-0) Y

**SOC 4356 Social Welfare Policy** (3 semester hours) Explores the origins of social welfare institutions, programs, and services in American and European societies. Reviews critiques of social welfare policies from diverse ideological and political perspectives as well as recent studies of program implementation and effectiveness. Examines the politics of social welfare reform. (3-0) R

**SOCS 3103 Social Statistics Lab** (1 semester hour) A laboratory to accompany SOCS 3303. Corequisite: SOCS 3303. (1-0) S

**SOCS 3303 Introduction to Social Statistics** (3 semester hours) This course introduces students to the basic tools of statistics and shows how they are used in the analysis of social science data. A fundamental understanding of these tools is a critical foundation for social science research in many fields. The course covers descriptive statistics, inference from samples, hypothesis testing, and the basics of regression analysis. NOTE: This course is required of all social science majors and is a prerequisite for a required course in social science research methods within each discipline (for example
CJS 3304, ECO 3304, GEOG 3304, GOVT 3304, PA 3304, or SOC 3304). Prerequisite: College Algebra (MATH 1314 or equivalent). (3-0) S