

3-31-1980

## Revisions of the Political Science Major / Minor

The College at Brockport, College Senate

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/senate\\_resolutions](https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/senate_resolutions)



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

### Repository Citation

The College at Brockport, College Senate, "Revisions of the Political Science Major / Minor" (1980). *College Senate Resolutions*. 493.  
[https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/senate\\_resolutions/493](https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/senate_resolutions/493)

This Resolution is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @Brockport. It has been accepted for inclusion in College Senate Resolutions by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @Brockport. For more information, please contact [kmyers@brockport.edu](mailto:kmyers@brockport.edu).

Routing #26 79-80

Resolution #25  
1979-1980

APR 9 '80

Revision of Political Science  
Major/Minor

TO: PRESIDENT ALBERT W. BROWN

FROM: THE FACULTY SENATE

Meeting on 3/31/80  
(Date)

RE:   X   I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)  
       II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)  
       III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)

SUBJECT: Revisions of the Political Science Major/Minor

(see attached)



Signed Robert G. Kemmerling Date Sent 4/7/80  
(For the Senate)

Robert G. Kemmerling, President, Faculty Senate

TO: THE FACULTY SENATE

FROM: PRESIDENT ALBERT W. BROWN

RE: I. DECISION AND ACTION TAKEN ON FORMAL RESOLUTION

- a.  Accepted. Effective Date 4-17-80
- b.  Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on \_\_\_\_\_
- c.  Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II., III. a. Received and acknowledged

b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: Vice Presidents: Douglas

Others as identified:

Distribution Date: 4/17/80

Signed: Albert W. Brown  
(President of the College)

Date Received by the Senate: \_\_\_\_\_

February 29, 1980



TO: Dr. John Crandall  
Chairperson, Faculty Senate Undergraduate  
Academic Policies Committee

FROM: Dr. Robert Getz  
Chairperson, Curriculum Committee, Department of Political Science

SUBJECT: Revisions of the Political Science Major/Minor

The Political Science Department forwards for Senate consideration the attached revision of its major/minor. Please note that the old requirements have been included for your convenience.

Our main concerns in "tightening" the major are to ensure that our students are exposed to the foundation courses in each of the four sub fields of the discipline (American Politics, Comparative Politics, Political Theory, and International Relations), to require training in methodology (Political Statistics and Political Analysis), and to require exposure to upper division work in three of the four subfields. In part, this represents an effort to move many of our students away from their natural tendency to concentrate on American Politics and Public Law, while paying little attention to the methodological, philosophical, and non-American concerns of the discipline.

As a result of these revisions, the total hours required for completion of the major have been increased from 30 to 36.

If it is necessary, I will be happy to meet with the Committee at its convenience.

Robert S. Getz

RSG:pap

Attachments

State University of New York College at Brockport Brockport, New York 14420

Proposed Political Science Major  
(to become effective on 9/1/80)

1. Required Courses

PLS 111 World Politics	3 hours
PLS 112 Comparative Politics	3 hours
PLS 113 American Political Systems	3 hours
PLS 203 Modern Political Thought	3 hours
PLS 300 Political Statistics	3 hours
PLS 301 Approach to Political Analysis	3 hours

18 hours

\*PLS 300 utilizes SOC 200 plus an additional one hour devoted to political applications.

(Old major required the student to choose two courses from PLS 111, 112, and 113, and one from PLS 201 and 203 for a total of 9 hours.)

2. Additional Hours

Majors will take an additional 18 hours of PLS courses, at least 12 of which must be upper-division (300-400) level courses.

(Old requirement read 21 additional hours, 12 of which must be at the upper-division level.)

3. Distribution Requirement:

Majors must take at least one 300 or 400 level course in three of the four subdisciplines, which are defined as American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory (normative and/or empirical.)

(No distribution requirement under old major.)

In addition to the requirements, Political Science majors will be urged to take ECN 202, Principals of Macro Economics. The Student Handbook and Faculty Advisors will recommend:

1. An intern experience.
2. A semester abroad.
3. Improvement of oral communication skills by taking a speech course such as SPH 212, Argument and Public Controversy.
4. Improvement of written communication skills by taking ENL 305, Advanced Composition.
5. Improvement of reasoning ability by taking PHL 202, Logic, or PHL 204, Practical Thinking (informal logic), or CSC 201, Introduction to Computer Programming.
6. A computer use course, to include such topics as putting data into machine readable form, basic data manipulations on the computer, data interpretation and use of social science canned computer packages.

In addition to these general recommendations...

The faculty of some of the sub-disciplines recommend specialized packages for students with specific career interests. These specialized packages are described in the Political Science Student Handbook.

4. Minor

The minor requires completion of two of the four required 100 and 200 level courses, and any one of the required 300 level courses.

A student must also take an additional nine hours of upper division work.