

**Department of POLS
Idaho State University
Learning Outcomes
Required BA/BS Courses (non-general education courses)**

Course	Learning Outcomes
<p>POLS 2221 Introduction to International Relations</p>	<p>1) Learning and understanding the main problems, actors and structures of international politics, including the logic behind global challenges.</p> <p>2) Critiquing, analyzing and synthesizing the international dimensions of politics and economics from the global to the local levels.</p> <p>3) Knowing and understanding the major theories and analytical perspectives policy makers and political scientists use to interpret and respond to events in world politics, and recognizing how policies must shift over time.</p> <p>4) Writing and speaking persuasively regarding personal opinions on international issues.</p>
<p>POLS 3313 Introduction to Political Philosophy</p>	<p>1) The ability to ask serious, thought provoking questions.</p> <p>2) To participate in a civil, fair discussion which involves the give and take of different viewpoints.</p> <p>3) To develop credible arguments backed by credible evidence and effectively communicate them in speech and writing.</p> <p>4) The willingness to learn which involves replacing simplistic ideological thinking and mass media clichés with the psychological confidence to be open to serious thinking and genuine evidence.</p>
<p>POLS 3331 Comparative Politics Framework for Analysis</p>	<p>1) Study a series of demanding global issues by focusing on differences among domestic institutions to understand the array of outcomes we observe.</p>

	<p>2) Understand comparative politics as a means for analysis, highlighting the choices for choosing topics of study, creating a causal hypothesis, and evaluating the merit of studies' conclusions.</p> <p>3) Consider when to incorporate the comparative method as a tool for evaluating causal arguments, particularly to unearth valuable new relationships empirically.</p>
<p>POLS 4401 Political Parties and Groups</p>	<p>1)An understanding of the influence of political parties and interest groups on the political process.</p> <p>2) An understanding of how these groups recruit and maintain membership.</p> <p>3) An understanding how these groups influence public opinion and voting behavior.</p>
<p>POLS 4427 Voting and Public Opinion</p>	<p>1)An understanding of the determinants of public opinion and voting behavior.</p> <p>2)An understanding of the limitations of the public on the political process Interpret survey results.</p> <p>3) Developing the ability to write strong, clear, and compelling public opinion surveys.</p> <p>4)Developing the ability to write strong, clear, and compelling academic research.</p>
<p>POLS 4403 The Presidency</p>	<p>1)To understand the development and modern practice of presidential leadership in the United States.</p> <p>2)Understand the evolution of the modern presidency, the process of presidential selection, and the structure of the presidency as an institution.</p> <p>3)Explore the ways in which presidents make decisions and seek to shape foreign, economic, and domestic policy.</p>

	<p>4) Examine the relationship of the presidency with other major governmental institutions, organized interest groups, the press, and the public.</p> <p>5) Understand the political resources and constraints influencing the president's ability to provide leadership in the U.S. political system.</p> <p>6) Practice public speaking and argumentation skills.</p>
<p>POLS 4404 Legislative Process</p>	<p>1) Learn how Congress functions as an institution.</p> <p>2) Understand how members of Congress make decisions as individuals.</p> <p>3) Gain hands-on experience in writing legislation, bill justifications, and dear colleagues.</p> <p>4) Participate in a simulation of a Congressional hearing.</p> <p>5) Practice public speaking and argumentation skills.</p>
<p>POLS 4442 Constitutional Law</p>	<p>1) Read and brief Supreme Court decisions to distill the key information and rule of law.</p> <p>2) Understand the current constitutional limits on the powers of Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Judiciary, and how those limits have shifted over time.</p> <p>3) Critically evaluate constitutional law as part of the larger legal and political systems.</p> <p>4) Apply legal rules to new factual situations to predict likely judicial decision.</p> <p>5) Understand and critique the role of individual justices in shaping constitutional law.</p>
<p>POLS 4443 Civil Rights and Liberties</p>	<p>1) Explain the importance of rights and liberties.</p> <p>2) Explain the evolution of specific civil rights and liberties over time.</p>

	<p>3) Assess and critique the role of the Supreme Court in protecting civil rights and liberties.</p>
<p>POLS 4460 Senior Seminar</p>	<p>1) Provide students with the support and time to execute an original project of intellectual merit.</p> <p>2) Ensure students have the skills necessary to apply their degree and the subsequent knowledge accrued at Idaho State UNiversity.</p> <p>3) Motivate students for a lifetime of work that will be pursued after a student's degree, regardless of the student's eventual career path(s).</p>