POLS 1101 American Government (*Area E, US and Georgia constitutions requirement*)  
*Macon, Cochran, Dublin, Warner Robins, Online* – various faculty

This course is an introduction to the government and political system of the United States, with an emphasis on contemporary American society, including topics such as the U.S. and Georgia constitutions, federalism, civil liberties and civil rights, public opinion, political parties, voting, Congress, the presidency and executive branch, and the courts.

POLS 2101 Introduction to Political Science (*Area E, required in major and minor*)  
*Cochran* – Dr. Daniel Guerrant, TR 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m., CRN 81113  
*Macon* – Dr. John Hall, TR 12:30–1:45 p.m., CRN 81330

This course is a general overview of the political science discipline, introducing basic concepts studied by political scientists such as power, culture, ideology, institutions, and political behavior, as well as orienting students to how political scientists study these questions and the main fields of study within the discipline.

POLS 2301 Introduction to Comparative Politics (*Area E, required in major, elective in minor*)  
*Cochran* – Dr. Matthew Caverly, TR 9:30–10:45 a.m., CRN 81893  
*Macon* – Dr. James Decker, TR 2:00–3:15 p.m., CRN 81097

This course is an introduction to the field of comparative politics, which is the study of how different countries organize their governments and political systems. Students are typically introduced to the political systems of several countries with various regime types (representative democracies, authoritarian regimes, democratizing countries, etc.).

POLS 2401 Global Issues (*Area E, required in major, elective in minor*)  
*Cochran* – Dr. Brooke Miller, MW 12:30–1:45 p.m., CRN 81894  
*Macon* – TBA, TR 9:30–10:45 a.m., CRN 81965  
*Online* – Mr. Albert Jones, CRN 81552 (2nd session)

This course is an introduction to the field known as international relations, which is the study of how countries interact with each other on the world stage through cooperation and conflict. Key themes of this course typically include war and other militarized disputes, international law and organizations, international trade and commerce, and global challenges such as poverty and the environment.
POLS 2601 Introduction to Public Administration (required in major*, elective in minor)
* Students with a catalog year of 2019–20 or earlier may take POLS 2201, POLS 2501, or POLS 2601. Students with a catalog year of 2020–21 or later must take both POLS 2201 and POLS 2601.

This course is an introduction to the field of public administration, which is the study and practice of operating the bureaucracy of government. Topics may include the policy process, organizational theory, public management, ethics in public service, deregulation, outsourcing, grant-writing, and relationships between government agencies.

POLS 3000 Research Methods in Political Science (required in major and minor)
Cochran – Dr. Matthew Caverly, MW 2:00–3:15 p.m., CRN 81895

Examines different approaches to the discovery of knowledge in the social and behavioral sciences, with an emphasis on empirical techniques. Includes topics such as research design, the application of the scientific method, measurement, formulating and testing hypotheses, and the application of basic data analysis techniques to the study of politics and government. Ethical considerations in research involving human subjects are also discussed.

POLS 3030 Introduction to Public Policy (required in major)
Online – Dr. Julie Lester, CRN 81331

A course introducing the field of public policy, which is the “product” that is ultimately made by the government. In addition to the stages of policymaking and implementation, this course typically also examines particular cases of policymaking at the federal, state, and local levels, in areas potentially including education, health and elder care, government taxation and spending, foreign relations, the environment, criminal justice, and immigration.

POLS 3045 Public Opinion and Political Behavior (required in major)
Macon – Dr. Christopher Lawrence, MW 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m., CRN 81328

This course examines how members of the public develop their beliefs and values about politics, how those beliefs and values affect the formation and expression of opinions, and how voters use political information to decide how to vote. It includes hands-on exercises examining real data on Americans’ political attitudes and voting decisions.

POLS 3055 Political Parties and Elections*
Macon – Dr. Christopher Lawrence, MW 2:00 p.m.–3:15 p.m., CRN 81908

A class that examines the historical development and current state of political parties in the United States, and the election process; topics include reasons why the U.S. has a two-party system, minor parties, changes in parties’ issue positions over time, candidate nominations (including party primaries, caucuses, and conventions), general election campaigns, and campaign finance law.
POLS 3701 International Relations (*required in major*)
Cochran – Dr. Brooke Miller, TR 12:30–1:45 p.m., CRN 86614

This course examines the international political system from a political science perspective, including topics such as the various approaches to the study of international politics (including realism, institutionalism, constructivism, Marxism/dependency theory, feminism, and postcolonialism), the causes of international conflict and cooperation, and contemporary global issues and debates.

POLS 3738 U.S. Foreign Policy*
Macon – TBA, TR 12:30–1:45 p.m., CRN 81966

A course examining the history and practice of American foreign relations, including topics such as bilateral diplomacy, alliances and other treaties and international agreements (such as NATO and NAFTA), American participation in the United Nations and its specialized agencies, and the use of the military and diplomacy to achieve U.S. foreign policy goals such as global stability, nuclear non-proliferation, free trade, and promoting human rights.

POLS 3999 Special Topics: Women in Politics*
Macon – Prof. Grace Adams-Square, M 3:30–6:00 p.m, CRN 81910

This class is connected to the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the formal right to vote in every state. Topics may include the role of gender in politics, the Equal Rights Amendment and other political efforts to secure equality for women, and women as candidates for political office.

POLS 4106 American Constitutional Law I: Institutions and Processes*
Macon – Dr. John Hall, MW 9:30–10:45 a.m., CRN 81964

This course is the first of two courses covering U.S. constitutional law, with an emphasis on the Supreme Court’s interpretation of the U.S. Constitution on topics such as the powers of the three branches of government, separation of powers, checks and balances, federal-state relations, the commerce power, the power to tax and spend, and economic liberties such as contracts and the takings clause. Students are also introduced to the basic structure of the judicial branch and how to read, understand, and critique Supreme Court opinions.

Note: Up to two EURO courses can count as political science electives in the major. Registration for EURO courses opens on April 1, 2020.

EURO 3234 Introduction to the European Union* (*required by EUSP certificate*)
Online – Dr. Brian Smith (Georgia Southwestern State University)

Introduces students to the history, institutions, and policies of the European Union, as well as current EU issues (e.g. Brexit!) and US-EU relations. Prerequisite: HIST 1111, HIST 1112, or POLS 2401, or permission of the department chair.
EURO 4430 E.U. Environmental Policy* (elective in EUSP certificate)
*Online – Dr. Julie Lester (Middle Georgia State University)

A course that examines how the European Union and its member states address environmental issues such as air and water pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, and sustainability. **Prerequisite:** EURO 3234, or permission of the department chair.

EURO 4830 E.U. Human Rights and Social Justice* (required capstone in EUSP certificate)
*Online – Dr. Kathie Barrett (University of West Georgia)

Examines the role of the E.U. in promoting human rights and social justice, both within the E.U.’s borders and within the international community. **Prerequisite:** EURO 3234, or permission of the department chair.

* Course is an elective in the political science major. All 3000-level POLS courses are electives in the political science minor. Unless otherwise specified, courses have a prerequisite of POLS 1101 with a “C” or better.

**Minors Offered by the Department**

Most majors at MGA allow students to complete a minor with no additional coursework beyond the minimum number of semester hours required to graduate; minor courses usually can also be counted in the core (Areas A–F) or as open electives in your major. (See your advisor for details.)

**Requirements for the Minor in Political Science**

The political science minor includes six courses (18 semester hours), including:

- POLS 2101, Introduction to Political Science.
- POLS 3000, Research Methods in Political Science.*
- An international politics course:
  - POLS 2301, Introduction to Comparative Politics or
  - POLS 2401, Global Issues.
- A domestic politics course:
  - POLS 2201, State and Local Politics or
  - POLS 2501, Domestic Issues or
  - POLS 2601 Introduction to Public Administration.
- Two POLS courses at the 3000 level or above.

* Students who have completed a research methods course in another social or behavioral science field (including CRJU 3020, HIST 2000 or 3000, PBSV 3020, PSYC 3002, or SOCI 3001) may take another 3000-level POLS course instead of completing this requirement, with the approval of the chair of the Department of Political Science.
Requirements for the Minor in Pre-Law

The pre-law minor includes six courses (18 semester hours), including:

- PFWR 4050, Legal Writing
- POLS 4106, American Constitutional Law I: Institutions and Processes.
- Either:
  - POLS 4105, The American Judiciary, or
  - CRJU 3315, The American Judicial System
- Either:
  - POLS 4107, American Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties, or
  - CRJU 3520, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
- Two of the following courses:
  - AERO 2107, Aviation Law and Insurance
  - CRJU 2317, Introduction to Criminal Law
  - CRJU 3200, Criminal Procedure & Evidence
  - EURO 4130, EU Law & Legal Systems
  - HLSA 4410, Health Law & Ethics
  - HUMN 4340, Introduction to Ethics
  - PHIL 2010, Introduction to Philosophy
  - POLS 3103, Politics of the Presidency
  - POLS 3104, The American Congress

Requirements for the Minor in Sustainability Policy Studies

The sustainability policy studies minor includes six courses (18 semester hours), including:

- POLS 2201, State and Local Government
- POLS 3030, Introduction to Public Policy
- POLS 3944, Environmental Politics and Policy
- HIST 4040, Humans and their Environment since 1945
- Two of the following courses:
  - ECON 2105, Principles of Macroeconomics
  - ECON 3175, International Economics
  - HIST 4720, American Environmental History
  - IDS 4020, Science, Politics, and Culture
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M = Macon, C = Cochran, D = Dublin, E = Eastman, W = Warner Robins, Z = Online (MGA Direct)

*Online collaborative programs: O = eCore, U = GoVIEW*