APPROVED BY SENATE
10/19/2026

EP.27.010_FINAL
Approved by EP 10/05/2026

5663: POLITICAL SCIENCE: LAW & POWER, BALAS

In Workflow

1. U Program Review (eastuby@illinois.edu; mhazen@illinois.edu; bv4@illinois.edu; jswen@illinois.edu)
2. Gen Ed Review (menewell@illinois.edu)
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Approval Path

1. Tue, 07 Jul 2026 15:51:34 GMT
   Brianna Vargas-Gonzalez (bv4): Approved for U Program Review
2. Thu, 09 Jul 2026 22:06:27 GMT
   Melissa Steinkoenig (menewell): Approved for Gen Ed Review
3. Fri, 10 Jul 2026 13:37:48 GMT
   Cara Wong (carawong): Approved for 1710-POL_S Head
4. Wed, 15 Jul 2026 18:59:08 GMT
   Melissa Reedy (murray): Approved for KV Dean
5. Wed, 15 Jul 2026 20:00:23 GMT
   Tom Teper (tteper): Approved for University Librarian
6. Wed, 15 Jul 2026 20:48:40 GMT
   Suzanne Lee (suzannel): Approved for COTE Programs
7. Tue, 21 Jul 2026 20:17:27 GMT
   Brooke Newell (bsnewell): Rollback to KV Dean for Provost
8. Thu, 30 Jul 2026 02:42:25 GMT
   Melissa Reedy (murray): Approved for KV Dean
9. Thu, 30 Jul 2026 15:02:36 GMT
   Tom Teper (tteper): Approved for University Librarian
10. Thu, 30 Jul 2026 17:50:39 GMT
    Suzanne Lee (suzannel): Approved for COTE Programs
11. Mon, 17 Aug 2026 14:25:28 GMT
    Brooke Newell (bsnewell): Approved for Provost
12. Wed, 02 Sep 2026 15:35:08 GMT
    Barbara Lehman (bjlehman): Rollback to KV Dean for Senate EPC
13. Wed, 09 Sep 2026 16:38:28 GMT
    Melissa Reedy (murray): Approved for KV Dean
14. Wed, 09 Sep 2026 17:55:33 GMT

Tom Teper (tteper): Approved for University Librarian

15. Wed, 09 Sep 2026 19:29:43 GMT
    Suzanne Lee (suzannel): Approved for COTE Programs
16. Wed, 09 Sep 2026 21:25:35 GMT
    Brooke Newell (bsnewell): Approved for Provost

History

1. Mar 30, 2019 by Deb Forgacs (dforgacs)
2. Aug 28, 2019 by Amy Elli (amyelli)

Date Submitted: Thu, 25 Jun 2026 20:15:56 GMT

Viewing: 5663 : Political Science: Law & Power, BALAS
Last approved: Wed, 28 Aug 2019 18:47:30 GMT
Last edit: Wed, 09 Sep 2026 22:23:19 GMT

Changes proposed by: Alyssa Prorok

Proposal Type:

Concentration (ex. Dietetics)

This proposal is for a:

Revision

Administration Details

Official Program Name

Political Science: Law & Power, BALAS

Sponsor College

Liberal Arts & Sciences

Sponsor Department

Political Science

Sponsor Name

Alyssa Prorok

Sponsor Email

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College Contact

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College Budget Officer

Michael Wellens

College Budget Officer Email

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If additional stakeholders other than the Sponsor and College Contacts listed above should be contacted if questions during the review process arise, please list them here.

Melissa Reedy, murray@illinois.edu (LAS Assistant Director Course & Cir Dvt)

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

Catalog Term

Desired Effective Catalog Term

Fall 2027

Effective Catalog

2027-2028

Proposal Title

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Revise the Concentration in Law & Power in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Political Science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Are there other related proposals that should be considered simultaneously with this one? If yes, please list the program keys and/or titles. Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently and together as needed. Format your response like the following "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)"

This concentration proposal (Key 700) is related to:
The BALAS proposal (Key 697)
World Politics (Key 698)
Public Policy & Democratic Institutions (Key 699)
International Relations (Key 701)
General Political Science (Key 702)
Civic Leadership (Key 703)
Citizen Politics (Key 704)
Law, Policy, and Institutions (Key 1418)

Program Justification

Provide a brief description, using a numbered item list, of the proposed changes to the program.

Provide a list of numbered items of what changed and why each change was necessary.

1. The formatting of the POS and additional text (e.g., graduation requirements, university requirements, and general education requirements) has been modified to adhere to the campus General Education Template, per Office of the Provost General Education initiative for transparency and accessibility.

2. The LAS Orientation and Professional Development table has been added to the POS, per LAS for transparency and accessibility.

3. Added the heading "Major Requirements" after the LAS Orientation and Professional Development table and added the one course common among all concentrations, PS 100. This heading was adding for increased accessibility and clarity for students.

4. Added the heading "Concentration Requirements" after the Major Requirements. This heading was adding for increased accessibility and clarity for students.

5. Changed the heading, "Select at least one course from the following." to "Select one course from the following." and added PS 170 as a core Law and Power option alongside PS 270. Like other introductory courses in this rubric, PS 170 emphasizes close reading and evaluation of texts related to key governance concepts such as justice, equality, representation, and due process. It was added because it provides foundational knowledge for the Law and Power concentration while giving students an additional option to fulfill the core requirement, increasing our capacity to serve more students in the concentration.

6. Changed the heading "Select any additional 100- or 200-level Political Science Courses" to "Select six hours of any 100- or 200-level Political Science (PS) courses." The heading was updated to be consistent among all headings within the concentration and among all concentrations. The 100/200 level courses from the concentration specific course list previously found at the bottom of the POS was removed since students can select any 100/200 level PS course.

7. Increased the required hours of 300- or 400- level Political Science courses from 15 hours to 21 hours and separated this requirement into two headers. First header, "Select nine hours of 300- or 400-level Law & Power Political Science courses from the list below." This list was previously found at the bottom of the POS (see justification 9), and is now incorporated here, listing all 300-/400-level courses from it.
The second header, "Select twelve hours of any 300- or 400-level Political Science (PS) courses." Previously this was six hours and is now twelve. This hour change includes what was "Select 300- or 400-level Political Science courses, at least nine hours of which come from the Law and Power Concentration list (below), which must include at least one course from Law/Judicial Politics and one course from Political Theory. The other six hours may be any 300- or 400-level Political Science course." and "Select Political Science courses at any level, at least three hours of which comes from the Law and Power Concentration list maintained by the department. The other three hours may come from any Political Science course at any level." This was done to address the Implementation of the Illinois Board of Higher Education 40 Upper-Division Hour Criterion (EP.24.068), to simplify the POS requirements for student clarity, and to be clear that the courses allowed must be in the PS subject.

9. The heading "Students will select a second major, or a minor, or a set of courses of at least 12 hours of thematically-related coursework outside political science, developed in conjunction with an academic advisor." has been updated to "Select thematically-related undergraduate coursework at the 300- level or higher that is outside political science and developed in conjunction with an academic advisor." to address the Implementation of the Illinois Board of Higher Education 40 Upper-Division Hour Criterion (EP.24.068) and to simplify the POS requirements for student clarity.

10. Updated the Law & Power Course List. PS 362, PS 378, PS 398, PS 399, PS 486, PS 487, PS 488 were added to the list based upon an audit of current PS undergraduate syllabi and discussion among the PS faculty, it was determined that each of these courses contains substantial content related to how power, law, and/or justice shape political life, which are the central foci of the Law and Power concentration.
PS 323 was removed from the list because it is a niche course that was offered by a faculty member who has left the university. An offering of this course in the future is unlikely.

Qualifying statements were added to courses (PS 300, PS 494) as they are only approved if the topic is in this concentration area.

Distinction between Law and Representation and Political Theory lists were removed for simplification.

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/ proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program?

No

Program Features

Academic Level

Undergraduate

Does this program prepare graduates for entry into a career or profession that is regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

Provide detailed information (course rubrics, numbers, and credit hours) of how a student could obtain 40 credit hours of upper-division coursework.

300-/400- level Law & Power Political Science Courses: 9 hours
300-/400- level Political Science Courses: 12 hours
Thematically related 300+ coursework: 12 hours
LOTE: 8-10 hours
Total: 41-43

Revised programs

Key700_PoliticalScience_LawPower_SS (1).docx

Statement for Programs of Study Catalog

Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours. Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus.

University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300- or 400-level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement. The university and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (§ 3-801) and in the Academic Catalog.

General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements. Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Code	Title	Hours
Composition I		4-6
Advanced Composition		3
Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)		6
fulfilled by PS 170 or PS 270 and any other course approved as Humanities & the Arts		
Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)		6
Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)		6
fulfilled by PS 100 and any other course approved as Social & Behavioral Sciences		
Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)		3
Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)		3
Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)		3
Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)		6-10
Language Requirement (Completion of the fourth semester or equivalent of a language other than English, or completion of the third semester in two different languages other than English is required)		0-20

Code	Title	Hours
Orientation and Professional Development		
LAS 101	Design Your First Year Experience	1
OR		

LAS 100 & LAS 101	Success in LAS for International Students and Design Your First Year Experience	3
OR		
LAS 102	Transfer Advantage	1
Total Hours		**1 or 3**

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
PS 100	Intro to Political Science	3

Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
~~PS 100~~	~~Intro to Political Science~~	~~3~~
Select one course from the following:		3
PS 170	Power, Politics, and Protest	
PS 270	Intro to Political Theory	
Select six hours of any 100- or 200-level Political Science (PS) courses.		6
~~Select 300- or 400-level Political Science courses, at least nine hours of which come from the Law and Power Concentration list (below), which must include at least one course from Law/Judicial Politics and one course from Political Theory. The other six hours may be any 300- or 400-level Political Science course.~~		~~15~~
~~Select Political Science courses at any level, at least three hours of which comes from the Law and Power Concentration list maintained by the department. The other three hours may come from any Political Science course at any level.~~		~~6~~
Select nine hours of 300- or 400-level Law & Power Political Science courses from the list below.		9
PS 300	Special Topics (if content is appropriate for concentration, see advisor)	
PS 301	The US Constitution I	
PS 302	The US Constitution II	
PS 305	The US Supreme Court	
PS 306	Judicial Politics	
PS 322	Law and Public Policy	
PS 362	Qualitative Research on Politics	
PS 370	Justice in the Law	
PS 371	Classical Political Theory	
PS 372	Modern Political Theory	
PS 373	Democratic Theory	
PS 374	Future Politics	
PS 375	Feminist Political Theory	
PS 376	American Political Theory	
PS 377	Topics Contemp Pol Theory	
PS 378	Philosophies of Law	
PS 386	International Law	
PS 398	Strategic Interntl Relations	
PS 399	Politics of International Treaties	
PS 413	Sex, Power and Politics	
PS 486	International Institutional Order	
PS 487	Global LGBT Politics	
PS 488	International Human Rights Law	

PS 494	Junior Honors Seminar (if content is appropriate for concentration, see advisor)	
Select twelve hours of any 300- or 400-level Political Science (PS) courses.		12
Select thematically-related undergraduate coursework at the 300- level or higher that is outside political science and developed in conjunction with an academic advisor.		12
Total Hours		**45**

~~Code~~	~~Title~~	~~Hours~~
~~Law & Power Course List~~		
~~PS 170~~	~~Power, Politics, and Protest~~	~~3~~
~~PS 230~~	~~Intro to Pol Research~~	~~3~~
~~PS 231~~	~~Strategic Models~~	~~3~~
~~Law/Judicial Politics~~		
~~PS 300~~	~~Special Topics (as appropriate)~~	~~3~~
~~PS 301~~	~~The US Constitution I~~	~~3~~
~~PS 302~~	~~The US Constitution II~~	~~3~~
~~PS 305~~	~~The US Supreme Court~~	~~3~~
~~PS 306~~	~~Judicial Politics~~	~~3~~
~~PS 322~~	~~Law and Public Policy~~	~~3~~
~~PS 323~~	~~Course PS 323 Not Found~~	~~3~~
~~PS 386~~	~~International Law~~	~~3~~
~~PS 494~~	~~Junior Honors Seminar (as appropriate)~~	~~3~~
~~Political Theory~~		
~~PS 370~~	~~Justice in the Law~~	~~3~~
~~PS 371~~	~~Classical Political Theory~~	~~3~~
~~PS 372~~	~~Modern Political Theory~~	~~3~~
~~PS 373~~	~~Democratic Theory~~	~~3~~
~~PS 374~~	~~Future Politics~~	~~3~~
~~PS 375~~	~~Feminist Political Theory~~	~~3~~
~~PS 376~~	~~American Political Theory~~	~~3~~
~~PS 377~~	~~Topics Contemp Pol Theory~~	~~3~~
~~PS 413~~	~~Sex, Power and Politics~~	~~3 or 4~~
~~PS 494~~	~~Junior Honors Seminar (as appropriate)~~	~~3~~

Program Relationships

Corresponding Program(s):

Corresponding Program(s)
Political Science, BALAS

Program Regulation and Assessment

Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.

Are the learning outcomes for the program listed in the Academic Catalog?

Yes

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Describe the discipline of political science and its major subfields, and distinguish political science from related social science disciplines.

2. Demonstrate foundational knowledge of key facts, concepts, institutions, and typologies within their chosen subfield of political science.

3. Explain and critically evaluate major theories in their chosen subfield of political science.

4. Apply the scientific method to the study of political phenomena, including the analysis of evidence and the drawing of appropriate inferences from quantitative and qualitative data.

5. Apply political science concepts, methods, and theories to research projects, internships, community engagement, and other experiential learning opportunities.

6. Analyze how law, power, and conceptions of justice shape political life by examining social and legal institutions, processes of political change, and the influence of ideology and identity on equality and citizenship.

Did you make any revisions to the learning outcomes you copied and pasted from the current academic catalog?

No

Program Description and Requirements Attach Documents

Delivery Method

This program is available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

Enrollment

Describe how this revision or phase down/elimination will impact enrollment and degrees awarded. If this is an elimination/phase down proposal include the plans for the students left in the program.

This revision should not impact enrollment and degrees awarded.

Budget

Are there budgetary implications for this revision?

No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget Information

Attach File(s)

Program Support

Provide a brief description of the support for this program, including the financial, faculty, space, advisors/staff. Discuss plans to acquire any additional support that will be needed. If new or additional facilities or significant improvements to already existing facilities is needed, describe the Facility Need, Year 1 and 5 cost, and any other applicable notes.

The proposed program revision will be supported through existing academic, financial, advising, and instructional resources within the Department of Political Science.

Financial Support. The program revision will not require any changes to the current funding model for the Political Science department or major.
Faculty Support. The revised curriculum is built from existing Political Science courses already offered by the department. Existing PS faculty will continue to contribute to instruction, curriculum oversight, assessment, and student mentoring.
Advising and Staff Support. Academic advising for the revised program will continue to be provided by the Department of Political Science advising staff. Existing PS faculty and advising staff will oversee the revised curriculum, continue to monitor student progress toward degree completion, and continue to provide guidance regarding career and graduate school opportunities.
Space and Facilities. No new facilities are required. The revised program will continue to utilize existing classrooms, facilities, and instructional spaces available to the political science department.
Future Support Needs. We do not anticipate that these curriculum revisions will substantially affect the size of the political science major, above or beyond regular program growth. Existing college and departmental resources are expected to be sufficient to support future projected enrollments, and no additional facilities or major infrastructure investments are anticipated. The revised program will utilize existing instructional and advising resources within the Department of Political Science.

Attach any supporting documents as applicable.

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

The proposal team consulted with Cindy Ingold and, based upon their input, determined that the Library's resources, collections, and services are sufficient to meet the needs of the program outlined in this proposal.

EP Documentation

EP Control Number

EP.27.010

Attach Rollback/Approval Notices

Non-EP Documentation

U Program Review Comments

Rollback Documentation and Attachment

DMI Documentation

Attach Final Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook Name

Law and Power

Program Code:

5663

Minor Code

Conc Code

5663

Degree Code

BALAS

Major Code

0343

Senate Approval Date

Senate Conference Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

HLC Approval Date

DOE Approval Date

Effective Date:

Program Reviewer Comments

Melissa Steinkoenig (menewell) (Thu, 09 Jul 2026 22:06:25 GMT): Gen Ed Table: Good
Brooke Newell (bsnewell) (Tue, 21 Jul 2026 20:17:27 GMT): Rollback: Per discussion with Melissa R.
Barbara Lehman (bjlehman) (Wed, 02 Sep 2026 15:35:08 GMT): Rollback: Rollback per request of Melissa Murray Reedy.

Key: 700