

# POLITICAL SCIENCE HONORS

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## CONTACT

### Director of Advanced Programs

Email Me



Professor Spencer Piston  
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### Undergraduate Academic Advisors

Email Me



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ADVISOR: TBD (L-Z)

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## ELIGIBILITY

- Students must have completed at least two semesters at BU and have junior standing
  - Overall GPA: 3.5 or above
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## BENEFITS

This program provides students with the opportunities to:

- Develop research and analysis skills
  - Conduct and present unique research
  - Opportunities for fieldwork and funded research
  - Engage with the world of academia in a more in depth manner
  - Build a professional/mentorship relationship with someone in the field
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### PRE-APPLICATION MEETING WITH ACADEMIC ADVISOR:

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DATE OF MEETING: \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Honors Program in Political Science challenges you to explore politics in three ways: first, by taking and excelling in advanced coursework; second, by engaging in original research to produce a thesis; and third, by experiencing the practical world of politics and government. It is the most stimulating intellectual enterprise in which an undergraduate can engage, demanding dedication, creativity, and the ability to exercise independent judgment.

## CURRICULUM

Students who wish to graduate with Honors must satisfactorily complete a research methods course with a minimum grade of B, conduct two semester of Directed Study with a minimum grade of B+, and successfully complete the writing and defense of a thesis and presentation of the research.

Students will enroll in these courses, which will count towards their BA requirements:

- \_\_\_ PO399 or PO502
- \_\_\_ PO493
- \_\_\_ PO494

### Thesis Requirements:

- The thesis must be distinct from previous undergraduate coursework
  - Students may not resubmit work done during undergraduate coursework as their thesis, but they may build off of topics explored in previous courses
  - Students will present and defend their thesis at the end of the year to a committee of three faculty members
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## APPLICATION OVERVIEW

### APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 15TH

Students must submit all required materials by this date, no exceptions.

### STEPS BEFORE APPLYING FOR THE HONORS PROGRAM:

- \_\_\_ 1. Find a Faculty Advisor (Must be a Full-Time Professor in the Department of Political Science). *We recommend finding a professor whose research aligns with your thesis topic.*
- \_\_\_ 2. Meet with your Undergraduate Academic Advisor to go over your remaining academic requirements.
- \_\_\_ 3. Meet with your Faculty Advisor and discuss your intended research. Also ensure they are willing to submit a recommendation letter for you.

### APPLICATION MATERIALS:

The following materials are required to apply:

- \_\_\_ 1. Application Form (found on PO website)
- \_\_\_ 2. Unofficial Transcript
- \_\_\_ 3. One faculty recommendation letter from your Faculty Advisor
- \_\_\_ 4. Research Statement (3-5 pages)

SCAN BELOW TO CHECK OUT  
THE HONORS PROGRAM  
WEBSITE

