Government

Major

Thirty semester hours of government, at least 18 of which must be upper-division.

Students must take at least one upper-division course from three of the seven fields into which the department's work is divided:

- a. political theory
- b. American government and politics
- c. public and comparative law
- d. public policy
- e. comparative politics
- f. international relations
- g. research methods

Government majors must also take at least one three hour research seminar or internship course in government.

Effective April 2025, UT Austin no longer requires Skills and Experience flags.

Government internship courses include Government 362L, Government Research Internship; Government 662L, Government Research Internship; Government 371N, Administrative Internship; Government 372N, Campaigns and Elections Internship; Government 373N, Legislative Internship; and Government 374N, Political Internship.

Government majors must also complete at least three semester hours in a tools course, chosen from Government 339L, Research Methods in Government; and Government 350K, Statistical Analysis in Political Science; Government 355M, Topics in Political Science, and Government 355N, World War I in Real Time.

Students may choose to satisfy the tools course requirement by completing one of the following non-government course options; these courses may not be counted toward the semester hours and grade point average required for the major.

- a. Three semester hours of statistics chosen from Economics 329; Educational Psychology 371; Psychology 317L; Sociology 327M; Statistics 309; Statistics and Data Sciences 301, African and African Diaspora Studies 302M.
- b. Six semester hours of upper-division coursework in one foreign language, excluding courses conducted in English

The tools requirement must be fulfilled in-residence or with transfer credit: AP credit cannot be used to fulfill it.

All government majors must earn a grade of at least C- in each course counted toward fulfillment of the major requirements. A minimum grade point average of 2.00 in courses taken at the University and counted toward the major is also required.

No more than six hours of internship coursework may be counted toward the major, including transfer credit earned in internship courses at other institutions of higher education.

No student may register for more than nine semester hours of government in one semester without the consent of an undergraduate advisor in the Department of Government.