

CIVIC LIFE AND LEADERSHIP MINOR

A minor in civic life and leadership will offer students interdisciplinary training in civics, the humanities, and scientific literacy, while promoting a culture of reasoned and respectful disagreement, and openness to changing one's mind. The minor is designed for students across the college to tackle some of the most challenging issues confronting society in the 21st century. All students, regardless of area of academic focus and career aspirations, are members of our pluralistic communities, and therefore, can all benefit from a better grounding in how to engage productively and thoughtfully with one another, especially across differences.

The objective of the minor is to empower students to be lifelong citizens-scholars committed to confronting the challenges that face our democracy. The minor in civic life and leadership examines the foundations and origins of democracy and the big questions surrounding civic life. The minor also encourages students to understand historical and contemporary struggles in democracy and asks students to wrestle with contentious issues today. It also develops skills and capacities that are critical to engage in effective public discourse.

Requirements

In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must:

- take at least nine hours of their minor "core" requirements at UNC–Chapel Hill
- earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.000 in the minor core requirements. Some programs may require higher standards for minor or specific courses.

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements		
SCLL 100	Foundations of Civic Life and Leadership	3
SCLL 101	Practice of Civic Life and Leadership	3
Two electives, from three categories of courses listed below (the two electives must not be from the same category)		6
SCLL ---	Capstone (in development)	3
Total Hours		15

Scientific Evidence and Engagement Category

The Science and Society (S&S) category is an opportunity for students to explore questions about the relevance and role of scientific inquiry in a functioning democracy. Courses in this category focus on ways in which scientific reasoning and knowledge can enable progress and understanding on issues that are relevant to civic life and leadership. S&S courses will do more than simply discuss a scientific issue that is relevant to social, moral, or political life. S&S courses will deeply engage with the connection between science and society, with the goal of understanding long-standing societal tensions and debates through the lens of science.



Code	Title	Hours
SCLL 200	Science and Society	3
ASTR 205	The Medieval Foundations of Modern Cosmology	3
PHIL 143	AI and the Future of Humanity: Philosophical Issues about Technology and Human Survival ^H	3
PHIL 150	Theory, Evidence, and Understanding in Science ^H	3
PHIL 154	Philosophy of the Social Sciences	3
PHIL 265	Ethics, Politics, and Technology	3
PHIL 352	Sex and Death, Life and Health, Species and Evolution: The Philosophy of Biology	3
POLI 417	Advanced Political Psychology ^H	3
PSYC 574	Science of Moral Understanding	3

^H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

Intellectual History and Humanities Category

Through these courses, students will learn about how humanity has understood itself over time, especially how we understand our relationship to civil society and government. The arts and humanities often demonstrate how ideas about society are enacted in daily life. Reading historical texts invites a kind of imaginative sympathy that is central to civility and productive civil debate. In addition, these courses train students in the critical analysis of primary texts and the ability to evaluate, form, and articulate arguments using textual evidence.


Code	Title	Hours
COMM 572	Public Policy Argument	3
CMPL 220	Global Authors: Jane Austen ^H	3
CMPL 379	Cowboys, Samurai, and Rebels in Film and Fiction ^H	3
HIST 121	History of Religion in North America	3
HIST 360	Ideas in Modern America ^H	3
HIST 510	Human Rights in the Modern World ^H	3
MUSC 291	Music and Politics	3
PHIL 60	First-Year Seminar: Plato's Symposium and Its Influence on Western Art and Literature ^H	3
PHIL 80	First-Year Seminar: Short Stories and Contemporary Social Problems	3
PHIL 110	Philosophical Texts that Changed the World: An Introduction to Philosophy through Great Works ^H	3
PHIL 210	Wonder, Myth, and Reason: Introduction to Ancient Greek Science and Philosophy ^H	3
PHIL 381	Philosophy and Film ^H	3
POLI 87	First-Year Seminar: What Does it Mean to be a Good Citizen?	3
POLI 280	American Political Thought ^H	3
POLI 472	Problems of Modern Democratic Theory ^H	3

PLCY 362	 Ethics and Food Policy	3
PLCY 340	 Justice in Public Policy ^H	3

^H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

Civics and Political Institutions Category

The Civic and Political Institutions (CPI) category is an opportunity for students to critically examine the structure, role, and mission of the institutions that contribute to civic and political life. Courses satisfying the CPI category will focus on particular institutions including (but not limited to) legislatures, courts, administrative agencies, law enforcement agencies, universities, and/or nonprofit organizations. CPI courses will engage with the rules, norms, and/or laws that impact the functioning of one or more institutions that are relevant to civic life, with the goal of understanding how those institutions can and should advance democratic values.

Code	Title	Hours
PHIL 140	 Knowledge and Society ^H	3
PHIL 280	 Morality, Law, and Justice: Issues in Legal Philosophy ^H	3
PHIL 480	Philosophy of Law	3
POLI 100	 American Democracy in Changing Times ^{H, F}	3
POLI 420	Legislative Politics ^H	3
POLI 424	 Legislative Procedure in Congress	3
POLI 405	 Local Politics in the United States	3
POLI 412	United States National Elections ^H	3
PLCY 310	Microeconomic Foundations of Public Policy	3

^H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

^F FY-Launch class sections may be available. A FY-Launch section fulfills the same requirements as a standard section of that course, but also fulfills the FY-SEMINAR/FY-LAUNCH First-Year Foundations requirement. Students can search for FY-Launch sections in ConnectCarolina using the FY-LAUNCH attribute.

Through the capstone, students will have the opportunity to participate in an internship or create an original project (e.g., series of op-eds, podcast, vlog) on a contemporary issue in American democracy.

Students also have the opportunity to attend and participate in events put on by the Program for Public Discourse (<https://publicdiscourse.unc.edu/>).

Contact Information

School of Civic Life and Leadership

Visit Program Website (<https://civiclif.unc.edu>)

Director and Dean

Jed Atkins