Certification Information
Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education
Political Science

Introduction
Thanks for your interest in Valdosta State University for obtaining a teaching certificate. Admission requirements into a certification program are a bachelor's degree, an overall GPA of 2.5, and have passed or exempted the GACE basic skills assessment. Exemptions for the GACE basic skills assessment are achieved by high scores on the SAT (1000), ACT (43) or GRE (1030).

At the completion of this program you will be eligible to teach political science at the 6 - 12 grades levels.

Certification Evaluation: A review of all previous course work will be compared with the required courses as listed on the attached pages to determine an individualized certification plan leading to your secondary social studies certificate. Professional development, relevant work experiences, similar courses, or other activities may be used to satisfy some of the required courses. You are expected to provide all college transcripts and any other documentation needed to verify which course expectations have been met and which courses will be included in your plan. There is a $35 fee for this plan, which will represent a contract that lists all requirements needed for you to obtain the secondary political science certificate.

The writer of your certification plan will also serve as your advisor throughout completion of your program. After you receive the plan, you should review the courses to ensure that you have not completed similar courses or professional development activities. After your plan is finalized then you and your advisor can develop a tentative long-range schedule for completing the required courses.

Certification Test Requirements: The secondary polical science certificate requires successful completion of the two GACE content assessment tests

These two tests should be taken as you complete the social studies content courses listed in your certification plan. Both tests must be passed to complete the requirements for a teaching certificate. Registration materials and information about these two tests are available in the Dean's Office or at the Georgia Professional Standards Commission's web site: www.gapsc.com

Questions?? Contact Dr. Sean Lennon at 229-333-5611 or smlennon@valdosta.edu