

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1103

TITLE: Resolution Advocating for the Implementation of a Waitlist System within the Political Science Department

AUTHOR(S): Senator Tristan Khajavi, Senator Katherine Zervoudakis

SPONSORS: Senator Molly Murphy, Senator Joshua Johnson, Senator Samuel Mento, Deputy Majority Party Leader Marco Salvador, Senator Abigail Melamed

WHEREAS, the University of Florida’s Political Science Department has consistently seen high demand for its courses, leading to full classes and students being unable to enroll in required or desired courses [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the absence of a waitlist system results in students having to monitor class availability manually and “continuously check for possible openings” creating an inequitable enrollment process [2]; and,

WHEREAS, implementing a waitlist system would allow students to register their intent to enroll in a full class, ensuring a structured and fair process of enrollment as seats become available; and,

WHEREAS, a waitlist system would improve the academic experience by reducing scheduling conflicts, stress, and uncertainty for students trying to fulfill degree requirements; and,

WHEREAS, many other majors within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, such as criminology, have waitlists in their registrar systems to ensure fair and efficient enrollment processes; and,

WHEREAS, universities across the country have successfully implemented waitlist systems for high-demand courses, leading to increased student satisfaction and improved academic planning [3][4]; and,

WHEREAS, implementing an effective waitlist system set at 20% of the class enrollment size will greatly assist students in class enrollment specifically in smaller sized courses; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the importance of equitable access to education and course availability for all students.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate supports the creation of a Political Science waitlist, and the effects it has on students.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate adjures the Office of the University Registrar to implement Political Science class waitlists.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate urges the Registrar's Office and the Political Science Department to collaborate in developing and implementing a waitlist system for smaller sized political science classes.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the University of Florida Registrar's Office, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Mary Watt, Chair of the Political Science Department Benjamin B. Smith, Associate Chair of the Political Science Department Conor O'Dwyer, University Registrar Dr. Casey Bullock, and Vice President and Chief Enrollment Strategist Dr. Mary G. Parker.

[1]<https://www.collegefactual.com/colleges/university-of-florida/academic-life/academic-majors/social-sciences/political-science-and-government/>

[2]https://registrar.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/2018/04/updated_waiting_list_faqs1.pdf

[3]<https://polisci.berkeley.edu/undergraduate-program/requirements-major/course-enrollment-strategies>

[4]https://harvard.service-now.com/ithelp?id=kb_article&sys_id=835c8098975b3d10db29d804a253af1d