

POLITICAL SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF ARTS

Course Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

The major in political science encompasses an investigation of governmental institutions and political behavior at all levels from the local to the international. The political science major will take courses in American Government, Comparative Government, Constitutional Law, Political Theory, Research Methodology and International Relations. The political science major is suitable for students with career interests in teaching, law, state and local government, urban planning, federal bureaucracy, and journalism. The political science major must complete 48 semester hour courses beginning at the 2000 level.

1. Complete a maximum of 123 semester hours with a cumulative grade point average of 2.25 or higher. The last 30 hours must be completed at Albany State University.
2. During the freshman and sophomore years, the student must complete Core IMPACTS (<https://catalog.asurams.edu/undergraduate/core-curriculum/>).
3. Maintain a C or higher for all classes taken in the Field of Study, Major Requirements, and General Political Science sections.
4. Complete MFAT subject area exam.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Core IMPACTS (https://catalog.asurams.edu/undergraduate/core-curriculum/#coreimpactstext)		42
Field of Study ¹		
ECON 2106	Principles of Microeconomics	3
POLS 2101	Introduction to Political Science	3
POLS 2102	Introduction to Law	3
SSCI 2402	Digital Tools in Social Science	3
2000 Level	Social Science	3
2000 Level	Foreign Language	3
Major Requirements ¹		
American Politics		
Select three of the following courses:		9
POLS 3602	State and Local Government	
POLS 3611	Urban Politics	
POLS 3612	African-American Politics	
POLS 3614	The Presidency	
POLS 3616	Political Parties/Pressure Group	
POLS 3618	Elections & Electoral Behavior	
POLS 3701	Judicial Process	
POLS 3702	American Constitutional History	
POLS 3703	Constitutional Law I	
POLS 3704	Constitutional Law II	
POLS 3708	Civil Rights & Minorities	
Comparative Government		
Select one of the following:		3
POLS 3511	Comparative Government	
POLS 4512	Politics and Institutions in Developing Countries	

POLS 4820	Area Studies of Africa, Caribbean, Eastern Europe & Latin America	
POLS 4822	Politics & Culture of Developing World	
POLS 4824	Political Economy of African and the Caribbean	
Public Policy/Public Administration		
Select one of the following:		3
POLS 3609	American Foreign Policy	
POLS 3617	The Legislative Process	
POLS 3813	Public Administration	
POLS 4619	Legislative Internship	
Research Methods		
POLS 4371	Research Methods I	3
or POLS 4372		Research Methods II
Political Theory		
POLS 4401	History of Political Thought	3
International Relations		
Select one of the following courses:		3
POLS 4513	Issues in Global Politics	
POLS 4514	International Relations	
POLS 4515	International Organizations	
POLS 4816	Model United Nations	
POLS 4819	International Political Economics	
POLS 4821	International Internship/Seminar	
POLS 4823	International Relations of Sub-Saharan Africa	
General Political Science Courses ¹		
POLS 4818	Public Administration Internship	3
Guided Political Science Electives (Select up to 12 hours at the 3000-4000 level)		33
First-Year and Wellness Course Requirements Outside the Core		
ASU 1101	First Year Experience: Pathways to Success	1
HEDP, WELL	Health & Wellness Requirement ²	2
Total Semester Hours		123

¹ Courses in the Field of Study, Major Requirements, and General Political Science sections require a grade of C or higher.

² The health & wellness requirement may be fulfilled by taking one - two (2) credit hour health or wellness course OR two one (1) credit hour health or wellness activity courses.

Pre-Law Program

An excellent Pre-Law Program that is grounded in the tradition of a sound liberal arts education is an available option. Our Pre-Law advisors are experienced in guiding students in course selection and providing pertinent information about law schools of the Law Admission Council. There is a non-credit tutorial program that offers instruction in preparing for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The LSAT preparation course utilizes lectures, discussions and in-class exercises of past questions. Participation is open to all students.

The requirements for entrance to law school can be satisfied in one of several majors. Two, three or four years in a B.A. or B.S. degree can comprise the pre-law program.

Interested students should select a degree program and electives that will help them to attain the following objectives:

1. Fluency in written and spoken English;
2. The ability to read difficult material with rapidity and comprehension;
3. A solid background in American history and government;
4. A broad basic education in social and cultural areas;
5. A fundamental understanding of business, including basic account procedures; and
6. The ability to reason logically.