

**Political Science Department
Political Science Major
Curriculum Year: 2026-2027**

*Your department has developed this road plan, taking into account prerequisites and schedule restrictions.
Students can deviate, but you should pay attention to these concerns when deviating from this plan.*

Year 1	Fall	Units	Spring	Units	Comment
	PLS 1011: Intro to Political Science Major Core	3	PLS 2020: Intro to Comparative Government Major Core & GE Area 4A	3	Students must complete GE Area 1A (English) and GE Area 2 (Math) in their first year with C- or better
	COM 1100 or 2204: Oral Communication GE Area 1C	3	PLS 2060 or PLS 2080: Choose only one Major Core (Public Administration or Race/Ethnicity)	3	
	PLS 2010: Intro to American Government GE Area 4B & American Institutions – Govt. (Part B)	3	PHL 2020 or ENG 2105: Critical Thinking GE Area 1B	3	GE Area 1B (Critical Thinking) and Area 1C (Oral Communication) must be completed with a C- or better
	ENG 1103 or 1100/1101: Composition GE Area 1A	3	HST 2201 or 2202: US History GE Area 4A & American Institutions – History (Part A)	3	By Year 3, one course should be completed in each of the GE areas 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, and 6. See https://bit.ly/26GEList for a list of courses
	Math & Quantitative Reasoning GE Area 2 (Choose – STA 1200 recommended)	3	Choose one of the other GEs* Any course in Area 3A, 3B, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6	3	
Total Units	15	Total Units	15		
Total Units for Year			30	GE Area 5C is the laboratory course, to be paired with either GE Area 5A or 5B	

Year 2	Fall	Units	Spring	Units	Comment
	PLS 2030: Intro to International Relations Major Core & GE Area 4A	3	PLS 2040: Intro to Political Thought Major Core	3	By Year 3, one course should be completed in each of the GE areas 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, and 6. See https://bit.ly/26GEList for a list of courses
	PLS 2051: Intro to Research Methods Major Core	3	PLS 2070: Intro to Public Law Major Core	3	
	Choose one of the other GEs Any course in Area 3A, 3B, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6	3	PLS 3055/3055A: Advanced Methods Major Core	3	All major core and lower-division General Education are to be completed by the end of Year 2
	Choose one of the other GEs Any course in Area 3A, 3B, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6	3	American Government/Public Administration Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	GE Area 4A (PLS 2020, PLS 2030), GE Area 4B (PLS 2010), and GE Area 6 (PLS 2080) can be completed within the major, to double-count
	Choose one of the other GEs Any course in Area 3A, 3B, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6	3	Choose one of the other GEs Any course in Area 3A, 3B, 5A, 5B, 5C, 6	3	
Total Units	15	Total Units	15		
Total Units for Year			30		

Year 3	Fall	Units	Spring	Units	Comment	
	GE Upper-Division Scientific Inquiry GE Area 5D	2/1	GE Upper-Division Arts or Humanities GE Area 3C	3	<p>For a list of upper-division PLS elective courses, see 2026-2027 Curriculum Sheet</p> <p>Before taking the GE upper-division courses (GE Area 3C, GE Area 4C, and GE Area 5D), all lower-division courses within that Area should be completed. See https://bit.ly/26GEList for a list of courses</p>	
	American Government/Public Administration Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	International Relations/Comparative Politics Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3		
	International Relations/Comparative Politics Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	Public Law/Political Theory Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3		
	Public Law/Political Theory Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	Political Science Elective Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3		
	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3		
	Total Units		15	Total Units		15
			Total Units for Year			30

Year 4	Fall	Units	Spring	Units	Comment
	PLS 4411W or PLS 4610W Major Core – Senior Internship or Senior Thesis I	3	PLS 4412W or PLS 4620W Major Core – Senior Internship or Senior Thesis II	3	<p>The Senior Thesis (4610W/4620W) and the Senior Internship (4411W/4412W) are two-course sequences. Students take only one sequence and it must be taken in the student's final year</p>
	GE Upper-Division Social & Behavioral Sciences GE Area 5D	3	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	
	Political Science Elective Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	
	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	<p>This means that graduating seniors should be enrolled in either PLS 4610W or PLS 4411W in the fall semester of their senior year</p>
	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	
	Total Units		15	Total Units	
			Total Units for Year		30

Total Units on Plan	120
Major & Option Core Units	57
General Education Units	43
Unrestricted Elective Units	14-29