

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		Spring	Units	Comment
	PLS 1011: Intro to Political Science Major Core & GE Area E	3	PLS 2051: Intro to Research Methods Major Core	3	If students have not completed the Political Science Major Core Courses (2010-2080, introductory courses), attempt to take them before moving onto the PLS upper-division elective courses.
	PLS 2060 or PLS 2080: Choose only one Major Core (Public Administration or Race/Ethnicity)	3	PLS 2070: Intro to Public Law Major Core	3	
	American Government/Public Administration Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	American Government/Public Administration Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	2/1	For a list of upper-division PLS elective courses, see 2026-2027 Curriculum Sheet .
	International Relations/Comparative Politics Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	Science & Technology Synthesis GE Area B5 / GE Area 5D	3	For GE Area D4/GE Area 4C, students can double-count PLS 3821, PLS 4205, PLS 4800, PLS 4811, and PLS 4815
	Public Law/Political Theory Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	Arts & Humanities Synthesis GE Area C3 / GE Area 3C	3	Build experience through an internship , research project, or off-campus program
					Start researching and notating application deadlines and requirements for graduate school or law school
	Total Units	15	Total Units	15	
	Total Units for Year			30	
Year 2	Fall		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	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.
	PLS 3055/3055A: Advanced Methods Major Core	3	International Relations/Comparative Politics 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	This means that graduating seniors should be enrolled in either PLS 4610W or PLS 4411W in the fall semester of their senior year.
	Political Science Elective Upper-Division PLS Elective Course List	3	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	
	Social Science Synthesis GE Area D4 / GE Area 4C	3	Unrestricted Elective Choose any course for units	3	Apply for a fellowship or entry-level jobs in spring
	Total Units	15	Total	15	
	Total Units for Year				30
Total units on plan					60
Major & Option Core Units					45-51
General Education Units					9
Unrestricted Elective Units					0-6