POLITICAL SCIENCE, B.A. (BEHREND)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Erie

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements</td>
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<td>Requirements</td>
<td>42-43</td>
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0-7 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 0-6 credits of GS courses; 0-4 credits of GQ courses; 0-3 credits of GH courses.

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Per Senate Policy 83.80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains

- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements

Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)
Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

Requirements for the Major

Each student must earn at least a grade of C in each 300- and 400-level course in the major field.

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 1</td>
<td>American Politics: Principles, Processes and Powers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 3</td>
<td>Comparing Politics around the Globe</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 14</td>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Additional Courses

Select one of the following: 3

- PLSC 7N Contemporary Political Ideologies
- PLSC 17N Introduction to Political Theory
- PLSC 17W Introduction to Political Theory

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 12 additional credits of PLSC courses not used to complete other requirements. At least 12 credits from Additional and Supporting Courses must be at the 400-level.

Requirements for the Option

Select an option 18-19

Requirements for the Option

Crime and Law Option (18 Credits)

Additional Courses

Select 6 credits from the following: 6

- SOC 5 Social Problems
- SOC 12 Criminology
- SOC 13 Juvenile Delinquency
- CRIMJ 100 Introduction to Criminal Justice

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 6 credits from the following: 6

- PLSC 471 American Constitutional Law
- PLSC 472 The American Legal Process
- PLSC 487 International Law and Organizations

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 6 PLSC credits in law courses from an approved list 6

International Relations Option (18 Credits)

Additional Courses

Select 6 credits from the following: 6

- ECON 104 Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy
- or GEOG 126 Economic Geography

- PLSC 90 Introduction to Security
- PLSC 140 Contemporary Controversies in International Relations
- PLSC 200N Government and Politics of Europe
- PLSC 220 Politics of the Developing World

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 3 credits of HIST from approved list (GH) 3

Select 6 credits in PLSC comparative politics or international relations courses from an approved list 6

Politics and government Option (18 Credits)

Additional Courses

Select 12 credits of PLSC courses 12

Select 6 credits of courses in related areas from a major-approved list 6

Public Policy Option (18-19 Credits)

Prescribed Courses

PLSC 2 American Public Policy 3

Additional Courses

PLSC 111 Debating the Purpose of Government or PLSC 123 3

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 3-4 credits from the following: 3-4

- PSYCH 200 Elementary Statistics in Psychology
- SCM 200 Introduction to Statistics for Business
- STAT 200 Elementary Statistics
- STAT 250 Introduction to Biostatistics

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 3 credits of GEOG from approved list 3

Select 6 PLSC credits in policy courses from approved list 6