

POLITICAL SCIENCE, B.A. (BEHREND)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Erie

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2024-25 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

Political Science, B.A. at Erie Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ENGL 15 or 30H ^{††}	3 PLSC 1 or 3	3
PLSC 1 or 3	3 General Education	3
General Education	3 General Education	3
World Language (Level One)	4 General Education	3
First-Year Seminar	1 World Language (Level Two)	4
	14	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
PLSC 14 or 17N	3 PLSC 14H or 17N	3
CAS 100 ^{††}	3 ENGL 202A ^{††}	3
General Education	3 General Education	3
General Education	3 General Education	3
World Language (Level Three)	4 General Education	3
	General Education	1.5
	16	16.5

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
PL SC 400-level [*]	3 PL SC 400-level, Writing Across the Curriculum (W) course [*]	3
PL SC American Government any level	3 PL SC International Politics any level	3
General Education	3 BA Knowledge Domain	3
General Education	1.5 General Education	3
World Cultures	3 Electives	3
	13.5	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
PL SC 400-level [*]	3 PL SC 400-level [*]	3
PL SC Comparative Politics any level	3 PL SC Gov in Theory and Practice any level	3
BA Knowledge Domain	3 BA Knowledge Domain	3
Electives	3 Electives	3
Electives	3 Electives	3
	15	15

Total Credits 121

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/>) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in World Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as World Cultures courses (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-world-cultures/>).

¹ Quantification of Natural Science

² Students need 6 credits in GQ and 9 credits in GN ; one Natural Science (GN) course must include a laboratory component

³ World Language (Level One)

⁴ This requirement is governed by placement policy dictated by the number of levels of world language completed prior to admission to college.

⁵ Arts, Humanities, or Social and Behavioral Science.

⁶ Students need 6 credits in GA, 6 credits in GH, and 6 credits in GS.

⁷ Courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major.

⁷ PL SC 400-level

⁸ W and Y are codes used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirements.

⁹ BA Knowledge Domains

¹⁰ Students are permitted to complete all 9 credits in one of six domains or a combination thereof, but courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. The six domains are ARTS (GA), Humanities (GH), Social & Behavioral Sciences (GS), Natural Sciences (GN), Quantification (GQ), and World Language if the coursework is in a second world language or beyond the 12th credit proficiency of the first world language.

Additional Notes

Both US (United States Cultures) and IL (International Cultures) must be completed within the degree requirements.

Program Notes: Students can double count US & IL requirements for general education courses but not for the World Cultures requirement.

Academic Advising Notes: The course series listed above is only one of many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The number of electives required varies per student. Please be sure to consult with an adviser about your intended plan.