

POLITICAL SCIENCE, B.A. (CAPITAL)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Harrisburg

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2025-26 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 Harrisburg 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, 15S, 30T, or ESL 15 [†]	3 CAS 100A or 100S [‡]	3
PLSC I *	3 PLSC 14 *	3
Quantification (GQ)	3 World Language level 2	4
World Language level 1	4 General Education Course	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course	3
	14.5	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
World Language level 3	4 ENGL 202 [‡]	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3 PLSC 7 or 400-level PLSC or 400-level PUBPL course	3
Quantification	3 General Education Course	3
PLSC 3 or 20 *	3 General Education Course	3
	General Education (GHW)	1.5
	16	16.5

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
PLSC 17W or 400 level PLSC or PUBPL course	3 400 level PLSC or PUBPL course *	6
400 level PLSC or PUBPL course *	3 General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3 US Cultures (prefer PLSC 110, PLSC 123, or PLSC 130)	3
Electives	6 Elective	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
400 level PLSC or PUBPL courses or courses in related disciplines, including 300 level PUBPL courses *	3 PLSC, PUBPL, or related discipline courses *	6
400 level PLSC or PUBPL courses or courses in related disciplines, including 300 level PUBPL courses *	3 Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirement	3
Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirement	3 Electives	6
Electives	6	
	15	15

Total Credits 123

* 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

¹ World Language: requires World Language at the 12th credit level.

² • PLSC 7 is typically offered spring semester only.

• PLSC 117W is typically offered fall semester only.

³ Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirement: This requirement cannot be fulfilled by courses offered in a student's primary major, and cannot double count to meet General Education requirements.

World Language credits for this requirement must be in a second World Language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first World Language.

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/>).

Program Notes

- Students must complete at least 15 credits of 400-level courses
- The 9-credit writing requirement for PLSC may be met by taking either PLSC 17W or PUBPL 304W
- Concurrent majors in Political Science and Public Policy are not permitted
- Students must complete a 3-credit course in "United States Cultures (US)" and a 3-credit course in "International Cultures (IL)." (Prefer PLSC 110, PLSC 123, or PLSC 130 for US culture.)