

**SAMPLE Four-Year Plan**  
**B.A. POLITICAL SCIENCE**  
**FALL 2023 Requirements**

The curriculum in the political science major is flexible and allows students to move through the coursework in many ways. This four-year plan illustrates one possible path a new freshman could take to complete a degree in four years. This is not an official document and is not the only way that a political science degree can be completed in four years. Current students should refer to their individual Academic Advising Report for specific graduation requirements. Courses in bold indicate major-based coursework that is completed in the first year

**First Year**

Fall Semester	Units
English 101 Intro to College Writing and Reading	3
<b>Gened CORE 140 Global Perspectives</b>	3
<b>Political Science 141 American Government</b>	3
US Racial/Ethnic Diversity Course	3
PEGNRL 192 Personal Health and Fitness for Life	1
Intrauniversity 104 New Student Seminar	1
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>14</b>

Spring Semester	Units
English 102 Intro to College Writing, Reading, Research	3
Math 139 Quantitative Reasoning	3
Gened CORE 130 Individual and Society	3
<b>Political Science 101 Intro to Political Science</b>	1
<b>Political Science 200-Level elective</b>	3
General Education Elective	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16</b>

**Notes:** The math and English courses you will take during your first year will depend on exam scores. This four-year plan reflects the math and English courses most common for students in this major. All students are encourage to provide test scores prior to attending Warhawks SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration).

**Opportunities:** The Legal Eagles learning experience is a great option for first-year students interested in the political science major or professions in law or law enforcement.

**Second Year**

Fall Semester	Units
Political Science 301 Research Methods	3
Gened CORE 110 World of the Arts	3
University Requirement GN/GQ course	3
BA World Language course	4
Minor course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16</b>

Spring Semester	Units
Political Science 302 Writing in Political Science	3
Political Science Area 1-5 Requirement	3
Communication 110 Intro to Human Communication	3
BA World Language course	4
Minor course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16</b>

**Opportunities:** Many Political Science majors plan a study abroad experience during their sophomore year. Travel opportunities can be found through the Center for Global Education (<http://www.uww.edu/international>). In addition, faculty routinely organize and lead travel study courses that involve in-class learning during the semester followed by a short-term travel experience either in the US or abroad. Undergraduate research is highly recommended for students who have an interest in attending graduate school in the future. Completing a directed research project with a faculty mentor has many benefits: it develops a student's critical thinking and writing abilities, signals to graduate school programs that a student is prepared for independent research of their own, and it can provide a student with financial support since many undergraduate research opportunities are paid.



University of Wisconsin  
**Whitewater**

College of Letters  
and Sciences

## Political Science Department Contact Information

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[www.edu/cls/departments/political-science](http://www.edu/cls/departments/political-science)

### Third Year

Fall Semester	Units
Political Science Area 1-5 Requirement	3
Political Science elective	3
Gened CORE 390 World of Ideas	3
University Requirement Lab Science (GL) course	4-5
Minor course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16-17</b>

Spring Semester	Units
Political Science Area 1-5 Requirement	3
Political Science elective	3
BA 300/400 Breadth Requirement course	3
Minor course	3
Minor course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

**Opportunities:** An internship (Political Science 493) is not required for the political science major but can be a great opportunity for practical experience. An internship is an experiential learning opportunity that provides students with hands-on experience in a potential career field, supervision and coaching from prospective employers, and the ability to learn professional norms and behaviors. In addition, completing an internship allows students to differentiate themselves in a competitive job market. Students should begin planning for an internship by the beginning of the junior year and can complete the internship in the junior or senior year.

### Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Units
Political Science Area 1-5 Requirement	3
BA 300/400 Breadth Requirement course	3
Minor course	3
Minor course	3
Elective course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

Spring Semester	Units
Political Science Area 1-5 Requirement	3
Minor course	3
Minor course	3
Elective course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>12</b>

**Notes:** All students must earn 120 credits to earn a bachelor's degree and all requirements in this program can be completed in fewer than 120 credits. Most students have the opportunity to choose additional courses in the fourth year to expand skills, explore interests, or try something new.

**Opportunities:** LSINDP 399: Career Information in Letters and Sciences is a 1-credit course that focuses on career and graduate school opportunities; identifying skills, strengths, and work values; creating effective job search materials; developing a networking strategy; and planning for a successful post-graduation transition.

**Planning for Graduation:** Students are encouraged to apply for graduation one full semester prior to their intended graduation date. Information about commencement is on the Registrar's Office website (<http://www.uww.edu/registrar/graduation>) and the application for graduation is available to students in the WINS Student Information System.

*Curriculum effective date: Fall 2022*



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