

Department of Political Science

Department of Political Science
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POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PRE-LAW

The Department of Political Science and Pre-Law program at Arkansas State University offers both a balanced selection of courses and specialization within many areas of discipline. It is designed to prepare students for a wide variety of programs and vocations. Including law, teaching, executive positions in political parties, public relations and business firms, careers in government agencies on the federal, state and local levels, and graduate studies in political science and public administration. Numerous courses are offered in the areas of public administration, comparative politics, political theory, American Politics and international politics. The degree offered is the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Political Science. A minor in Political Science, or in any of the sub-fields is also offered.

A student majoring in Political Science or Pre-Law must earn a total of 124 semester credits for the Bachelor of Arts degree. Requirements include Introduction to U.S. Government, plus an additional 39 hours of political science; 12 hours of a foreign language; 46-49 hours of General Education requirements; and 26 hours of free electives.

*** Indicates Recommended for Pre-Law**

An outline of these requirements is given below:

I. General Education / College of Arts and Sciences Requirements:

	Total Hours
A. Communication	
ENG 1003 and ENG 1013, Freshman English I and II	6
B. Mathematics	
MATH 1023 College Algebra or MATH 1013 College Mathematics	3
C. Critical Thinking	
PHIL 1103 Introduction to Philosophy or *PHIL 1503 Logic and Practical Reasoning or SPCH/SCOM 1203 Oral Communications	3

D. Science**Total Hours 8****Life Science (one course and its lab)**

BIOL 1003	Biological Science/ BIOL 1001
BIOL 1033	Biology of Sex/ BIOL 1001
BIOL 1043	Plants and People/ BIOL 1001
BIOL 1063	People and the Environment/ BIOL 1001
BIOL 1013	Biology of the Cell/ BIOL 1021
BIOL 2103	Microbiology/BIOL 2101

NOTE: IF BIOL 2103 is selected, the student must also take either ZOOL 2003, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and ZOOL 2001, or ZOOL 2013, Human Anatomy and Physiology II and ZOOL 2011 lab. BIOL 1013 is not recommended unless specified by major. If BIOL 1013 is required by major, prerequisites may exist. Consult Department.

Physical Science (one Course and its lab)

GEOL 1003	Environmental Geology/ GEOL 1001
PHSC 1203	Physical Science/ PHSC 1201
CHEM 1013	General Chemistry I/ CHEM 1201
PHYS 1103	Introduction to Space Science/ PHYS 1101
PHYS 2034	University Physics I
PHYS 2054	General Physics I

Understanding Global Issues**Total Hours 3**

ANTH 2233	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
GEOG 2613	Introduction to Geography
HIST 1013	World Civilization to 1660
HIST 1023	World Civilization since 1660

Social Studies**Total Hours 9**

(Three of the following courses. At least one course must be selected from HIST 2763, HIST 2773, or POSC 2103)

HIST 2763	The U.S. to 1876
HIST 2773	The U.S. Since 1876
POSC 1003	Introduction to Politics
*POSC 2103	Introduction to American Government
PSY 2013	Introduction to Psychology
SOC 2213	Principles of Sociology
*ECON 2313	Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 2333	Economic Issues and Concepts

Arts and Humanities**Total Hours 9**

(At least one course must be a fine arts course and at least one must be a humanities course)

FINE ARTS

MUS 2503 Fine Arts Musical
 THEA 2503 Fine Arts Visual
 ART 2203 Fine Arts Theater

HUMANITIES

ENG 2003 Introduction to Literature of Western World I
 ENG 2013 Introduction to Literature of Western World II
 *PHIL 1103 Introduction to Philosophy

Health and Wellness**Total Hours 2**

PE 1002 Concepts of Fitness

Enhancements**Total Hours 3-6**

(Three hours to be selected either from the courses listed above, or from the additional courses specified below. Note that students who do not achieve satisfactory scores on the Mathematics assessment must choose a course from those having an ME designation; students with unsatisfactory on the Communications assessment must choose a course from those courses having a CE designation. Only students with unsatisfactory scores in both areas must take a total of 6 Enhancement hours; all other students take 3 hours.)

AGRI 2243 Feeding the Planet
 CS 2173 (ME) Introduction to Structured Programming
 ENG 3013 (CE) Practical Writing
 ENG 3043 (CE) Technical Writing
 ENG 4703 (CE) Persuasive Writing
 JOUR/RTV 1003 Mass Communications in Modern Society
 STAT 3233 (ME) Applied Statistics

TOTAL REQUIREMENTS**46-49 HOURS**

- | | | |
|------|---|------------|
| II. | Foreign Language Requirement (see bulletin) | 0-12 hours |
| III. | Free Electives | 26 hours |

Listed on the next page are some courses recommended for Pre-Law

PHIL 3703 Philosophy of Law

At least one of the following:

ENG 3003 Advanced Composition
 ENG 3023 Creative Writing

ENG 3013 Functional Writing

Students are encouraged not to minor or specialize with their electives. Rather the Electives should be chosen to broaden knowledge and develop critical skills. Courses in the College of Arts and Sciences and in the College of Fine Arts offer many possibilities to accomplish these goals.

IV. Requirements in Political Science

POSC 2103 Introduction to American Government (F,S,SU)

POSC 3003 Introduction to Political Analysis (F)

The 36 hours (Jr/Sr) of Political Science electives must be distributed in such a way that the student takes at least one 3-hour course in each of the five subject sub-fields:

American Politics

- *POSC 3113 American Municipal Government (F, S)
- *POSC 3123 American Constitutional Law (F)
- POSC 3133 Political Parties and Interest Groups (S)
- *POSC 3143 American State Government (F, S)
- POSC 3153 American Executive Process (S-even)
- POSC 3163 Black Politics (S)
- *POSC 3173 Civil Liberties (S)
- *POSC 3183 Criminal Law and the Constitution (F, S, SU)
- POSC 3193 Arkansas Government and Politics (S)
- POSC 4113 American Legislative Process (S-odd)
- POSC 4123 Women in Politics (S-even)

Comparative Politics

- POSC 3203 Introduction to Comparative Politics (F-odd)
- POSC 3213 African Political Systems (F-even)
- POSC 3223 European Political Systems (D)
- POSC 3233 Chinese Political System (F-odd)
- POSC 4213 Politics of the Former Soviet Lands (S-even)
- POSC 4223 Middle Eastern Political Systems (S-odd)

International Relations

- POSC 1303 Introduction to Model United Nations (F, S)
- POSC 3303 Introduction to International Politics (F-even)
- POSC 3313 American Foreign Policy (S)
- POSC 3323 American National Defense Policies (S-odd)
- POSC 4313 International Organization (F-odd)

Political Theory

- POSC 3413 Classical and Medieval Political Theory (F-odd)
- *POSC 3423 American Political Theory (S-odd)
- POSC 3433 Political Ideologies (F-even)
- POSC 3443 Issues in American Political Thought (S-even)
- POSC 4413 Modern Political Theory (F)
- POSC 4453 Analysis of Contemporary Political Theory (S)

Public Administration

- POSC 3503 Principles of Public Administration (S)
- POSC 3513 Public Budgeting Process (F-even)
- POSC 4503 Introduction to Public Policy Studies (F)
- *POSC 4523 Public Personnel Administration (S)
- POSC 4533 Environmental Law and Administration (D)

V. Electives in Political Science

- POSC 1003 Introduction to U.S. Government (F,S)
- POSC 1303 Introduction to Model United Nations (F,S)
- POSC 4003 Special Topics (may be repeated once with a different subtitle) (D)
- POSC 4801 (1-3) Readings in Political Science (D)
- POSC 4811 (1-3) Internship (D)

Frequency of Course Offerings Code Symbols

F	Fall semester every year
F-even	Fall semester even-numbered years
F-odd	Fall semester odd-numbered years
S	Spring semester every year
S-even	Spring semester even-numbered years
S-odd	Spring semester odd-numbered years
SU	Summer Terms
D	Upon Demand (with sufficient enrollment)

Updated January 7, 2009