

## ABOUT THE MAJOR

The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) with a Major in Political Science at the University of West Georgia offers a course of study leading to an Undergraduate Degree in Political Science. This is our most popular degree program. For the B.S. degree students take one course in each of the four main areas of Political Science: American Government, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. Students complete the major with six additional courses in areas of their choosing. Students can select from the four fields above as well as courses in Public Administration, policy analysis, data analytics, and law. Students complete their coursework by taking a capstone seminar during their senior year.

## ABOUT THIS MAP

This program map is intended ONLY as a guide for students to plan their course of study. It does NOT replace any information in the Undergraduate Catalog, which is the official guide for completing degree requirements. Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UWG, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone's experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

## WHERE CAN YOU GO WITH THIS DEGREE?

- Educator
- Federal, State, and Local Government
- Intelligence and Homeland Security
- Interest Groups
- International and Domestic Business
- International Development
- Local Nonprofit Organization
- Law
- Policy Analyst
- Political Campaigns

## ADD A CERTIFICATE

- Human Rights Advocacy
- Nonprofit Management & Community Development
- Public Management

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

*Bachelor of Science*

# 60

CORE CREDIT HOURS

# 33

MAJOR CREDIT HOURS

# 27

ELECTIVE CREDIT HOURS

Visit [westga.edu/program-maps](https://westga.edu/program-maps) for the latest version of this major map.



VISIT WOLFWATCH  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION.



HAVE A QUESTION?  
CHECK IN WITH  
YOUR ADVISOR!



UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

2023-2024

**TERM 1: FALL**

- A1: ENGL 1101** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
English Composition I
- E3: POLS 1101** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
American Government
- F: PHIL 2020** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
Critical Thinking
- A2: MATH 1401** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
Elementary Statistics
- D1: NON-LAB SCIENCE** 3 CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONES:**  
 • POLS 1101 IS A PREREQUISITE FOR ALL OTHER POLS MAJOR COURSES.

**TERM 2: SPRING**

- A1: ENGL 1102** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
English Composition II
- E1 OR E2** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
World or US History
- D1: SCIENCE + LAB** 4 CREDIT HOURS
- C1: FINE ARTS** 3 CREDIT HOURS
- B1: ORAL COMMUNICATION** 3 CREDIT HOURS

**15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 16 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 31 CREDIT HOURS**

**CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK**

- Focus on your core courses to build your foundations.
- Your English and Communication courses will help you with your political science coursework.
- Take POLS 1101 - Intro to American Government right away! It's a prerequisite for all your other political science major courses.

**FIND YOUR PLACE**

- Get involved with the student government.
- Check out UWG's Academic Transition Programs.
- Attend Constitution Day at UWG.
- Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research.
- Explore all the other events, clubs, and organizations available to you.

**BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES**

- Explore diversity, equity, and inclusion resources and opportunities across campus.
- Check out the education abroad office.

**CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS**

- Visit Wolves Vote to learn about the voting process and registration.
- Consider volunteering for a campaign or organization in your community.

**TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**

- Visit the UWG Wellness Hub to find all the resources available to you!
- Visit Health Services.
- Get fit! Visit URec to see all your options.
- Visit the Center for Economic Education and Financial Literacy.

**PAVE YOUR PATH**

- Complete a self-assessment to see what careers and majors are right for you.
- Visit Office of Career and Graduate School Connections.
- Create your profile on Handshake.
- Consider applying for an on-campus job.

**TERM 1: FALL**

- F: POLS 2101** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
Introduction to Political Science
- C2: HUMANITIES** 3 CREDIT HOURS
- E4: SOCIAL SCIENCE** 3 CREDIT HOURS
- D2: MATH, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY** 3 CREDIT HOURS
- B2: OTHER INSTITUTIONAL OPTION** 2 CREDIT HOURS

**TERM 2: SPRING**

- E1 OR E2** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
World or US History
- F: POLS 2401** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
Global Issues
- F: POLS 2601** 3 CREDIT HOURS  
Inquiry
- F: MAJOR COURSE** 3 CREDIT HOURS
- F: MAJOR COURSE** 3 CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONES:**  
 • POLS 2401 ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR UPPER DIVISION COURSEWORK. WE ALSO RECOMMEND PHIL 2010.

**14 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 29 CREDIT HOURS**

**CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK**

- Don't put off those science and math courses!
- Make sure to mix these in with your other coursework so that you're developing the skills you need when you need them and not overwhelming yourself in a single semester.
- Identify courses within each area of your major (like comparative, international relations, etc.) that fit with your career goals.

**FIND YOUR PLACE**

- Thinking about law school? Check out the pre-law society.
- Join the civic book club.
- Attend guest lectures hosted by the Murphy Center.
- Attend UWG Scholars' Day.

**BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES**

- In a student organization? Suggest you all complete an implicit bias workshop.
- Consider a study abroad program. Check out students' stories of their experiences.

**CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS**

- Complete an internship in your field.
- Consider a summer or part-time job.
- Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.

**TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**

- Take a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
- Consider whether counseling is right for you: take a mental health screening.

**PAVE YOUR PATH**

- Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
- Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
- Draft your personal statement.
- Visit the graduate school to find out about graduate programs and admission requirements.

**TERM 1: FALL**

<b>POLS 3401</b> Comparative Politics	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>POLS 3501</b> International Politics	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>POLS 3101</b> American Politics	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONES:**

- POLS 3401, 3501, AND 3101 ARE ONLY ILLUSTRATIVE, STUDENTS CAN TAKE ANY COURSE IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS, INTERNATIONAL POLITICS, AND AMERICAN POLITICS TO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENT. FOR EXAMPLE: POLS 4401, 4406, OR 4517; POLS 4501, 4505, 4519; POLS 4102, 4103, 4200, ETC.

**TERM 2: SPRING**

<b>POLS 3601</b> Political Analysis	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>MAJOR ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>MAJOR ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b> Upper Division Course	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS

**15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30 CREDIT HOURS**

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- Don't put off those science and math courses!
- Make sure to mix these in with your other coursework so that you're developing the skills you need when you need them and not overwhelming yourself in a single semester.
- Identify courses within each area of your major (like comparative, international relations, etc.) that fit with your career goals.

**FIND YOUR PLACE**

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**TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**

- Take a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
- Consider whether counseling is right for you: take a mental health screening.

**PAVE YOUR PATH**

- Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
- Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
- Draft your personal statement.
- Visit the graduate school to find out about graduate programs and admission requirements.

**TERM 1: FALL**

<b>POLS 4601</b> Political Theory	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>MAJOR ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>MAJOR ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b> Upper Division Course	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONES:**

- POLS 4601 IS ONLY ILLUSTRATIVE. STUDENTS CAN TAKE POLS 4601, 4602, OR 4603 TO FULFILL THE POLITICAL THEORY REQUIREMENT.

**TERM 2: SPRING**

<b>POLS 4984</b> Senior Seminar	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>POLS 4186</b> Internship (Major Elective)	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVE</b>	<b>3</b> CREDIT HOURS

**MILESTONES:**

- WHILE POLS 4186 IS NOT REQUIRED, WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO SEEK INTERNSHIPS BEFORE GRADUATING. SENIOR SEMINAR CAN BE TAKEN IN TERM 1 OR 2 OF THE SENIOR YEAR.

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**Additional Information:**

- No more than 3 hours of directed readings or independent studies can count toward the major. No POLS course in which the student receives a grade lower than "C" may count toward the major.

**CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK**

- Use your electives to explore other disciplines and find courses complementary to your major! Not sure where to start? Ask your political science faculty and your advisor what they would recommend!

**FIND YOUR PLACE**

- Consider running for office in student government.
- Hone your leadership skills by mentoring new political science students.
- Ask about research opportunities with your favorite political science professor.

**BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES**

- Assess your cultural competency.
- Consider working abroad and research visa regulations.
- Explore practices of creating more inclusive careers.

**CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS**

- Ask for advice from professionals in your field of interest.
- Explore career shadowing opportunities.

**TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**

- Explore a farmer's market for fresh produce.
- Develop a post-graduation exercise plan.
- Explore your loan repayment options and complete your exit counseling.

**PAVE YOUR PATH**

- Request references from professors and supervisors.
- Draft your resume cover letter and personal statement and revise it with career services.
- Attend business fairs and career fairs at UWG and across the state.
- Attend an interview workshop.
- Apply for graduate programs.