



## BACHELOR of ARTS (B.A.) in POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLS)

School of Behavioral and Social Sciences (SOBL)

<https://stockton.edu/social-behavioral-sciences/political-science.html>

The suggested program of study shown below should be used in consultation with your preceptor(s). Every student will finish with a unique plan of her/his/their own depending on actual courses. Please note that POLS students are strongly encouraged to take no more than 4 courses/semester.

### FIRST-YEAR

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
<b>Choose a FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR</b> <i>in-person or online</i> 1) FRST 1002 Critical Thinking and Reading* 2) GXX 10XX	4	<b>POLS 2100 Introduction to American Politics (required)**</b> <i>in-person or online</i>	4
<b>Choose a WRITING W1 course</b> <i>in-person or online</i> 1) FRST 1101 College Writing* 2) GEN 2240 Introduction to Research or GSS 2121 Argument And Persuasion In Social Sciences	4	<b>POLS 2170 Introduction to International Politics (required)</b> <i>in-person or online</i>	4
<b>Choose a MATH Q1 course</b> <i>in-person or online</i> 1) FRST 1100 Developmental Math* 2) FRST 1103/1703 Quantitative Reasoning/Lab* 3) CIST 1206 Statistics (required)	4	1XXX or 2XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or At-Some-Distance (ASD) <i>in-person or online</i>	4
<b>POLS 1100 Intro to Politics</b> <i>in-person or online</i>	4	<b>CIST 1206 Statistics (required)</b> or General Studies 1XXX or 2XXX (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4
<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

**TO DO:** Meet your “preceptor” also known as your faculty advisor, Learn about Campus Services & Resources like the [Dean of Students](#) and [Wellness Center](#) for your [mental](#) and [physical health](#), Attend [Welcome Week](#) events & Get Involved! Search [Osprey Hub](#) for Clubs & Events like Model UN and Amnesty International, Add a [Minor](#), Explore General Studies and other courses, find an [on-campus job](#), Meet with the [Learning Access Program \(LAP\)](#) for disability support, Check out [Military & Veteran Services](#), and More!

\*FRST 1002, 1101, 1100, and 1103/1703 are only open to students placed into these courses.

\*\*POLS majors must take POLS 2100 *before* they earn 76 credits (beginning of third year).

#### WHAT DO I NEED TO GRADUATE?

40 credits POLS +  
 24 credits Cognate or additional POLS +  
 32 credits General Studies (GENS) +  
 32 credits At Some Distance (ASD) or GENS =

**128 TOTAL Credits**

#### Other Requirements *as part of your 128 credits:*

- Writing: 4 W1/W2 courses (2 can be transferred) w/ a C or higher
- Math & Quantitative Analysis: 3 Q1/Q2 courses (2 Q1 can be transferred)
- Race & Racism Education: 2 R1/R2 courses (0 can be transferred)
- Arts (A), Values (V), History (H), & International (I): 1 course each
- Specific G-categories: 1 GEN, 2 GSS, 2 GNM, 2 GAH, 1 GIS

**Hint: Search for courses that fulfill multiple university requirements!**

SECOND-YEAR			
Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
<b>POLS 2160 Introduction to Comparative Politics (required)</b> <i>in-person or online</i>	4	POLS 2XXX Intro course in Public Policy or Political Theory <i>in-person or online</i>	4
POLS 2276 U.S. Foreign Policy <i>in-person</i>	4	International Affairs POLS 2XXX or 3XXX Elective <i>mostly in-person</i>	4
<b>POLS Local Internship</b> or POLS 2XXX or 3XXX Elective, or Cognate <i>mostly in-person</i>	4	2XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4
International Affairs Elective: 2XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4	2XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4
<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

**TO DO:** Meet with your Preceptor, Explore local internship opportunities, Choose a semester for your [Washington D.C. internship](#), Write for [The Argo](#), Stockton's Independent Newspaper, Continue to get involved with [student clubs](#) that align with your interests, Explore short-term & semester-long [study abroad opportunities](#), Consider adding a [Minor](#) if you haven't already, Apply for [on-campus jobs](#), and More!

### OPTIONAL SUMMER EXPERIENCES

**Complete a Local Internship for POLS credits**  
**Join a Professor in a Summer Intensive Research Experience (SIRE) course**  
**Do an Independent Study on a topic of interest**  
 Take [Summer Courses](#) in POLS, Cognate, General Studies, or ASD *in-person or online*

### IN FOUR YEARS AT STOCKTON YOU CAN:

- **Go to Washington D.C. for the Entire Semester** through the [Washington Center internship program](#) in fall or spring
- **Conduct Research with Your Professors** through Independent Studies, [Hughes Center](#) student research fellows, [Board of Trustees Fellowships](#), and more
- **Explore your academic, professional, and personal interests** through our unique degree program that includes General Studies and At-Some-Distance courses in a variety of subject areas
- **Travel abroad for 1-2 weeks as part of a Stockton Class!** [Faculty-Led Programs \(FLP\)](#) provide many options
- **Study Abroad** for the [entire semester or year](#) with credits counting towards your B.A. degree
- **Add a Minor** in Economics, Languages, Writing, Global Studies, Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies, Migration, Victimology, and more (see the list [here](#))
- **Complete a Local Internship** for credit towards your B.A. degree
- **Apply for Pi Sigma Alpha Honors** if you meet the criteria for this Honors Designation
- **Participate in Model UN** and go to [National Model UN conferences](#) in Washington D.C., NYC, and abroad
- **Get Involved with Student Clubs** like Amnesty International, Student Senate, multicultural clubs, etc.
- **Take Summer Courses** to stay on track with your degree plan

THIRD-YEAR			
Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
<b>POLS 3150 Political Methodology (Q1)</b> (required) <i>in-person</i>	4	<b>Travel Abroad for 1-2 Weeks through a Faculty Led Program</b> to Ecuador, South Africa, Iceland, Japan, France, Ghana, Colombia, Italy, & More! For more details visit <a href="#">this website</a> .	4
<b>POLS Local Internship</b> or POLS 2XXX Intro course in Public Policy or Political Theory <i>in-person or online</i>	4	International Affairs POLS 2XXX, 3XXX, or 4XXX Elective <i>in-person or online</i>	4
POLS 2XXX or 3XXX Intro course or Elective including <b>Independent Study</b> <i>in-person or online</i>	4	2XXX, 3XXX, or 4XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4
2XXX or 3XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4	<b>3XXX or 4XXX GIS capstone course for General Studies (required)</b> <i>in-person or online</i>	4
<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

#### TO DO:

- Continue to see your Preceptor
- Apply for the American Political Science Association (APSA) [Ralph Bunche Summer Institute \(RBSI\)](#)
- Plan your [Washington D.C. Internship Program](#)
- Explore research opportunities like [Diplomacy Lab](#) to work on projects for the U.S. State Department
- Apply for student research positions at the [Hughes Center for Public Policy](#)
- Look for opportunities to do Independent Studies and Research Projects with your professors! Tell your professor(s) that you'd like to conduct research under their supervision.
- Ask a professor to supervise you in an Independent Study on a topic that interests you.
- Explore local internship opportunities with campaigns, government offices, and more
- Start your post-college planning! Visit the [Career Center](#)
- Apply for Pi Sigma Alpha Honors (applications sent via email)
- Explore federal pathway and other internship programs with [USAJOBS](#)
- Run for leadership positions in a student club and/or Student Senate

#### OPTIONAL SUMMER EXPERIENCES

**Complete a Local Internship for POLS credits**

**Join a Professor in a Summer Intensive Research Experience (SIRE) course**

**Do an Independent Study on a topic of interest**

Take [Summer Courses](#) in POLS, Cognate, General Studies, or ASD *in-person or online*

### FOURTH-YEAR OPTION A: On Campus in New Jersey

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
POLS 2XXX, 3XXX, or 4XXX elective or Cognate <i>in-person or online</i>	4	<b>POLS 4695 Senior Seminar (W2) (required)</b> <i>in-person</i>	4
POLS 3XXX or 4XXX elective or Cognate <i>in-person or online</i>	4	POLS 3XXX or 4XXX elective or Cognate <i>mostly in-person</i>	4
3XXX or 4XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4	3XXX or 4XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4
3XXX or 4XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4	3XXX or 4XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4
<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

### FOURTH-YEAR OPTION B: Washington Internship or Study Abroad

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
<b>POLS 4695 Senior Seminar (W2) (required)</b> <i>in-person</i>	4	Washington D.C. Internship (WASH___) or Study Abroad course	4
POLS 3XXX or 4XXX elective or Cognate <i>mostly in-person</i>	4	Washington D.C. Internship (WASH___) or Study Abroad course (2 courses)	8
POLS 2XXX, 3XXX, or 4XXX elective or Cognate <i>in-person or online</i>	4	Washington D.C. Internship (WASH ___) or Study Abroad course	4
3XXX or 4XXX General Studies (GEN, GSS, GNM, GAH) or ASD <i>in-person or online</i>	4		
<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>16</b>

**TO DO:**

- Meet again with your Preceptor!
- Apply for Pi Sigma Alpha Honors (if you haven't already)
- Request letters of recommendation from your professors
- Present a paper at the [Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Conference](#)
- Submit a paper for publication at the [Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics](#)
- Apply for Pi Sigma Alpha Honors (if you haven't already)
- Finalize post-graduate plans

**Total Credit Hours: 128**