

Political Science - Pre-Law

Major Requirements

Major: Political Science - Pre-Law Option

Degree Type: B.A. or B.S.

Required Degree Credits to Graduate: 122

Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Degree Requirements

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree – The completion of a minor program of study, a second major, or a second degree is required.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree – Second year language proficiency required.

General Education Requirements

First Year Experience (F):

UNIV 189	Skills For Academic Success (Students transferring in 24 or more credits do not need to take UNIV 189.)	1
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Communication (C):

ENGL 110	College Composition I	3
ENGL 120	College Composition II	3
ENGL 320	Business and Professional Writing	3
COMM 110	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3

Quantitative Reasoning (R):

STAT 330	Introductory Statistics	3
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Science & Technology (S):

A one-credit lab must be taken as a co-requisite with a general education science/technology course unless the course includes an embedded lab experience equivalent to a one-credit course. Select from current general education list

Humanities & Fine Arts (A): Select from current general education list 6

Social & Behavioral Sciences (B):

POLS 110	Introduction to Political Science	3
or POLS 115	American Government	

Select an additional course from current general education list 3

Wellness (W): Select from current general education list 2

Cultural Diversity (D): Select from current general education list

Global Perspectives (G): Select from current general education list

Total Credits 40

Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences College Requirements

An additional 9 credits are required by the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences for all Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degree programs of study, except the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, the Bachelor of Music degree, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree, and the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree:

AH&SS College Requirements

Courses used to satisfy any general education requirement cannot be used to also count toward the AH&SS College Requirements. A minimum of three credits is required in each of the 3 following areas for a total of 9 credits. Choose only those courses with the prefixes listed for each area. A course with the WGS prefix can only be used in one area.

Area One: Humanities	3
ARB, ENGL, FREN, GERM, HIST, HUM, PHIL, RELS, SPAN, or WGS	
Area Two: Social Sciences	3
ANTH, CJ, COMM, EMGT, POLS, SOC, or WGS	
Area Three: Fine Arts	3
ARCH, ART, ENVD, LA, MUSC, or THEA	
Total Credits	9

Major Requirements

General Education Requirements 40

AH&SS College Requirement 9

Pre-Political Science Requirements: Must complete the following 12 credits of pre-political science courses with an average GPA of 3.00.

POLS 110	Introduction to Political Science	3
or POLS 115	American Government	
POLS 220	International Politics	3
or POLS 225	Comparative Politics	
POLS 240	Political Ideologies	3
POLS	100 or 200 level	3

Professional Major Requirements:

Professional courses will require a minimum 3.0 GPA.

A single International Law course satisfied either a core requirement or an Area 2 requirement, but not both.

POLS 230	Judicial Process	3
POLS 325	Applied Research Methods	4
POLS 430	Constitutional Law-Civil Liberties	3
POLS 431	Constitutional Law-Criminal Justice	3
POLS 444	International Law	3
or POLS 446	Current Topics in International Law	
POLS 489	Senior Seminar	3

Additional Program Requirements: Complete requirements as indicated from each of the three professional areas listed below for the Pre-Law Option (I, II, & III) 29-30

Professional Area I: One 400 level course in each of the following three areas. 9

Area One:

POLS 420 Political Behavior-Executive-Legislative Process

POLS 421 Political Behavior-Political Parties

POLS 422 State and Local Politics

POLS 423 Public Policy Analysis

Area Two:

POLS 442 Global Policy Issues

POLS 445 Ethnic Conflicts

POLS 453 Environmental Policy and Politics

POLS 444 International Law

or POLS 446	Current Topics in International Law	
Area Three:		
POLS 442	Global Policy Issues	
POLS 450	Politics of the Developing Countries	
POLS 451	Politics of the Industrialized Countries	
POLS 452	Comparative Political Economy	
POLS 453	Environmental Policy and Politics	
Professional Area II: Communciation Component - Select 3 courses		9
from the following:		
COMM 214	Persuasive Speaking	
or COMM 308	Business and Professional Speaking	
COMM 216	Intercultural Communication	
COMM 318	Argumentation and Advocacy	
or COMM 383	Organizational Communication I	
ENGL 358	Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences	
Professional Area III: Law Related Courses - Select 4 courses from		11-12
the following:		
ACCT 410	Fraud Examination	
BUSN 430	Legal and Social Environment of Business	
BUSN 431	Business Law I-Contracts, Property and Torts	
BUSN 432	Business Law II-Business Organization and Commercial Transactions	
CJ 201	Introduction to Criminal Justice	
CJ 230	Criminology and Criminal Law	
CJ 330	Criminal Law and Procedure	
COMM 433	Legal Communication	
COMM 434	Communication Law	
Degree Requirements Potential of 13 credits to reach 122		13
Total Credits		122-123

Degree Requirements and Notes

- Students should refer to www.ndsu.edu/cjps for information regarding application to professional program.
- The department will review applications on a rolling basis. Student must apply to be a major or minor no later than the first day of classes of the semester in which they intend to graduate.
- To apply, a student must have completed a minimum of 36 credit hours and achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0 in the pre-political science courses and 2.75 overall in NDSU coursework.
- Once admitted to the professional political science program, failure to maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in the professional political science courses and a cumulative 2.75 in all coursework will result in an academic warning issued by the department for the first violation. Students will receive notification of this warning at their NDSU email address. Failure to return to these minimum standards will result in being administratively removed from the program.
- Internal and external transfer students will be handled similarly to students who commence their studies in the pre-professional program.
- Students who entered the University and declared political science as their major prior to fall 2012 will be grandfathered into the program and will not be subject to these guidelines.
- These guidelines apply for all majors and minors of political science.