

Political Science

Department Information

- **Department Web Site:**
www.ndsu.edu/politicalscience/ (<http://www.ndsu.edu/politicalscience/>)
- **Credential Offered:**
B.S.; B.A.; Minor
- **Sample Program Guide:**
catalog.ndsu.edu/programs-study/undergraduate/political-science/#planofstudystandardtext (<http://catalog.ndsu.edu/programs-study/undergraduate/political-science/#planofstudystandardtext>)

Major Requirements

Major: Political Science

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

Minimum Degree Credits to Graduate: 120

University Degree Requirements

1. Satisfactory completion of all requirements of the curriculum in which one is enrolled.
2. Earn a minimum total of 120 credits in approved coursework. Some academic programs exceed this minimum.
3. Satisfactory completion of the general education requirements as specified by the university.
4. A minimum institutional GPA of 2.00 based on work taken at NDSU.
5. At least 30 credits must be NDSU resident credits. Resident credits include credits registered and paid for at NDSU.
6. At least 36 credits presented for graduation must be in courses numbered 300 or higher.
7. Students presenting transfer credit must meet the NDSU residence credits and the minimum upper level credit. Of the 30 credits earned in residence, a minimum of 15 semester credits must be in courses numbered 300 or above, and 15 semester credits must be in the student's curricula for their declared major.

For complete information, please refer to the Degree and Graduation Requirements (<http://catalog.ndsu.edu/past-bulletin-archive/2024-25/academic-policies/undergraduate-policies/degree-and-graduation/>) section of this Bulletin.

University General Education Requirements

A list of university approved general education courses and administrative policies are available here (<http://catalog.ndsu.edu/past-bulletin-archive/2024-25/academic-policies/undergraduate-policies/general-education/#genedcoursestext>).

Code	Title	Credits
Category C: Communication		12
ENGL 110	College Composition I	
ENGL 120	College Composition II	
COMM 110	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	
Upper Division Writing [†]		
Category R: Quantitative Reasoning [†]		3
Category S: Science and Technology [†]		10
Category A: Humanities and Fine Arts [†]		6
Category B: Social and Behavioral Sciences [†]		6
Category W: Wellness [†]		2
Category D: Cultural Diversity ^{**†}		
Category G: Global Perspectives ^{**†}		
Total Credits		39

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Courses for category D & G are satisfied by completing D & G designated courses in another general education category.

†

General education courses may be used to satisfy requirements for both general education and the major, minor, and program emphases, where applicable. Students should carefully review major requirements to determine if specific courses can also satisfy these general education categories.

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		
POLS 110 or POLS 115	Introduction to Political Science (May satisfy general education category B) American Government	3
POLS 220 or POLS 225	International Politics Comparative Politics	3
POLS 240	Political Ideologies	3
POLS 325	Applied Research Methods	3
POLS 470	Quantitative Methods for Political Science and Public Policy	3
Select a minimum of five courses from at least three of the four areas listed below (Area 1-4):		15
Area 1:		
POLS 351	Women and Politics	
POLS 420	Political Behavior-Executive-Legislative Process	
POLS 421	Political Behavior-Political Parties	
POLS 422	State and Local Politics	
POLS 423	Public Policy Analysis	
POLS 424	Inequality and Public Policy	
Area 2:		
POLS 424	Inequality and Public Policy	
POLS 430	Constitutional Law-Civil Liberties	
POLS 431	Constitutional Law-Criminal Justice	
POLS 432	Crime and Public Policy	
POLS 433	Law and Public Policy	
POLS 447	U.S. National Security Law	
Area 3:		
POLS 442	Global Policy Issues	
POLS 444	International Law	
POLS 445	Ethnic Conflicts	
POLS 453	Environmental Policy and Politics	
POLS 446	International Criminal Law	
POLS 447	U.S. National Security Law	
Area 4:		
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	
POLS 454	Comparative Democratic Institutions	
Political Science Electives		9
Any POLS prefix class (except POLS 397) and no more than 3 credits of POLS 494 and POLS 496.		
Total Credits		39

Degree Notes:

- An optional accelerated program in the B.S./B.A. in Political Science degree and the Masters in Public Policy (MPP) is available.
 - Students may apply for admission to the accelerated undergraduate political science program after completing a minimum of 60 undergraduate credits.
- Students must have a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA for admission to the MPP graduate program. The GRE is not required for admission to the MPP program in this accelerated option.

- Students admitted to the MPP program must complete a ***Accelerated Degree Program Declaration Form*** upon admission.
- Students admitted in the accelerated program may count up to 15 graduate credits toward the undergraduate degree. These 15 credits must come from 600 and 700 level classes that fulfill requirements in the MPP program.

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 623	Public Policy Analysis (Use for Area I)	3
POLS 710	Global Public Policy (Use for Area IV)	3
POLS 705	Policy Design and Evaluation (Use for POLS elective)	3
POLS 724	Public Budgeting and Finance (Use for Area I)	3
POLS 726	Harm Reduction for Policymakers (Use for POLS elective)	3
POLS 670	Quantitative Methods for Political Science and Public Policy (Use for POLS elective)	3

Minor Requirements

Minor: Political Science

Required Credits: 21

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
POLS 110 or POLS 115	Introduction to Political Science American Government	3
POLS 220 or POLS 225	International Politics Comparative Politics	3
POLS 240	Political Ideologies	3
Electives		12
Any POLS prefix classes with no more than 3 credits of POLS 494 and POLS 496. Minimum of 6 credits must be at or above 300 level.		
Total Credits		21