

POLITICAL SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF ARTS (686)

Program Coordinator

Scott J. Lasley, scott.lasley@wku.edu, (270) 745-2799

A program of study in Political Science furthers student awareness and understanding of political concepts and processes, assists the student in developing critical and analytical abilities, and creates a knowledgeable citizen. Completion of a curriculum in political science provides an individual with a broad background preparatory to a number of careers. Among these are government service, politics, business, teaching, research in political science, and entry into law and other graduate schools. Students may major or minor in political science.

Program Requirements (36 hours)

A baccalaureate degree requires a minimum of 120 unduplicated semester hours. More information can be found at www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php. (https://www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php)

Students who began WKU in the Fall 2014 and thereafter should review the Colonnade requirements located at: <https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>. (<https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>)

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
PS 110	American National Government	3
IA 250	International Politics	3
PS 275	Introduction to Citizenship	3
PS 499	Senior Seminar in Government ¹	3
PS 301 or PS 302	Using Statistics in Political Science Research Design in Political Science	3
Select one course from each of the following categories.		
Comparative Politics/Area Studies Category		3
IA 260	Introduction to Comparative Politics	
IA 350	Political Terrorism	
PS 359	Politics of North Korea	
IA 360	Government and Politics of Britain and Canada	
IA 361	Government and Politics of Western Europe	
IA 362	Latin American Government and Politics	
IA 363	Politics of Developing Nations	
PS 364	Chinese Politics	
IA 365	Government and Politics of the Middle East	
PS 366	Government and Politics in East Asia	
IA 367	Government and Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe	
IA 368	African Government and Politics	
IA 369	Central European Politics	

Institutions Category		3
PS 220	Judicial Process	
PS 304	State Government	
PS 310	The American Presidency	
PS 316	The Legislative Process	
PS 355	International Organization and Law	
PS 412	Kentucky Government and Politics	
Policy & Behavior Category		3
PS 311	Public Policy	
PS 340	Principles of Public Administration	
PS 370	American Political Parties and Interest Groups	
PS 371	Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior	
PS 373	Minority Politics	
PS 374	Women and Politics	
PS 375	Fundamentals of Political Campaign Management	
PS 435	American Political Thought	
12 hours of Political Science (PS) or International Affairs (IA) electives		12
At least 18 hours must be 300 or higher.		
Total Hours		36

¹ Students are advised to take all core courses before enrolling in PS 499.

A minor or second major is required.

At least 18 credit hours in the major must be at the 300-level or higher. No more than 6 hours total can come from PS 403, PS 405, PS 407, and PS 498. PS 324 and PS 325 can both be repeated once. Three hours of credit from PS 324 and PS 325 can be used for the major, and three hours from each can be used as general electives.

Finish in Four Plan

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PS 110		3 IA 250 or PS 275	3
COMM 145		3 ENG 100	3
HIST 101 or HIST 102		3 Colonnade - Quantitative Reasoning	3
Colonnade: Arts & Humanities		3 Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences with lab	3
IA 250 or PS 275		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3
		15	15
Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
PS course from one of four required categories		3 PS course from one of four required categories	3
PS course from one of four required categories		3 PS course from one of four required categories	3
ENG 200		3 Colonnade: Connections ¹	3
Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course	3

2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3
		15	15	
Third Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	
PS Elective		3 PS Elective		3
PS Elective		3 Colonnade: Connections ²		3
ENG 300		3 Colonnade: Connections ³		3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3
		15	15	
Fourth Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	
PS Elective		3 PS 499		3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3
2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor/ Elective Course		3
		15	15	
Total Hours 120				