

POLITICAL SCIENCE, Associate in Arts Degree - 5026

Social Science Department

The Political Science AA program provides a solid foundation for students who plan to major in Political Science, Public Policy, Public Administration, or International Relations. This program allows students to focus on two areas of study: **Political Science or Public Policy**. The **Political Science option** is useful as an arts and science major for a variety of careers such as law, political science, public service, and foreign service. The **Public Policy option** focuses upon the development of skills that lead to careers in federal, state, local or international government. Students may also pursue careers in nonprofit agencies. Since the requirements of senior institutions vary widely it is essential to choose a transfer institution as soon as possible and carefully follow the program described in that college's catalog. The complete program is available at the Harrisburg and Lancaster campuses, as well as through Virtual Learning. Students can complete the program at the Gettysburg, Lebanon or York campuses by taking some courses through Virtual Learning.

Transfer Opportunities

This transfer curriculum is provided as a guide for students planning to transfer to a baccalaureate degree granting institution majoring in Political Science, Public Policy, Public Administration or International Studies.

Competency Profile

This curriculum is designed to prepare students to:

- Use oral and written communications - proper mechanics, clear wording and logical sequence - to convey knowledge of civics foundation necessary to effectively participate in politics
- Use appropriate technological tools to identify, locate, access, communicate and cite sources of information, including peer-reviewed articles
- Critically evaluate information for legitimacy, validity and appropriateness, including partisanship and bias
- Integrate information into projects that involve critical analysis
- Explain terminology, institutions, processes, policy constructs and issues associated with political science/public policy
- Evaluate the current social issues and events and how they correlate to the legislative process and their relevance to society and individual citizens
- Participate in civil discussions with others of diverse viewpoints
- Listen to and evaluate various political views
- Identify Social Science methodologies
- Develop and apply problem solving skills to address issues that arise in one's community
- Identify one's own prejudices and biases to facilitate problem solving skills in one's community
- Actively engage in the community through service projects, internships, case studies, and/or civic participation, in order to identify problems/issues that exist

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (TOTAL CREDITS = 61)

General Education		Major Requirements		Other Required Courses	
ENGL 101 English Composition I	3	GP 202 State & Local Government	3	GIS 141 Intro to Geospatial Technology (or)	3
ENGL 102 English Composition II	3	GP 205 International Politics	3	CIS 105 Intro to Software for Business	(3)
COMM 101 Effective Speaking	3	GP 208 Comparative Government	3		
Humanities & Arts Elective	3	PSPL 110 Introduction to Public Policy	3		
Humanities & Arts Elective or Social & Behavioral Science Elective	3	Political Science (or) Public Policy Options	<u>20</u>		
Mathematics Elective (Recommend: MATH 202)	3				
Social & Behavioral Science Elective – GP 201	3				
Science w/ a Laboratory Elective	3				
First-Year Seminar Elective	1				
Wellness	<u>1</u>				
	26				
Political Science Option		Public Policy Option			
Foreign Language Electives	8	ECON 201 Principles of Economics I: Macro	3		
Transfer Electives	<u>12</u>	ECON 202 Principles of Economics II: Micro	3		
	20	Transfer Electives	<u>14</u>		
			20		

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

Part-time students can complete this program by taking one or more courses each semester.

Political Science Option

Fall Semester I		Spring Semester I		Fall Semester II		Spring Semester II	
ENGL 101	3	ENGL 102	3	Foreign Language Elective	4	COMM 101	3
FYS Elective	1	GIS 141 or CIS 105	3	GP 205	3	Foreign Language Elective	4
GP 201	3	GP 202	3	Transfer Electives	9	GP 208	3
Humanities/Arts Elective	3	Humanities/Arts or Social/Behavioral Science Electives	3	Wellness	1	Science w/ Lab Elective	3
PSPL 110	3	Mathematics Elective	3			Transfer Elective	3

Public Policy Option

Fall Semester I		Spring Semester I		Fall Semester II		Spring Semester II	
ENGL 101	3	ENGL 102	3	ECON 201	3	COMM 101	3
FYS Elective	1	Humanities/Arts or Social/Behavioral Science Electives	3	GP 205	3	ECON 202	3
Humanities/Arts Elective	3	GIS 141 or CIS 105	3	Transfer Electives	8	GP 208	3
GP 201	3	GP 202	3	Wellness	1	Science w/ Lab Elective	3
PSPL 110	3	Mathematics Elective	3			Transfer Elective	3
Transfer Elective	3						