

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 varies 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 Gettysburg, Harrisburg and Lancaster campuses. Students may also complete the program at the Lebanon Campus 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	PSPL 110 Introduction to Public Policy	3	GIS 141 Intro to Geospatial Technology (or)	3
ENGL 102 English Composition II	3	PSPL 202 State and Local Government	3	CIS 105 Intro to Software for Business	(3)
COMM 101 Effective Speaking	3	PSPL 205 International Politics	3		
Humanities & Arts Elective	3	PSPL 208 Comparative Government	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				32
Social & Behavioral Science Elective – PSPL 101	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

ENGL 101 3
FYS Elective 1
Humanities/Arts Elective 3
PSPL 101 3
PSPL 110 3

Spring Semester I

ENGL 102 3
GIS 141 **or** CIS 105 3
Humanities/Arts **or** Social/Behavioral Science Electives 3
PSPL 202 3
Mathematics Elective* 3

Fall Semester II

Foreign Language Elective 4
PSPL 205 3
Transfer Electives 9
Wellness 1
3

Spring Semester II

COMM 101 3
Foreign Language Elective 4
PSPL 208 3
Science w/ Lab Elective 3
Transfer Elective 3

Public Policy Option

Fall Semester I

ENGL 101 3
FYS Elective 1
Humanities/Arts Elective 3
PSPL 101 3
PSPL 110 3
Transfer Elective 3

Spring Semester I

ENGL 102 3
Humanities/Arts **or** Social/Behavioral Science Electives 3
GIS 141 **or** CIS 105 3
PSPL 202 3
Mathematics Elective* 3

Fall Semester II

ECON 201 3
PSPL 205 3
Transfer Electives 8
Wellness 1
3

Spring Semester II

COMM 101 3
ECON 202 3
PSPL 208 3
Science w/ Lab Elective 3
Transfer Elective 3