POLITICAL SCIENCE: PRE-LAW



COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

This degree map is based on the current Academic Catalog and is subject to change. Please note that the degree map is designed to give you a sense of roughly how courses might be distributed over a 4-year degree. Your exact schedule will differ depending on a range of factors though we recommend taking a minimum of 15 credits each fall and spring semester. Regular consultation with your academic advisor is the best way to make sure that you are taking the courses you need in the right order to ensure efficient progress through your degree program.

Sample 4-Year Plan

First Year					
Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits		
First Year Seminar course (GE 1/15)	3	POLI 140 Comparative Politics or POLI 160 International Relations	3		
POLI 110 U.S. Government	3	POLI 170 Modern Ideologies	3		
POLI 140 Comparative Politics or POLI160 International Relations	3	GE 4/15 (recommended: Foundations/Quantitative)	3		
GE 2/15 (recommended: Foundations/History)	3	GE 5/15	3		
GE 3/15 (recommended: Foundations/Writing)	3	Free Elective (or minor course)	3		
Semester Total	15	Semester Total	15		

Second Year					
Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits		
POLI 300 Research & Analysis	3	POLI Concentration (2/4)	3		
POLI 221 Constitutional Law I (1/4 concentration)	3	GE 7/15	3		
GE 6/15	3	GE 8/15	3		
Free Elective (or minor course)	3	Free Elective (or minor course)	3		
Free Elective (or minor course)	3	Free Elective (or minor course)	3		
Semester Total	15	Semester Total	15		

Third Year					
Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits		
POLI Concentration (3/4)	3	POLI Elective (1/2 any level)	3		
GE 9/15	3	GE 11/15	3		
GE 10/15	3	GE 12/15	3		
Free Elective (or minor course)	3	GE 13/15	3		
Free Elective (or minor course)	3	Free Elective (or minor course)	3		
Semester Total	15	Semester Total	15		

Fourth Year					
Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits		
Internship/Thesis/Study Abroad	3	POLI 488 Capstone	1		
POLI Concentration (4/4)	3	POLI xxx Elective (2/2 any level)	3		
GE 14/15	3	GE 15/15	3		
GE 15/15	3	Free Elective (or minor course)	3		
Free Elective (or minor course)	3	Free Elective (or minor course)	3		
		Free Elective (or minor course)	2		
Semester Total	15	Semester Total	15		

Winter/Summer College - Optional

While not required, Winter and Summer sessions are offered each year and may help you stay on track or get ahead. You may take up to seven (7) credits during Winter College and up to 14 credits during Summer College.

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Political Science: Core Requirements (19)

- POLI 110 U.S. Government (3)
- POLI 140 Comparative Politics (3) POLI 160 International Relations (3)
- POLI 170 Political Ideologies (3)
- ____ POLI 170 Political deologies (3) ____ POLI 300 Research & Analysis (3)
- ____ POLI 300 Research & Analysis (3) ____ POLI 480 Thesis* OR POLI 498 Internship* OR POLI 389 Study Abroad (3)*
- ____ POLI 488 Capstone (1)

Pre-Law Concentration (12)

POLI221 Constitutional Law I (3)

Any 3 courses from the following (9)

- POLI212 State & Local Politics (3)
- ____ POLI311 Presidency and Congress (3)*
- ____ POLI322 Constitutional Law II (3)*
- ____ POLI324 Philosophy of Law (3)*
- POLI371 Political Philosophy (3)*
- POLI423 Judicial Process (3)*
- ____ POLI427 International Law & Organizations (3)*
- ____ POLI431 Public Policy (3)*

POLI (any level) requirements (6)

- ____ POLI xxx (any level) (3)
- ____ POLI xxx (any level) (3)

Total Credits Required for the Major (37)

*Denotes advanced coursework

Students must take a minimum of 42 credits of advanced coursework. Advanced coursework can be met in major courses, minor courses, free elective courses, and general education courses. Courses that meet this requirement are designated in Banner.



General Education Requirements

(45 credits)

Note: Some requirements may be fulfilled by coursework in your major program including directed Gen Ed courses noted below

- Foundations (15 credits)
- Directed Gen Ed, if applicable
- Interconnections (9 credits)
 O Directed Gen Ed, if applicable
- Citizenship & Responsibility (6 credits from at least two goals)
 Directed Gen Ed, if applicable
- Natural World & Technologies (9 credits)
 Directed Gen Ed, if applicable
- Creativity & Expression (6 credits)
 - Directed Gen Ed, if applicable

Degree Requirements

All students must obtain a minimum of 120 credits, complete all General Education requirements, and all requirements for the selected major. Meet with your advisor and consult Degree Works to monitor your progress and for all graduation requirements.

A minimum GPA of 2.0 in the major and overall are required.