POLITICAL SCIENCE (BS)

This program was approved for students entering the university in the Summer 2023–Spring 2024 catalog year. For more information about catalog year, go to Catalog Year Information (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/university-wide-unit-specific-policies/catalog-year/).

Bachelor of Science in Political Science
Unit: College of Arts and Sciences (AS) (http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/)
Department: Political Science (http://louisville.edu/politicalscience/)
Academic Plan Code(s): POLSBS_LP

Program Information

Bachelor of Science in Political Science program at UofL cultivates an understanding of policy, politics and governments in the United States and around the globe. We offer a wide range of courses including campaigns and elections, the Presidency and Congress, social movements and civil rights, terrorism and war, constitutional law, environmental policy, religious politics, urban politics and poverty, and international politics. The department is a particularly inviting environment for students, with small class sizes, our own building, a computer lab, and options to specialize via several tracks in our major.

Political Science majors at the University of Louisville have been extremely successful in earning prestigious scholarships and fellowships. The roster of recent successes includes numerous Fulbright Award winners and multiple Truman Scholars. Since 2010, three of our students have won the annual Mary Churchill Humphrey scholarship, often described as UofL's Rhodes Scholarship because it supports graduate study in Great Britain. Many of our majors go on to have successful careers in government, international affairs, nongovernmental organizations, business, academia, and media.

Completion of this degree requires work to be submitted for the department's Learning Outcomes Measurement. For details, contact the department.

Degree Summary

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Requirements (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		31
College/School Requirements		13-15
Program/Major Requirements		42
Supporting Courses		33-35
Minimum Total Hours		**121**

Specific coursework information can be found on the Degree Requirements tab.

Accelerated BA-BS/MA in Political Science

Political Science majors who are considering pursuing a master's degree (MA) in Political Science can speed up the process by applying some of their undergraduate credit hours toward a master's degree. Students accepted into the Accelerated BA-BS/MA take three graduate courses (9 credit hours) as an undergraduate that apply toward both the bachelor's degree and the eventual master's degree.

Interested students must apply for admission to the program in the first semester of the senior year (i.e., after completing 90 hours). Applicants must meet the general requirements for admission to the Graduate School and must submit an application to the Department of Political Science. Applicants should have an undergraduate major or minor in social science or have sufficient alternative preparation in the social sciences.

Departmental Admission Requirements

There are no specific admission requirements for this degree plan.

The Change Major Request Form can be found under the Academic Progress tile on ULink.

General Education Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Requirements (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		31
The following courses are required by the program or program tracks and can satisfy the respective General Education Requirement(s):		
POLS 202	Introduction to Comparative Politics - D2 (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
ECON 201	Principles of Microeconomics - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	

All degrees require the completion of the University-wide General Education Program (link provided above). Some General Education requirements may be met in the requirements for the major or supporting coursework, in which case additional electives may be required to complete the minimum hours for the degree.

College/School Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Arts & Sciences Requirements		
GEN 100	Student Success Center First Year Experience	1
or GEN 101	Arts & Sciences First Year Experience	
Foreign Language [1]		6-8
Electives in Humanities or Natural Sciences at 300 level or above [2]		6
WR—two approved courses at the 300 level or above [3]		
Minimum Total Hours		**13-15**

Program/Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Department of Political Science		
POLS 201	Introduction to American Government and Politics - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
POLS 202	Introduction to Comparative Politics - D2 (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
POLS 325	Public Administration	3

or POLS 326	Public Policy - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 330	International Relations	3
POLS 390	Political Science Research Methods	3
POLS 495	Senior Seminar - WR (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), CUE (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
Law and Jurisprudence Area		
Select three courses:		9
POLS 312	Constitutional Law	
POLS 313	Constitutional Law	
POLS 314	Judicial Politics	
POLS 315	Race, Law and Politics - D1 (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 316	Gender, Sexuality & Law	
POLS 320	Civil Rights and the Law II	
POLS 332	International Law - WR (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) [5]	
POLS 444	Law, Diplomacy and Power: The Foreign Relations of the U.S.	
Public Policy Area		
Select two courses:		6
POLS 302	Urban Political Economy	
POLS 304	Comparative Urban Politics	
POLS 305	Urban Politics	
POLS 310	Policy, Community & Service	
POLS 325	Public Administration [6]	
POLS 326	Public Policy - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) [6]	
POLS 333	American Foreign Policy	
POLS 335	Global Environmental Politics	
POLS 405	Topics in Public Policy	
POLS 505	Topics in Urban and Public Policy	
POLS 510	Louisville Metro Council Internship	
POLS 511	Internship II	
POLS 512	Frankfort Legislative Internship	
Political Science electives		9
Minimum Total Hours		**42**

Code	Title	Hours
Supporting Courses		
ECON 201	Principles of Microeconomics - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
ECON 202	Principles of Macroeconomics - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
Electives in Social Science other than Political Science, with 6 hours at the 300 level or above		12

Minimum Electives		15-17
Minimum Total Hours		**33-35**

No more than 6 hours of POLS 430, POLS 510, POLS 511 and/or POLS 512 may count toward the major.

Code	Title	Hours
Culminating Undergraduate Experience (Graduation requirement)		
Requirement fulfilled by completing:		
POLS 495	Senior Seminar - WR (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), CUE (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	

[1] Completion of the second semester of a single foreign language; hours will vary depending on the language taken
[2] In addition to courses counted toward General Education
[3] May be incorporated into other degree requirements
[4] Fulfills general education requirement.
[5] Fulfills WR requirement.
[6] May not be double-counted for public policy area requirement if used for core requirement or for both a programmatic and supporting course.

Flight Plan

Year 1

Fall		Hours
GEN 101 or GEN 100	Arts & Sciences First Year Experience or Student Success Center First Year Experience	1
ENGL 101	Introduction to College Writing - WC (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
POLS 201	Introduction to American Government and Politics - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences - S		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences Lab - SL		1
Foreign Language 1		3-4
	Hours	**15**

Spring		
ENGL 102	Intermediate College Writing - WC (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences - S		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Quantitative Reasoning - QR		3-4
General Elective		3
Foreign Language 2		3-4
	Hours	**16-17**

Year 2

Fall		
POLS 202	Introduction to Comparative Politics - D2 (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
POLS 330	International Relations	3
Social Science elective (300 level or above)		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Oral Communication - OC		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities - AH		3
	Hours	**15**

Spring

POLS 325 or POLS 326	Public Administration or Public Policy - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
ECON 201	Principles of Microeconomics - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Social & Behavioral Sciences Historical Perspective - SBH		3
Political Science Law & Jurisprudence course		3
General elective		3
	Hours	15

Year 3

Fall

Humanities or Natural Sciences WR elective (300 level or above)		3
ECON 202	Principles of Macroeconomics - SB (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
Political Science Law & Jurisprudence course		3
Political Science Public Policy course		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities US Diversity - AHD1		3
	Hours	15

Spring

Humanities or Natural Science elective (300 level or above)		3
Social Science elective		3
Political Science Law & Jurisprudence course		3
POLS 390	Political Science Research Methods	3
Social Science elective		3
	Hours	15

Year 4

Fall

Political Science Public Policy course		3
Political Science elective		3
Social Science elective (300 level or above)		3
General elective (300 level or above)		3
General elective (300 level or above)		3
	Hours	15

Spring

POLS 495	Senior Seminar - WR (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), CUE (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
Political Science elective		3
Political Science elective		3
General elective		3
General elective		3
	Hours	15
	Minimum Total Hours	121-122

Degree Audit Report

Degree Audit reports illustrate how your completed courses fulfill the requirements of your academic plan. What-if reports allow you to compare the courses you have completed in your current academic plan to the courses required in another academic plan. Should you have questions about either report, please consult with your academic advisor.

Flight Planner

The Flight Planner tool is available for you to create a personalized Flight Plan to graduation. Advisors have access to review your Flight Planner and can help you adjust it to ensure you remain on track to graduate in a timely manner.

To create these reports:

a. Log into your ULink account.
b. Click on the Academic Progress tile.
c. Select the appropriate report.
   i. To run a Degree Audit report, click on "View my Degree Audit."
   ii. To create a What-if report, click on "Create a What-if Advisement Report."
   iii. To run a Flight Planner report, click on "Use My Flight Planner."

Click here to run a Degree Audit report, create a What-if report, or run a Flight Planner report. (https://ulink.louisville.edu)