



DEGREE PLANNING GUIDE FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

The study of politics is as ancient as Plato and as current as the morning newspaper. The twenty first century professional observer of politics studies: (1) the commentators, from Aristotle and Aquinas to Walter Lippmann and George Will; (2) the practitioners from the Caesars, the Czars and the Popes, to the Sheriffs, Senators, Prime Ministers, and Presidents of today; and (3) the policy-making process in the institutional settings of the legislative, executive, judicial, and bureaucratic arrangements of power. The study of politics is useful preparation for careers in journalism, law, government, public and private interest groups, business, and education. Because St. Edward's is located in the capital city of the second largest state in the United States, there are many and unique opportunities to study and participate in the practice of politics. In The Legislative Process course, you will study the Texas Legislature in depth, and in your Internship course, you will become an active participant in the political process of the Lone Star state.

YOUR MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS The major includes course work in political theory, governmental structure and organization, public policy, legislative process, and comparative government. Areas of concentration (or tracks) include pre-law, political management and international politics.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Your four-year degree plan also includes general education courses which are required of all St. Edward's students. These include English, math, science, and others outlined in the undergraduate bulletin.

WHAT IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND? No problem! In fact, it is not unusual. Part of what college is about is a process to identify your area of interest. As long as that decision is made in the first two years, it is not likely to impact your degree program very much, as a good deal of your initial course work is the area of general education, that body of courses common to all students. There are a few exceptions - major change in direction after two years (philosophy to accounting for example) would lengthen your program. If you are a full-time student and take five courses each semester, you will graduate in four years. It's unusual to do it much faster and not uncommon for it to take a little longer. It all depends on how many courses make sense for you & if you enroll in summer(s).

PLANNING YOUR FIRST YEAR OF STUDY We want you to take an active role in planning your degree program. While there are a good deal of requirements in your program, there are still decisions you will need to make. For example, which foreign language do you wish to study; which math classes do you want to choose to satisfy the math requirement; is there a particular religious study or philosophy course that appeals to you; are there any time conflicts? Your advisor will help, but your planning and proactive involvement is critical.

SUGGESTED DEGREE PLAN FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLS)

FIRST FALL

FSTY 1310 Freshman Studies
FSTY 1311 Rhet & Comp I
MATH 1312 or higher
Modern Language
POLS 1305 Amer Nat'l Govt
15 hours

FIRST SPRING

ENGW 1302 Rhet & Comp II
Modern Language
CULF 1318 Lit & Hum Exper
CULF 1320 American Experience
POLS 1306 State & Local Govt
15 hours

SECOND FALL

CULF 1319 Und & App Arts
CULF 2321 American Dilemmas
RELS/PHIL
POLS track course
POLS 2332 Int'l Relations
15 hours

SECOND SPRING

Oral Communication
CULF 3330 Hist of Global Processes
Ethics
POLS 2341 Comparative Politics
Elective
15 hours

THIRD FALL

CULF 3331 Contemp World Issues
Science in Depth
POLS 3328 Pol Research & Stats
POLS 4344 The President
POLS track course OR 4349 for core
15 hours

THIRD SPRING

SCIE 2320 Science in Perspective
POLS 3334 Public Policy
POLS 4342* Leg Process & Lobbying
POLS 4348 Amer. Pol Thinking
POLS track course
15 hours

FOURTH FALL

POLS 4347 Political Theory
POLS track course OR 4349 for core
POLS 4350 Internship
Elective
Elective
15 hours

FOURTH SPRING

CAPS 4360 Capstone
Elective
Elective
Elective
GDCT 4000.01** Intent to graduate
15 hours

POLS 4342 must be taken spring of odd numbered years when the Texas Legislature is in session

Note: You have some choices as to when you would like to take a particular course, particularly those under the General Education Requirement. Please consult the bulletin and your degree plan for prerequisite requirements.

****You must register for this course in the term you plan to graduate.**

Failure to do so will result in you not being certified and not graduating.