

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Political Science

Selected Educational Outcomes

1. Political science majors will demonstrate the requisite knowledge of the US Constitution and the American political system, including an understanding of the structure and workings of the federal as well as state governments (including Georgia), enabling them to become informed and responsible citizens.
2. Political science majors will exhibit an understanding of the fundamental concepts of politics and gain significant knowledge of global political issues and interrelationships between nations.
3. Political science majors will show competence in various methods of political analysis and become capable of conducting and presenting original, empirical political science research.
4. Political science majors will demonstrate the ability to engage in critical analysis and to communicate research findings to an audience.

Examples of Outcome Assessments

1. Mastery of the material in all required and elective courses in the political science major. As each level serves as a foundation for higher levels, mastery of the core material is requisite to mastery of the major. Outcome #1 is met by successful completion of these courses.
2. Completion of the capstone experience certifies that a major has met outcomes #2, #3, and #4.
3. Information from published surveys of students' opinions and alumni perceptions of VSU programs and services, as well as information from alumni surveys conducted by the Department of Political Science.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in Political Science

Code	Title	Hours
Core Curriculum		60
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum)		42
Core Field of Study		18
PHIL 2020	Principles of Logic and Argumentation	3
POLS 2101 & POLS 2401	Introduction to Political Science and Introduction to Global Issues	6
Foreign Language and Culture		6
Select one of the following:		3
HIST 1011 or HIST 1011H	History of Civilization I Honors History of Civilization I	
AFAM 2020 or WGST 2020	Race, Class, and Gender	
GEOG 1100	Introduction to Geography	
GEOG 1102	World Regional Geography	
SOCI 1160	Introduction to Social Problems	
If a student has taken any of the above courses to meet requirements in other areas of the Core Curriculum, credit hours must be taken from the following list of courses: PHIL 2010, all other Social Sciences courses		
Senior College Curriculum		60
Required Courses ¹		15
POLS 3100 & POLS 4100	Scope and Methods of Political Science and Political Science Capstone Course	6
POLS 3000 or ENGL 3030	Writing in Political Science Writing for the Legal and Social Science Professions	3
Select 1 of the following;		3
POLS 3520	Introduction to Political Philosophy	
PHIL 4120	Ethics and Public Policy	
PHIL 4220	Ethics and Public Administration	
Political Science Courses		27
Select 27 hours from the following; at least 12 hours must be in one Concentration Area		
American Government		
POLS 3200	American State and Local Government and Politics	

POLS 3210	United States Congress
POLS 3220	Elections, Voting Behavior, and Political Parties
POLS 3230	Political Psychology
POLS 3270	Public Opinion and Political Socialization
POLS 3280	African American Politics
POLS 3290	The American Presidency
POLS 4210	Separation of Powers in the American Political System
POLS 4270	Southern Politics
POLS 4700	Directed Study in Political Science
POLS 4820	Special Topics in U.S. Government and Politics
POLS 4900	Internship in Political Science
Comparative Politics	
POLS 3300	Comparative Politics
POLS 4300	European Politics
POLS 4310	Politics in Russia
POLS 4320	Latin American Politics
POLS 4330	African Politics
POLS 4350	Politics in Developing Nations
POLS 4370	Comparative Constitutional Law and Judicial Politics
POLS 4390	Constitutional Law and Judicial Politics of the European Union
POLS 4450	Comparative Environmental Politics and Policy
POLS 4700	Directed Study in Political Science
POLS 4830	Special Topics in Comparative Politics
POLS 4831	Special Topics in EU Politics
International Relations	
POLS 3400	International Relations
POLS 4300	European Politics
POLS 4301	The European Union
POLS 4400	International Organization and Law
POLS 4410	American Foreign Policy
POLS 4420	Global Security Policy
POLS 4430	National Security Administration and Policy
POLS 4440	Model United Nations
POLS 4442	Model UN II: Negotiation and Diplomacy
POLS 4700	Directed Study in Political Science
POLS 4831	Special Topics in EU Politics
POLS 4840	Special Topics in International Politics
Public Law	
POLS 3240	American Judicial Process and Behavior
POLS 4200	American Constitutional Law I
POLS 4202	American Constitutional Law II
POLS 4203	American Constitutional Law III
POLS 4220	Administrative Law and Government
POLS 4240	Politics and the Supreme Court
POLS 4250	Trial Advocacy
POLS 4251	Trail Advocacy II
POLS 4260	Alternative Dispute Resolution
POLS 4700	Directed Study in Political Science
Political Theory	
POLS 3520	Introduction to Political Philosophy
POLS 3530	American Political Thought
POLS 4700	Directed Study in Political Science

POLS 4850	Special Topics in Political Theory	
Public Administration		
POLS 3600	Introduction to Public Administration	
POLS 3610	Public Administration and Public Policy Formation	
POLS 4430	National Security Administration and Policy	
POLS 4450	Comparative Environmental Politics and Policy	
POLS 4600	Government Organization and Administrative Theory	
POLS 4610	Public Personnel Administration	
POLS 4620	Public Finance Administration	
POLS 4640	Urban Politics and Administration	
POLS 4650	Intergovernmental Relations	
POLS 4670	Quality Management in Public Administration	
POLS 4700	Directed Study in Political Science	
POLS 4860	Special Topics in Public Administration	
Minor and/or Elective Courses		21
Must include at least 6 hours of courses numbered 3000 or above in a single discipline outside of Political Science		
Total hours required for the degree		120

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The grade in each POLS course taken for the major must be a "C" or better.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in Political Science -- International Studies Track

Code	Title	Hours
Core Curriculum		
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum)		42
Core Field of Study		18
PHIL 2020	Principles of Logic and Argumentation	3
POLS 2101	Introduction to Political Science	3
POLS 2401	Introduction to Global Issues	3
Foreign Language and Culture		6
Select one of the following:		3
HIST 1011	History of Civilization I	
or HIST 1011H	Honors History of Civilization I	
AFAM 2020	Race, Class, and Gender	
or WGST 2020		
GEOG 1100	Introduction to Geography	
GEOG 1102	World Regional Geography	
SOCI 1160	Introduction to Social Problems	
Senior College Curriculum		60
Required Courses		15
POLS 3100	Scope and Methods of Political Science	3
POLS 4100	Political Science Capstone Course	3
POLS 3000	Writing in Political Science	3
or ENGL 3030	Writing for the Legal and Social Science Professions	
POLS 3300	Comparative Politics	3
or POLS 3400	International Relations	
Select one of the following:		3
POLS 3520	Introduction to Political Philosophy	
PHIL 4120	Ethics and Public Policy	
PHIL 4220	Ethics and Public Administration	
International Affairs electives		21

Comparative Politics

POLS 4300	European Politics
POLS 4301	The European Union
POLS 4310	Politics in Russia
POLS 4320	Latin American Politics
POLS 4330	African Politics
POLS 4350	Politics in Developing Nations
POLS 4370	Comparative Constitutional Law and Judicial Politics
POLS 4390	Constitutional Law and Judicial Politics of the European Union
POLS 4830	Special Topics in Comparative Politics
POLS 4831	Special Topics in EU Politics

International Relations

POLS 4400	International Organization and Law
POLS 4410	American Foreign Policy
POLS 4420	Global Security Policy
POLS 4430	National Security Administration and Policy
POLS 4442	Model UN II: Negotiation and Diplomacy
POLS 4450	Comparative Environmental Politics and Policy
POLS 4840	Special Topics in International Politics

EURO Studies

EURO 3234	Introduction to the EU
EURO 4130	European Union Law and Legal Systems
EURO 4160	Federalism and Multilevel Governance in the EU
EURO 4230	Doing Business in the EU
EURO 4260	European Monetary Union
EURO 4330	European Union Science and Technology Policy
EURO 4430	European Union Environmental Policy
EURO 4530	European Social Policy
EURO 4630	Communications and Media in the European Union
EURO 4730	European Union Foreign Policy
EURO 4760	United States-European Union Relations
EURO 4830	European Union Studies Capstone Course

General Political Science Electives

6

POLS 3210	United States Congress
POLS 3220	Elections, Voting Behavior, and Political Parties
POLS 3230	Political Psychology
POLS 3270	Public Opinion and Political Socialization
POLS 3290	The American Presidency

Minor and/or Elective Courses

18

Total Hours required for the degree	120
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Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in Political Science -- Pre-Law Track

Code	Title	Hours
Core Curriculum		60
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum)		42
Core Field of Study		18
PHIL 2020	Principles of Logic and Argumentation	3
POLS 2101	Introduction to Political Science	3
POLS 2401	Introduction to Global Issues	3
Foreign Languages and Cultures		6
Select one of the following:		3

HIST 1011 or HIST 1011H	History of Civilization I Honors History of Civilization I	
AFAM 2020 or WGST 2020	Race, Class, and Gender	
GEOG 1100	Introduction to Geography	
GEOG 1102	World Regional Geography	
SOCI 1160	Introduction to Social Problems	
Senior College Curriculum		60
Required Courses		12
POLS 3100	Scope and Methods of Political Science	3
POLS 3240	American Judicial Process and Behavior	3
POLS 4100	Political Science Capstone Course	3
POLS 3000 or ENGL 3030	Writing in Political Science Writing for the Legal and Social Science Professions	3
Select 5 of the following courses:		15
POLS 4200	American Constitutional Law I	
POLS 4202	American Constitutional Law II	
POLS 4203	American Constitutional Law III	
POLS 4220	Administrative Law and Government	
POLS 4240	Politics and the Supreme Court	
POLS 4820	Special Topics in U.S. Government and Politics	
Select 5 of the following courses:		15
POLS 3200	American State and Local Government and Politics	
POLS 3210	United States Congress	
POLS 3220	Elections, Voting Behavior, and Political Parties	
POLS 3230	Political Psychology	
POLS 3270	Public Opinion and Political Socialization	
POLS 3280	African American Politics	
POLS 3290	The American Presidency	
POLS 3530	American Political Thought	
POLS 4270	Southern Politics	
ORGL 3220	Business Entities	
ORGL 4280	Health Care Law	
Minor and General Electives		18
Total Hours required for the degree		120

The Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate Track

The Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate Track is an undergraduate-to-graduate degree program. Students in this track will complete up to 9 hours of graduate course work at the 7000 level in Public Administration that will count toward the completion of the undergraduate degree in Organizational Leadership. These 9 hours may then be applied toward the completion of degree requirements for the Master of Public Administration degree upon admission to the graduate program at Valdosta State University.

To be admitted to the Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate degree program, students

1. must have completed the courses listed below and have earned a minimum grade of B (or course equivalent),
2. acquired a cumulative VSU GPA of 3.0 or higher;
3. submit a personal statement not to exceed 5 pages describing how the program will assist the students to achieve their goals;
4. submit to the PADM/ORGL Program Coordinator the Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate application, two letters of recommendation from VSU Political Science faculty, a current resume, and a writing sample from an ORGL/POLS course to demonstrate writing skills.

Once admitted to the program, a specific course of study will be developed with the student's undergraduate advisor, as the student can take one or more graduate courses to complete the undergraduate degree (summer, fall, and/or spring terms once the student is admitted to the Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate track).

Graduate courses taken as an undergraduate will count toward the student's undergraduate degree requirements but will not count toward the student's undergraduate GPA or the calculation of academic honors.

Upon admission to the Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate Track, students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 to remain in good standing. Students who do not remain in good standing or who do not wish to continue with the track may complete the remaining requirements for the B.S. in Organization Leadership.

Successful completion of the Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate Track requires that the student earn a grade of B or better in all graduate-level coursework. A grade of C earned in a graduate course can still be used for credit toward the undergraduate degree, but such a grade will affect the student's graduate GPA as a grade of C creates one deficiency point at the graduate level.

Once a student graduates with the B.S. in Political Science, she/he/they must submit the VSU graduate application form to continue the M.P.A. degree.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Political Science Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate Track

Code	Title	Hours
Core Curriculum		60
Core IMPACTS (See VSU Core Curriculum)		42
Core Field of Study		18
PHIL 2020	Principles of Logic and Argumentation	3
POLS 2101	Introduction to Political Science	3
POLS 2401	Introduction to Global Issues	3
Foreign Language and Culture		9
If a student has taken any of the above courses to meet requirements in other areas of the Core Curriculum, credit hours must be taken from the following list of courses: PHIL 2010, all other Social Science area courses		
Senior College Curriculum		60
Courses Required for the Major		9
POLS 3000 or ENGL 3030	Writing in Political Science Writing for the Legal and Social Science Professions	
POLS 3100	Scope and Methods of Political Science	
POLS 4100	Political Science Capstone Course	
PADM 7300	Foundations Seminar in Public Administration (counts as POLS 3600)	3
Select one of the following:		3
POLS 3520	Introduction to Political Philosophy	
PHIL 4120	Ethics and Public Policy	
PHIL 4220	Ethics and Public Administration	
Select two undergraduate and two graduate courses from the following:		12
POLS 3200 or PADM 7350	American State and Local Government and Politics Intergovernmental Management	
POLS 3610 or PADM 7600	Public Administration and Public Policy Formation Public Policy Formation	
POLS 4600 or PADM 7170	Government Organization and Administrative Theory Organizational Theory and Behavior	
POLS 4610 or PADM 7000	Public Personnel Administration Human Resource Management	
POLS 4620 or PADM 7140	Public Finance Administration Governmental Budgeting and Finance	
POLS 4865 or PADM 7040	Nonprofit Organization Management Non-Profit Management	
Select 4 other POLS senior-level undergraduate courses		12
Minor and/or elective courses		21
Total Hours Required for the Degree		120