

POLITICAL SCIENCE - 5-YEAR BACHELOR OF ARTS AND MASTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE ADMINISTRATION

This program combines the teaching of analytical thinking skills and applications to better understand human behavior as it relates to public policy and management along with skills in leadership and research methods.

Program Requirements

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
BUSH 141	Bush Undergraduate Success Hub ¹	3
ENGL 104	Composition and Rhetoric ¹	3
POLS 206	American National Government ¹	3
Foreign language ²		4
Mathematics ³		3
Semester Credit Hours		16

Spring

POLS 207	State and Local Government ¹	3
American history (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3
Foreign language ²		4
Mathematics ³		3
Humanities directed elective (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/government-public-service/)		3
Semester Credit Hours		16

Second Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
POLS 200	Foundations of Political Science ¹	3
American history (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3
Creative arts (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts)		3
Foreign language ²		3
Life and physical sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)		3
Humanities directed elective (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/government-public-service/)		3
Semester Credit Hours		18

Spring

POLS 209	Introduction to Political Science Research ^{1,4}	3
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Communication (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication)	3
Foreign language ²	3
Life and physical sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Social and behavioral sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences) ⁵	3
General elective ⁶	3

Semester Credit Hours 18

Third Year

Fall

Select two of the following: ¹		6
POLS 203	Introduction to Political Theory	
POLS 229	Introduction to Comparative Politics	
POLS 231	Introduction to World Politics	
POLS 233	Politics and Policy in the United States	
Language, philosophy and culture (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture)		3
Life and physical sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)		3
Social and behavioral sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences) ⁵		3
General elective ⁶		1

Semester Credit Hours 16

Spring

Select one of the following: ¹		3
POLS 203	Introduction to Political Theory	
POLS 229	Introduction to Comparative Politics	
POLS 231	Introduction to World Politics	
POLS 233	Politics and Policy in the United States	
Political Science elective (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/pols/) ^{1,7}		3
Political Science elective (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/pols/) ^{1,7}		3
Humanities directed elective (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/government-public-service/)		3
General elective ⁶		3
General elective ⁶		3

Semester Credit Hours 18

Fourth Year

Fall

BUSH 631	Quantitative Methods in Public Management I ⁸	3
PSAA 601	Foundations of Public Service ⁹	3
PSAA 621	Economic Analysis ⁹	3
PSAA 643	Foundations of the Nonprofit Sector ⁹	3

Semester Credit Hours 12

Spring

PSAA 611	Public Policy Formation ⁸	3
BUSH elective ⁸		3
BUSH elective ¹⁰		3
PSAA elective ¹⁰		3
Semester Credit Hours		12

Fifth Year**Fall**

PSAA 675	Public Service and Administration Capstone Seminar	3
BUSH/PSAA elective ¹⁰		3
BUSH/PSAA elective ¹⁰		3
PSAA elective ¹⁰		3
Semester Credit Hours		12

Spring

PSAA 676	Public Service and Administration Capstone Seminar II	3
PSAA elective ¹⁰		3
PSAA elective ¹⁰		3
PSAA elective ¹⁰		3
Semester Credit Hours		12
Total Semester Credit Hours		150

The program includes a total of 168 hours which up to 18 hours may be applied toward both the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and the Master of Public Service Administration.

Graduation requirements include a requirement for 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>) courses. A course satisfying a Core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. Select in consultation with an academic advisor.

¹ Must make a grade of C or better.

² Complete 14 hours of a foreign language (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/government-public-service/>) through the intermediate level. If you choose to enroll in a language you have studied previously without receiving college credit, you must first take a placement test. Select in consultation with an academic advisor.

³ Select from MATH 140, MATH 142, MATH 151, MATH 152; PHIL 240.

⁴ Students must complete this course before taking more than 6 hours of 300- or 400-level courses in Political Science.

⁵ POLS 100-499 (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/pols/>) cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.

⁶ Select from any 100-499 course not used elsewhere including BUSH 632, BUSH 635, PSAA 630, PSAA 622, PSAA 634; 6 hours PSAA 600-699 (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/course-descriptions/psaa/>); (excluding POLS 100-499 (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/pols/>)).

⁷ Select from POLS 100-499 (exclude POLS 206, POLS 207, POLS 209, POLS 308-POLS 309); BUSH 631; PSAA 601, PSAA 611, PSAA 621.

⁸ Course counted towards the general electives of the BA program.

⁹ Course counted towards the Political Science electives of the BA program.

¹⁰ BUSH school graduate advisor will assist with BUSH/PSAA course selection for chosen track in the graduate program.

No more than 36 credits in political science may be applied to the degree.

Other courses may qualify for the college and university requirements. Student should consult the approved list of courses in the Undergraduate Student Services Office. No course can be counted in more than one category.

Students are reclassified as degree seeking master's students typically in the second year of the graduate portion of this program.