

Criminal Justice and Political Science, BS

This combined major educates students in criminal justice and political science and in the interface between the two disciplines. The scope and sequence of political science courses provide students with a foundation in topics such as American government, comparative politics, international relations, and security and resilience. Criminal justice courses provide a foundation for understanding individual and systemic aspects of criminology and criminal justice. Students completing this program should be able to understand the relationships between the fields as they relate to understanding and addressing criminal behavior.

Program Requirements

- Concentrations and course offerings may vary by campus and/or by program modality. Please consult with your advisor or admissions coach for the course availability each term at your campus or within your program modality.
- Certain options within the program may be *required* at certain campuses or for certain program modalities. Please consult with your advisor or admissions coach for requirements at your campus or for your program modality.

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/>).

NUpath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUpath Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/>).

Criminal Justice Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Introduction to Crime, Law, and the Justice System		
What do we know about crime and justice? In these three courses, students have an opportunity to develop a foundational understanding of three related phenomena: why crime exists, how our criminal justice system responds to crime, and the constitutional and legal oversight of this process.		
CRIM 1100	Introduction to Criminal Justice	4
CRIM 1110	Criminal Due Process	4
CRIM 1120	Criminology	4
Current Crime and Justice Issues		
These courses introduce students to topical issues related to crime and justice.		
Complete one of the following:		4
CRIM 1300	The Death Penalty	
CRIM 1400	Human Trafficking	
CRIM 1500	Corruption, Integrity, and Accountability	
CRIM 1700	Crime, Media, and Politics	
Understanding and Experiencing Criminal Justice Institutions and Systems		
How does justice work and for whom? These courses introduce students to the systems and institutions tasked with providing justice. Each includes experiential learning components in cooperation with local criminal justice institutions.		
Complete one of the following:		4
CRIM 2310	Courts: The Third Branch of Government	
CRIM 2320	Youth Crime and Justice	
CRIM 2330	Punishment in the Age of Mass Incarceration	
CRIM 2340	Corporate Security: Securing the Private Sector	
CRIM 2350	Policing a Democratic Society	
CRIM 2370	Restorative Justice: Transforming the System	
CRIM 2380	Black Families and Incarceration	
Crime Problems		

The following courses provide students a deeper look at a range of crime problems.

Complete one of the following:

4

CRIM 3010	Criminal Violence
CRIM 3030	Global Criminology
CRIM 3040	Psychology of Crime
CRIM 3050	Organized Crime
CRIM 3060	Political Crime and Terrorism
CRIM 3070	Corporate and White-Collar Crime
CRIM 3100	Criminal Law
CRIM 3540	Addiction and Recovery

Systemic Issues

A consideration of systemic issues facing the criminal justice system.

Complete one of the following:

4

CRIM 3110	Gender, Crime, and Justice
CRIM 3120	Race, Crime, and Justice

Digital Skills

Successful students develop digital skills and master digital tools useful for careers related to crime and justice. Students choose one of two courses (each has a required lab). The computer science course introduces students to spreadsheets and databases. The data science course introduces students to programming with data.

Complete one of the following (and the appropriate lab):

4 or 5

CS 1100 and CS 1101	Computer Science and Its Applications and Lab for CS 1100
DS 2000 and DS 2001	Programming with Data and Data Science Programming Practicum (Social Science Practicum section)

Political Science Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Political Science Requirements		
POLS 1150	American Government	4
POLS 1155	Comparative Politics	4
POLS 1160	International Relations	4
Political Theory		
Complete one of the following:		4
POLS 2325	Ancient Philosophy and Political Thought	
POLS 2328	Modern Political Thought	
POLS 2330	American Political Thought	
POLS 2332	Contemporary Political Thought	

Research Methods and Electives

Complete Option A, Option B, or Option C, below. *Note:* These options enable the student to take research methods courses (including statistics/quantitative techniques) as either CRIM courses or as POLS courses.

OPTION A

Code	Title	Hours
Research Methods		
CRIM 3600	Criminal Justice Research Methods	4
CRIM 3700	Analyzing and Using Data on Crime and Justice	4
Criminal Justice Electives		
Complete two additional courses in the following range:		8
CRIM 3001 to CRIM 5999		
Political Science Electives		
Complete five courses in the following range:		20
POLS 2000 to POLS 5999		

OPTION B

Code	Title	Hours
Research Methods		
POLS 2399	Research Methods in Political Science	4
POLS 2400	Quantitative Techniques	4
Criminal Justice Electives		
Complete three additional courses in the following range:		12
CRIM 3001 to CRIM 5999		
Political Science Electives		
Complete four courses in the following range:		20
POLS 2000 to POLS 5999		

OPTION C

Code	Title	Hours
Research Methods		
Complete one of the following sequences:		8
CRIM 3600 and POLS 2400	Criminal Justice Research Methods and Quantitative Techniques	
CRIM 3700 and POLS 2399	Analyzing and Using Data on Crime and Justice and Research Methods in Political Science	
Criminal Justice Electives		
Complete two additional courses in the following range:		8
CRIM 3001 to CRIM 5999		
Political Science Electives		
Complete four courses in the following range:		20
POLS 2000 to POLS 5999		

Political Science Concentrations (Optional)

If you are working toward one of the following concentrations, declare it with your advisor so that it may be added to your record. Requirements for the concentrations are listed below (p. 4).

- American Political Institutions (p. 4)
- Campaigns and Elections (p. 4)
- Comparative Politics (p. 4)
- Identity, Culture, and Politics (p. 5)
- International Relations and Diplomacy (p. 5)
- Law and Legal Studies (p. 5)
- Public Policy (p. 5)
- Security Studies (p. 6)

Integrative Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Senior Capstone Requirement		
CRIM 4949 or POLS 4701	Senior Capstone Seminar Political Science Senior Capstone	4
Due Process		
CRIM 1110	Criminal Due Process	4
Integrative Elective Courses		
Complete two of the following:		8
CRIM 1700	Crime, Media, and Politics	
CRIM 2310	Courts: The Third Branch of Government	
CRIM 4120	Courts and Sentencing	
POLS 3302	Judicial Process and Behavior	
POLS 3324	Law and Society	

POLS 4500	U.S. Constitutional Law
POLS 4505	U.S. Civil Liberties

Combined Major Credit Requirement

Complete 84 semester hours in the major.

Experiential Liberal Arts

All students in this College of Social Sciences and Humanities program are required to complete the Experiential Liberal Arts Requirement (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/#ela>).

Program Requirement

128 total semester hours required

Political Science Concentrations (Optional)

CONCENTRATION IN AMERICAN POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

Code	Title	Hours
Complete four of the following:		16
POLS 2350	State and Local Politics	
POLS 3300	The U.S. Congress	
POLS 3302	Judicial Process and Behavior	
POLS 3307	Public Policy and Administration	
POLS 3310	Public Opinion, Voting, and Elections	
POLS 3160	Campaign Strategy	

CONCENTRATION IN CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
POLS 3160	Campaign Strategy	4
POLS 3302	Judicial Process and Behavior	4
Campaigns and Elections Electives		
Complete two of the following:		8
POLS 2345	Urban Policies and Politics	
POLS 2350	State and Local Politics	
POLS 3162		
POLS 3310	Public Opinion, Voting, and Elections	
POLS 3320	Politics and Mass Media	

CONCENTRATION IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Code	Title	Hours
Theoretical Requirement		
Complete two of the following:		8
POLS 2282	The Holocaust and Comparative Genocide	
POLS 2356	Democratic Erosion	
POLS 2359	Immigration Politics	
POLS 2370	Religion and Politics	
POLS 3418	Nationalism	
POLS 3430	Revolution, Civil War, and Insurrection	
POLS 3487	Politics of Developing Nations	
Regional Requirements		
Complete one of the following:		4
POLS 3435	Politics and Governance of Europe and the European Union	
POLS 3465	Government and Politics in the Middle East	
Experiential/Practicum Requirement		

Complete one of the following:

4

POLS 4915	Model Arab League
POLS 4918	Model NATO
POLS 4937	Dialogue of Civilizations: Government and Politics Abroad

CONCENTRATION IN IDENTITY, CULTURE, AND POLITICS

Code	Title	Hours
Core Course		
POLS 3418	Nationalism	4

Electives

Complete three of the following:

12

POLS 2359	Immigration Politics
POLS 2368	Music and Politics in America and Abroad
POLS 2370	Religion and Politics
POLS 3309	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues in Public Policy
POLS 3324	Law and Society

CONCENTRATION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

Code	Title	Hours
Experiential/Practicum Requirement		

Complete one of the following:

4

POLS 4910	Model United Nations
POLS 4915	Model Arab League
POLS 4938	Dialogue of Civilizations: International Politics Abroad

Core Courses

Complete three of the following:

12

POLS 3405	International Political Economy
POLS 3406	International Law
POLS 3435	Politics and Governance of Europe and the European Union
POLS 5408	International Security

CONCENTRATION IN LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES

Code	Title	Hours
Complete four of the following:		

16

POLS 2330	American Political Thought
POLS 3300	The U.S. Congress
POLS 3302	Judicial Process and Behavior
POLS 3323	Race, Inequality, and the Law
POLS 3324	Law and Society
POLS 3406	International Law
POLS 3409	Global Governance
POLS 4500	U.S. Constitutional Law
POLS 4505	U.S. Civil Liberties

CONCENTRATION IN PUBLIC POLICY

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirement		

POLS 3307	Public Policy and Administration	4
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Electives

Complete three of the following:

12

POLS 2345	Urban Policies and Politics
POLS 2350	State and Local Politics
POLS 2390	Science, Technology, and Public Policy

POLS 2395	Environmental Politics and Policy
POLS 3425	U.S. Foreign Policy

CONCENTRATION IN SECURITY STUDIES

Code	Title	Hours
Complete four of the following:		16
POLS 3420	U.S. National Security Policy	
POLS 3423	Terrorism and Counterterrorism	
POLS 3425	U.S. Foreign Policy	
POLS 3430	Revolution, Civil War, and Insurrection	
POLS 3487	Politics of Developing Nations	
POLS 5408	International Security	

Plan of Study
Sample Plan of Study: Four Years, Two Co-Ops

Year 1							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
CRIM 1100		4 POLS 1155		4 Elective		4 CRIM Elective	4
CS 1100		4 CRIM Elective		4 Elective		4 POLS Elective	4
CS 1101		1 POLS Elective		4			
POLS 1150		4 Elective		4			
POLS 1160		4					
	17		16		8		8
Year 2							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
CRIM 1110		4 Co-op		Co-op		CRIM Elective	4
CRIM 1120		4				POLS Elective	4
Elective		4					
Elective		4					
	16		0		0		8
Year 3							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
CRIM 3700		4 Co-op		Co-op		Elective	4
POLS 2400		4				Elective	4
Elective		4					
Elective		4					
	16		0		0		8
Year 4							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours				
CRIM Advanced Elective		4 POLS 4701		4			
POLS Advanced Elective		4 Integrative Course 2		4			
Integrative Course 1		4 Elective		4			
Elective		4 Elective		4			
	16		16				

Total Hours: 129