

Political Science and Human Services, BA

The BA Political Science and Human Services program seeks to prepare students with skills and tools to advocate for social issues at all levels of society. Human services program students are well positioned to pursue fields in the social change arena (nongovernment organizations, or NGOs; counseling; and political advocacy). Political science students are also well positioned to change and shape the domestic and international political landscape in American politics, comparative politics, international relations, and public policy. Students engage in an integrated educational program that emphasizes experiential approaches to learning through service-learning, co-op, internship, and study-abroad opportunities. Upon completion of the degree, students can apply professional skills in counseling roles, nonprofit management, political advocacy, or organizational and community development. The program is designed to prepare students to pursue admission to law school, admission to graduate school, or careers in government and the nonprofit sector, as well as careers in teaching, journalism, legislative or lobbying positions, public relations activities, and work in international corporations and NGOs.

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/>).

BA Language Requirements

All BA students are required to complete the BA degree language requirements, for a total of 12 semester hours of language study or demonstrated equivalent proficiency, as described in Additional Requirements for BA students (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/ba-requirements/>). Successful demonstration of proficiency does not reduce total minimum semester hours of study required to earn the BA degree.

NUpath Requirements

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

Political Science Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses in Political Science		
POLS 1150	American Government	4
POLS 1155	Comparative Politics	4
POLS 1160	International Relations	4
POLS 2400	Quantitative Techniques	4
Political Thought		
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	
Political Science Electives		
<i>Note: Elective courses may also fulfill requirements of an optional concentration of this program.</i>		
Complete three courses in the following range:		12
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.

- American Political Institutions (p. 3)
- Campaigns and Elections (p. 3)
- Comparative Politics (p. 3)
- Identity, Culture, and Politics (p. 4)
- International Relations and Diplomacy (p. 4)
- Law and Legal Studies (p. 4)
- Public Policy (p. 4)
- Security Studies (p. 5)

Supporting Course for Political Science

Code	Title	Hours
Mathematics		
Complete one of the following to fulfill the prerequisite for POLS 2400:		4
MATH 1213	Interactive Mathematics	
MATH 1215	Mathematical Thinking	
MATH 1231	Calculus for Business and Economics	
MATH 1241	Calculus 1	

Human Services Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
HUSV 1101	Social Change and Human Services	4
HUSV 2300	Counseling in Human Services	4
HUSV 3570	The Nonprofit Sector, Philanthropy, and Social Change	4
HUSV 4994	Human Services Internship	6
Human Services and Diverse Populations		
Complete one of the following:		4
HUSV 2355	Race, Identity, Social Change, and Empowerment	
HUSV 2800	Sexual Orientation and Gender Expression	
HUSV 2960	Intercultural Studies through Human Services	
Human Services Electives		
Complete three HUSV courses.		12

Integrative Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Integrative Courses		
POLS 3307	Public Policy and Administration	4
HUSV 3900	Social Policy	4
Research Methods		
Complete one of the following:		4
POLS 2399	Research Methods in Political Science	
HUSV 2970	Research Methods for Human Services	
INSH 3101	Research Methods in the Social Sciences	
Capstone and Elective		
Complete one of the following options:		8
<i>Option A</i>		
Complete POLS 4701 or POLS 4703 and complete one additional human services course that has not been used in previous requirements:		
POLS 4701	Political Science Senior Capstone	
or POLS 4703	Senior Thesis	
HUSV 2000 to HUSV 5999		

Option B

Complete HUSV 4700 and complete one additional political science course numbered 2300 or higher that has not been used in previous requirements:

HUSV 4700 Senior Seminar in Human Services

POLS 2000 to POLS 5999

Political Science and Human Services Combined Major Credit Requirement

Complete 86 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

Concentrations

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
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Core Course

POLS 3418	Nationalism	4
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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
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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
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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
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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

Year 1									
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours	
POLS 1155		4 POLS 1150		4 Vacation		Vacation			
ENGW 1111		4 POLS 1160		4					
HUSV 1000 or POLS 1000		1 HUSV 2300		4					
HUSV 1101		4 Foreign Language		4					
HUSV elective		4							
		17	16		0		0		
Year 2									
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours	
EESH 2000		1 Co-op		0 Co-op		0 Foreign language		4	
POLS thought		4				POLS 2400 supporting course		4	
HS Diverse Populations Course		4							
Research Methods course		4							
HUSV elective		4							
		17	0		0		8		
Year 3									
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours	
POLS 2400		4 Co-op		0 Co-op		0 POLS elective		4	
Foreign Language		4				HUSV elective		4	
POLS 3307		4							
HUSV 3900		4							
		16	0		0		8		
Year 4									
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours	
Capstone and Elective		8 POLS elective		4 Vacation		Vacation			
HUSV 4700 and 1 POLS course (Option A) or POLS 4701 (or POLS 4703) and 1 HUSV course (Option B)		HUSV 3570		4					
POLS elective		4 Elective		4					
Foreign language		4 Elective		4					
		16	16		0		0		
Year 5									
Fall	Hours								
HUSV 4994		6							

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Elective	4
Elective	4
	14

Total Hours: 128