

Political Science and Philosophy, BA

The combined major in political science and philosophy is designed to enable students to develop an integrated understanding of politics, political theory, ethical theory, and theories of justice. Students who complete the major will have the training to critically evaluate and assess public policies and social issues on both political and ethical grounds, including issues such as tax policy, immigration, environmental protection, trade policy, healthcare, education, defense policy, and much more.

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 2399	Research Methods in Political Science	4
POLS 2400	Quantitative Techniques	4
Political Thought Courses		
Complete two of the following:		8
POLS 2328	Modern Political Thought	
POLS 2330	American Political Thought	
POLS 2332	Contemporary Political Thought	
Political Science Electives		
<i>Note: You may use these four courses from the elective area to fulfill a concentration.</i>		
Complete four courses in the following range:		16
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.

- American Political Institutions (p. 2)
- Campaigns and Elections (p. 3)

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- Comparative Politics (p. 3)
- Identity, Culture, and Politics (p. 3)
- International Relations and Diplomacy (p. 3)
- Law and Legal Studies (p. 4)
- Public Policy (p. 4)
- Security Studies (p. 4)

Philosophy Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Philosophy Required Courses		
PHIL 1115	Introduction to Logic	4
PHIL 2303	Social and Political Philosophy	4
PHIL 2325	Ancient Philosophy and Political Thought	4
or POLS 2325	Ancient Philosophy and Political Thought	
PHIL 2330	Modern Philosophy	4
Advanced Philosophy Electives		
Complete two PHIL courses with a designation of 3000 or above, not used to satisfy another requirement, and at least one at the 4000 or 5000 level.		8
Critical Philosophy Elective		
Complete one of the following courses not used to fulfill other requirements:		4
AFCS 1101	Introduction to African American and Africana Studies	
PHIL 1104	Goddesses, Witches, Saints, and Sinners: Women and Religion	
PHIL 1271	Sex in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam	
PHIL 2155	Human Rights	
PHIL 2492	Indigenous Philosophy	
PHIL 2619	Race and Religion in Film	
PHIL 3500	Sexuality, Gender, and the Law	
PHIL 3822	Philosophy of Race and Racism	
Additional Electives		
Complete two additional PHIL courses not used to satisfy other requirements.		8

Integrative Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following:		
PHIL 5001	Global Justice	4
or PHIL 5002	Ethics and Public Policy	
or PHIL 3512	Religion, Race, and Politics	

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 semester hours required

CONCENTRATION IN AMERICAN POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

Code	Title	Hours
Complete four of the following:		
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
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 in Spring/Summer 1**

Year 1							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ENGW 1111		4 MATH 1215		4 PHIL 2325 or POLS 2325		4 Vacation	
PHIL 1115		4 POLS 1150		4 Elective		4	
POLS 1000		1 POLS 1160		4			
POLS 1155		4 Foreign language		4			
POLS elective		4					
		17			16		
					8		
						0	

Year 2								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
PHIL 2330		4 Co-op		0 Co-op		0 Foreign language		4
POLS 2399		4				Elective		4
POLS thought course		4						
Foreign language		4						
		16		0		0		8
Year 3								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
PHIL 2303		4 Co-op		0 Co-op		0 PHIL elective		4
PHIL 5001		4				Elective		4
POLS 2400		4						
PHIL restricted elective		4						
		16		0		0		8
Year 4								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
PHIL elective		4 PHIL restricted elective		4 PHIL elective		4		
POLS thought course		4 Critical philosophy elective		4 Elective		4		
POLS elective		4 POLS elective		4				
POLS elective		4 Elective		4				
		16		16		8		

Total Hours: 129