Political Science A.A. Degree - general

FULL TIME

This program roadmap represents one possible pathway to complete the program. **Please see a counselor** to create an education plan that is customized to meet your needs. This roadmap is not a guarantee of course availability or financial aid applicability.

Catalog: 2026-27

GE Pattern: Cal-GETC

Total Units: 60

First Year

Semester 1

15 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	POLS C1000 Introduction to Government: United States **or** POLS C1000H[H] Introduction to Government: United States - Honors	3 3		4
GE	ENGL C1000 College Composition **or** ENGL C1000H[H] Honors College Composition	3 3		1A
GE	PSYC 330 Introductory Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	3		2
GE	any Area 3A (Arts) course	3		3A
Elec	any transferable elective course	3		

Semester 2

15 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	POLS 310 Introduction to International Relations **or** POLS 480[H] Introduction to International Relations - Honors	3 3		
Req	POLS 320 Introduction to Political Theory	3		
GE	any Area 1B (Critical Thinking and Composition) course	3		1B
GE	any Area 3B (Humanities) course	3		3B
GE	any Area 5B (Biological Sciences) course	3		5B

TRANSFER PATH

Potential Transfer Majors:

- Political Science B.A.
- Government B.A.

Potential Career/Options After Completing a Bachelor's Degree:

- advocate/organizer
- campaign worker
- diplomat
- educator/teacher
- events planner
- foreign affairs specialist
- lawyer
- legislative aide
- lobbyist
- political consultant
- public relations specialist

Advising Notes:

- This degree can be completed using either the local AA/AS general education (GE) pattern or the Cal-GETC transfer GE pattern. See a counselor to determine which pattern is best for you based on your academic goals.
- This map is recommended for students interested in political science not focusing on international relations.

Second Year

Semester 3

15 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	POLS 302 Comparative Politics	3		
RE	POLS 330[1] Constitutional Rights	3		
GE	any Area 1C (Oral Communication) course	3		1C
GE	any Area 6 (Ethnic Studies) course	3		6
Elec	any transferable elective course	3		

[1] or POLS 304 *(Introduction to Government: California)*

Semester 4

15 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
RE	POLS 342 Women and Politics from a Global Perspective	3		
GE	any Area 4 (Social & Behavioral Sciences) course in a discipline other than POLS	3		4
GE	any Area 5A (Physical Sciences) course	3		5A
GE	any Area 5C (Science Lab) course[2]	1		5C
Elec	any transferable elective course	3		
Elec	any transferable elective course	2		

[2] The Area 5C (Science Lab) course must correspond with either the Area 5A (Physical Sciences) or Area 5B (Biological Sciences) course and must be taken concurrently or after the lecture course.

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES		
Req	Required Core	A course that is required for this program
GE	General Education	A course that fulfills a specific general education requirement for a degree, which can be replaced with another course that meets the same requirement
Elec	Degree Elective	A degree-applicable course that is part of a degree roadmap to ensure that there is a total of at least 60 units, which is a requirement for an associate degree

- This map is designed for students who are able to take 12 units or more each semester, which is considered a full-time load. It shows one possible way to finish the program in two years. See a counselor to adjust the coursework to meet your specific needs.
- Students can substitute ESLW 340 for ENGL C1000/C1000H (formerly known as ENGWR 300/480).
- **Transferable Elective Courses:** any elective courses numbered 300-499, or having a 4-digit number starting with C.
- It is highly recommended that POLS 302 and POLS 310 be taken in different semesters.
- It is highly recommended that POLS C1000 and other POLS courses be taken in-person rather than online.

Scheduling Notes:

- POLS 304, 320, 330, and 342 are offered in varying semesters. Two of them are offered each semester. See the course schedule for their availability.

Other Notes to Students Preparing to Transfer:

- See ASSIST.ORG for the transfer requirements of the institution to which you plan to transfer.
- The CSU system requires every student receiving a bachelor's degree to be knowledgeable about the Constitution of the United States, American history, and state and local government. This requirement is generally known as the American Institutions requirement. Students can complete this requirement at ARC before transferring. See a counselor for a list of approved courses.

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES		
RE	Restricted Elective	A course selected from a list of elective courses specified for this program in the course list in the catalog, which can be replaced with another course from the same list

Honors Courses (H):

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or better who complete 15 or more units of Honors coursework earn an Honors Transfer Certificate and can take advantage of honors-to-honors transfer agreements with highly selective colleges and universities, both public and private.

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