



Bachelor of Science

Major: Political Science

2023-2024 Sample 4-Year Plan

Total Degree Requirements: 120 credits

Student _____ Student ID# _____ Student Phone # _____

Advisor _____ Minimum GPA 2.0 Minor/Career Interest(s) _____

Students are not limited to this plan; it is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes in consultation with your advisor. The sample schedule is one possible path to completing your degree within four years. For official program requirements, please refer to the [Undergraduate Catalog](#).

First Year

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
AHSS 192	Introduction to American and Global Studies		1		
ENGL 101	Composition I (SGR #1)	p. Placement	3		
POLS 100	American Government (SGR #3)		3		
POLS 101	Introduction to Political Science		3		
POLS 253	Current World Problems		3		
SGR #2	Oral Communication		3		
Total Credit Hours			16		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
General Electives			3		
ENGL 201	Composition II (SGR #1)	p. ENGL 101	3		
POLS Elective	POLS 102 American Political Issues OR POLS 141 Governments of the World		3		
SGR #3	Social Sciences	SGR#3 Non POLS	3		
SGR #6	Natural Sciences		3-4		
Total Credit Hours			15-16		

Second Year

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
POLS 388	Research Methods	p. ENGL 201 and POLS 100	3	F	
POLS Elective			3		
SGR #4	Humanities	SGR#4 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines or one Modern Language sequence.	3-4		
SGR #5	Mathematics	p. Placement	3		
SGR #6	Natural Sciences		3-4		
Total Credit Hours			15-16		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
POLS Elective			3		
General Electives		Taken as needed to complete degree requirements	3		
Minor/2 nd Major Course			3		
Natural Sciences		See AHSS Natural Science list in the catalog.	3		
SGR #4	Humanities	SGR#4 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines or one Modern Language sequence.	3-4		
Total Credit Hours			15-16		



Third Year

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
POLS Elective			6		
Minor/2 nd Major Course			3		
General Electives		Taken as needed to complete degree requirements	6		
Total Credit Hours			15		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
POLS Elective			6		
Minor/2 nd Major Course			3		
General Electives		Taken as needed to complete degree requirements	6		
Total Credit Hours			15		

Fourth Year

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
POLS Elective			3		
Minor/2 nd Major Course			6		
General Electives		Taken as needed to complete degree requirements	6		
Total Credit Hours			15		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
POLS 489	Capstone	p. POLS 388	3		
Minor/2 nd Major Course			3		
General Electives		Taken as needed to complete degree requirements	6-9		
Total Credit Hours			12-15		

Comments/Notes

Students from all academic majors can pursue graduation with Fishback Honors College distinction. View the [Honors program requirements](#).

As part of the Political Science major, students in this program must complete:

- 18 upper division major credits, including at least 3 non-U.S credits.
- all major classes with a grade of C or higher

As part of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, students in this program must complete:

- a minimum of 33 upper division credits (300-400 level courses)
- a capstone course in their major
- a minor, second major, or teaching specialization

Testing into a higher-level language course may reduce time to graduation. To begin coursework above the 101 level, take the free modern language placement test at <https://www.sdstate.edu/school-american-and-global-studies/language-placement-information> Students with any modern language experience are strongly encouraged to complete the placement test.