ABOUT THE MAJOR
The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) with a Major in Political Science at the University of West Georgia offers a course of study leading to an Undergraduate Degree in Political Science. This is our most popular degree program. For the B.S. degree students take one course in each of the four main areas of Political Science: American Government, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. Students complete the major with six additional courses in areas of their choosing. Students can select from the four fields above as well as courses in Public Administration, policy analysis, data analytics, and law. Students complete their coursework by taking a capstone seminar during their senior year.

ABOUT THIS MAP
This program map is intended ONLY as a guide for students to plan their course of study. It does NOT replace any information in the Undergraduate Catalog, which is the official guide for completing degree requirements. Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UWG, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

WHERE CAN YOU GO WITH THIS DEGREE?
- Educator
- Federal, State, and Local Government
- Intelligence and Homeland Security
- Interest Groups
- International and Domestic Business
- International Development
- Local Nonprofit Organization
- Law
- Policy Analyst
- Political Campaigns

ADD A CERTIFICATE
- Human Rights Advocacy
- Nonprofit Management & Community Development
- Public Management

Visit westga.edu/program-maps for the latest version of this major map.

VISIT WOLFWATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION.

HAVE A QUESTION? CHECK IN WITH YOUR ADVISOR!
TERM 1: FALL

A1: ENGL 1101
English Composition I
3 CREDIT HOURS

E3: POLS 1101
American Government
3 CREDIT HOURS

F: PHIL 2020
Critical Thinking
3 CREDIT HOURS

A2: MATH 1401
Elementary Statistics
3 CREDIT HOURS

D1: NON-LAB SCIENCE
3 CREDIT HOURS

MILESTONES:
• POLS 1101 is a prerequisite for all other POLS major courses.

TERM 2: SPRING

A1: ENGL 1102
English Composition II
3 CREDIT HOURS

E1 OR E2
World or US History
3 CREDIT HOURS

D1: SCIENCE + LAB
4 CREDIT HOURS

C1: FINE ARTS
3 CREDIT HOURS

B1: ORAL COMMUNICATION
3 CREDIT HOURS

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 16 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 31 CREDIT HOURS

CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK

• Focus on your core courses to build your foundations.
• Your English and Communication courses will help you with your political science coursework.
• Take POLS 201 - Intro to American Government right away! It’s a prerequisite for all your other political science major courses.

FIND YOUR PLACE

• Get involved with the student government.
• Check out UWG’s Academic Transition Programs.
• Attend Constitution Day at UWG.
• Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research.
• Explore all the other events, clubs, and organizations available to you.

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

• Explore diversity, equity, and inclusion resources and opportunities across campus.
• Check out the education abroad office.

CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS

• Visit Wolves Vote to learn about the voting process and registration.
• Consider volunteering for a campaign or organization in your community.
• Visit the UWG Wellness Hub to find all the resources available to you!
• Visit Health Services.
• Get fit! Visit URec to see all your options.
• Visit the Office of Career and Graduate School and majors are right for you.
• Complete a self-assessment to see what careers and majors are right for you.
• Visit Office of Career and Graduate School Connections.
• Create your profile on Handshake.
• Complete an internship in your field.
• Consider a summer or part-time job.
• Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

• Complete a self-assessment to see what careers and majors are right for you.
• Visit Office of Career and Graduate School Connections.
• Create your profile on Handshake.
• Consider applying for an on-campus job.
• Visit Health Services.
• Get fit! Visit URec to see all your options.
• Consider volunteering for a campaign or organization in your community.
• Visit the UWG Wellness Hub to find all the resources available to you!
• Check out UWG’s Academic Transition Programs.
• Attend Constitution Day at UWG.
• Attend guest lectures hosted by the Murphy Center.
• Attend UWG Scholars’ Day.
• Attend the civic book club.
• Consider whether counseling is right for you: take a mental health screening.
• Take a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
• Consider whether counseling is right for you: take a mental health screening.
• Complete an internship in your field.
• Consider a summer or part-time job.
• Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.

PAVE YOUR PATH

• Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
• Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
• Draft your personal statement.
• Play a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
• Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.
• Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
• Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
• Draft your personal statement.
• Consider applying for an on-campus job.

YEAR 2

TERM 1: FALL

F: POLS 2101
Introduction to Political Science
3 CREDIT HOURS

C2: HUMANITIES
3 CREDIT HOURS

E4: SOCIAL SCIENCE
3 CREDIT HOURS

D2: MATH, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY
3 CREDIT HOURS

B2: OTHER INSTITUTIONAL OPTION
2 CREDIT HOURS

TERM 2: SPRING

E1 OR E2
World or US History
3 CREDIT HOURS

F: POLS 2401
Global Issues
3 CREDIT HOURS

F: POLS 2601
Negotiation
3 CREDIT HOURS

F: MAJOR COURSE
3 CREDIT HOURS

14 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 29 CREDIT HOURS

CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK

• Don’t put off those science and math courses!
• Make sure to mix those in with your other coursework so that you’re developing the skills you need when you need them and not overwhelming yourself in a single semester.
• Identify courses within each area of your major (like comparative, international relations, etc.) that fit with your career goals.

FIND YOUR PLACE

• Thinking about law school? Check out the pre-law society.
• Join the civic book club.
• Attend guest lectures hosted by the Murphy Center.
• Attend UWG Scholars’ Day.
• In a student organization? Suggest you all complete an implicit bias workshop.
• Consider a study abroad program.
• Check out students’ stories of their experiences.

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

• Complete an internship in your field.
• Consider a summer or part-time job.
• Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.
• Take a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
• Consider whether counseling is right for you: take a mental health screening.

CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS

• Play a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
• Consider whether counseling is right for you: take a mental health screening.
• Complete an internship in your field.
• Consider a summer or part-time job.
• Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

• Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
• Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
• Draft your personal statement.
• Visit the Office of Career and Graduate School and majors are right for you.
• Take POLS 2401 - Intro to American Government right away! It’s a prerequisite for all your other political science major courses.

PAVE YOUR PATH

• Draft your resume and attend a resume blitz.
• Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
• Draft your personal statement.
• Visit the Office of Career and Graduate School and majors are right for you.
• Take POLS 2401 - Intro to American Government right away! It’s a prerequisite for all your other political science major courses.
YEAR 3

TERM 1: FALL

POLS 3401
Comparative Politics

POLS 3501
International Politics

POLS 3101
American Politics

GENERAL ELECTIVE

GENERAL ELECTIVE

MAJOR ELECTIVE

Political Analysis
POLS 3601

MILESTONES:

• Don’t put off those science and math courses!
• Make sure to mix those in with your other coursework so that you’re developing the skills you need when you need them and not overwhelming yourself in a single semester.
• Identify courses within each area of your major (like comparative, international relations, etc.) that fit with your career goals.

CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK

• Thinking about law school? Check out the pre-law society.
• Join the civic book club.
• Attend guest lectures hosted by the Murphy Center.
• Attend UWG Scholars’ Day.

FIND YOUR PLACE

• In a student organization? Suggest all complete an implicit bias workshop.
• Consider a study abroad program. Check out students’ stories of their experiences.

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

• Complete an internship in your field.
• Consider a summer or part-time job.
• Ask your department about networking opportunities with alumni.

CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS

• Take a fitness class, climb the rock wall, or join an intramural team.
• Consider whether counseling is right for you; take a mental health screening.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

• Draft your resume and attend a resume builder.
• Learn about how to network on social media and update your Handshake profile.
• Draft your personal statement.
• Visit the graduate school to find out about graduate programs and admission requirements.

PAY YOUR PATH

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30 CREDIT HOURS

TERM 2: SPRING

POLS 3601
Political Analysis

MAJOR ELECTIVE

MAJOR ELECTIVE

GENERAL ELECTIVE

Upper Division Course

MILESTONES:

• POLS 3401, 3501, and 3101 are only illustrative. Students can take POLS 4401, 4406, OR 4517; POLS 4501, Politics, International Politics, and American students can take any course in Comparative Politics.

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30 CREDIT HOURS

YEAR 4

TERM 1: FALL

POLS 4601
Political Theory

MAJOR ELECTIVE

GENERAL ELECTIVE

Upper Division Course

MILESTONES:

• Use your electives to explore other disciplines and find courses complementary to your major!
• Not sure where to start? Ask your political science faculty and your advisor what they would recommend!

CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK

• Consider running for office in student government.
• Honor your leadership skills by mentoring new political science students.
• Ask about research opportunities with your favorite political science professor.

FIND YOUR PLACE

• Assess your cultural competency.
• Consider working abroad and research visa regulations.
• Explore practices of creating more inclusive careers.

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

• Ask for advice from professionals in your field of interest.
• Explore career shadowing opportunities.

CONNECT OFF-Campus

• Explore a farmer’s market for fresh produce.
• Develop a post-graduation exercise plan.
• Consider working abroad and research visa regulations.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

• Request references from professors and supervisors.
• Draft your resume/cover letter and personal statement and revise it with career services.
• Attend business fairs and career fairs at UWG and across the state.
• Attend an interview workshop.
• Apply for graduate programs.

PAY YOUR PATH

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30 CREDIT HOURS

Additional Information:

• No more than 3 hours of directed readings or independent studies can count toward the major. No POLS course in which the student receives a grade lower than “C” may count toward the major.

• No more than 3 hours of directed readings or independent studies can count toward the major. No POLS course in which the student receives a grade lower than “C” may count toward the major.

• TAKEN IN TERM 1 OR 2 OF THE SENIOR YEAR.

• Before graduating, senior seminar can be encouraged students to seek internships.

• While POLS 4186 is not required, we highly encourage students to seek internships before graduating. Senior seminar can be taken in term 1 or 2 of the senior year.