POLITICAL SCIENCE TRANSFER PATHWAY (AA) - 60 CREDITS

OVERVIEW

WHY CHOOSE POLITICAL SCIENCE?

The mission of the Political Science Department is to be the primary support to the college as it seeks to prepare students for the common tasks of citizenship. Democracy requires an involved citizenry which in turn demands that citizens understand the fundamentals of their political system. For citizens of the United States these fundamentals include familiarity with the institutions and process of government at all levels, as well as civil liberties, political parties, elections and interest group behavior.

REQUIREMENTS

The Political Science Transfer Pathway AA offers students a powerful option: the opportunity to complete an Associate of Arts degree with course credits that directly transfer to designated Political Science bachelor's degree programs at Minnesota State universities. The curriculum has been specifically designed so that students completing this pathway and transferring to one of the seven Minnesota State universities enter the university with junior-year status. All courses in the Transfer Pathway associate degree will directly transfer and apply to the designated bachelor's degree programs in a related field.

Employers regard Political Science as one of the two most highly-valued social science degrees among employees. Why do employers desire students who study power and government and can hold national and international perspectives on topics? Because businesses, non-profit organizations, government, public service, law, media, education, and more need and admire the rare combination of knowledge, talent, and skills that Political Science students develop.

Political Science students uniquely combine wide-ranging knowledge with skills at research, analysis, and communication. These traits make students supremely qualified to work in the Information Age. Professional life increasingly requires collecting, organizing, applying, evaluating, and presenting information and ideas, as well as thinking critically, solving problems creatively, demonstrating cross-cultural understanding, and working individually and collaboratively.

Universities within the Minnesota State system include Bemidji State University, Metropolitan State University, Minnesota State University, Moorhead, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Southwest Minnesota State University, St. Cloud State University, and Winona State University.

REQUIRED COURSES

Incorporate the following Required Courses into the General Education/Minnesota Transfer Curriculum or Additional Course Requirements sections below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1130</td>
<td>Introduction to U.S. Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
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COMPLETE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES

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<tr>
<td>POLS 1132</td>
<td>Introduction to Comparative Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1150</td>
<td>Introduction to World Politics and Globalization</td>
<td>3</td>
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COMPLETE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES

Students may take POLS 1132 or POLS 1150 (whichever was NOT used to satisfy the required course above)

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<td>POLS 1133</td>
<td>Middle East Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1135</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Ideas</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1150</td>
<td>Introduction to World Politics and Globalization</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1152</td>
<td>Model United Nations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1195</td>
<td>Conflict and Negotiation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 2250</td>
<td>Constitutional Law</td>
<td>3</td>
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GENERAL EDUCATION/MINNESOTA TRANSFER CURRICULUM (MNTC)- 40 CREDITS

*See MnTC Curriculum for specific course options

GOAL 1: COMMUNICATION - 2 COURSES

- ENGC 1101
- COMM 1100 or COMM 1101 or COMM 1111 or COMM 1121

GOAL 2: CRITICAL THINKING

(not met by completion of all 40 credits of the MnTC)

GOAL 3: NATURAL SCIENCES - 2 COURSES (Select from two different departments, at least one must include a lab)

- Course #1
- Course #2

GOAL 4: MATHEMATICAL/LOGICAL REASONING - 1 COURSE

MATH 1050 or MATH 1050 recommended

- Course

GOAL 5: HISTORY AND SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES - 2 COURSES (Select from two different departments)

- Course #1
- Course #2
GOAL 6: HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS - 2 COURSES
(Select from two different departments)
- Course #1
- Course #2

GOAL 7: HUMAN DIVERSITY - 1 COURSE
- Course
(can be met by taking POLS 1195)

GOAL 8: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE - 1 COURSE
- Course - met by taking required POLS courses

GOAL 9: ETHICAL AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY - 1 COURSE
- Course - met by taking required POLS courses

GOAL 10: PEOPLES AND THE ENVIRONMENT - 1 COURSE
- Course

ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS
- One Health (HLTH) course.
- One Exercise Science (EXSC) course.
- Elective credits - additional course(s) numbered 1000 and above, if needed to complete the 60 credit requirement

OTHER DEGREE REQUIREMENTS - 20 CREDITS
- Earn a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 for college-level coursework (courses numbered 1000 and above) completed at Normandale.
- Earn a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 in the MnTC.
- Earn a minimum of 20 college-level credits at Normandale.

COURSES

POLS 1130 INTRODUCTION TO U.S. POLITICS | 3 CR
MnTC Goals: 5, 9
Considers fundamentals of U.S. politics including constitutional principles, organization of government, basic freedoms, civil liberties, civil rights, political cultures, parties and interest groups, campaigns and elections, and national controversies.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

POLS 1132 INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS | 3 CR
MnTC Goals: 5, 9
Compares political and economic systems, political and economic conditions, and political and economic policies of diverse countries and regions around the world. Comparisons and contracts will consider governments, cultures, patterns of political and economic development, as well as political values, processes, and institutions. Includes comparisons, where apt, with United States. Analyses will include statistical, historical, and forecast data, as well as theoretical perspectives.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

POLS 1133 MIDDLE EAST POLITICS | 3 CR
MnTC Goals: 5, 9
Explores the historical background and current dynamics of Middle Eastern politics including the causes and consequences of political, economic, social, cultural, military, ethnic, nationalist, and religious conditions. Central concerns include post-colonial experiences, political and economic development, political change and stability, democracy and autocracy, corruption, regional conflicts, foreign policies, and current and enduring challenges.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall

POLS 1135 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL IDEAS | 3 CR
MnTC Goals: 5, 9
Explores enduring, controversial political topics across several thinkers and eras using visual media to illustrate themes and questions. Topics may include enduring and current controversies concerning justice, power, violence, authority, freedom, government, the nature of the state, democracy, capitalism, economic prosperity, security, equality, inequality, corruption, terror, nationalism, and "the good life" in a political community.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Spring

POLS 1150 INTRODUCTION TO WORLD POLITICS AND GLOBALIZATION | 3 CR
MnTC Goals: 5, 9
Develops a global perspective by exploring diverse global issues such as security, human rights, environment, economic development, foreign policies, character of globalization, interactions of nation-states and other actors, origins and effects of global capitalism, and changing effects on global affairs of technological innovations, international organizations, multinational corporations, social movements and groups, and ideologies. Course provides tools for interpreting and evaluating global politics, and it furnishes background to pursue additional courses in World Politics.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall

POLS 1152 MODEL UNITED NATIONS | 3 CR
Introduces students to the workings of the world’s most important international organization—the United Nations (UN)—and to the practice of negotiation and diplomacy. Course emphasizes understanding current global issues and offers direct experience in the practice of politics. Course also improves students’ ability in the “civic arts” of negotiation, advocacy, public presentations, and policy analysis. All students will prepare for and participate in the Arrowhead Model United Nations conference held each April.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Spring

**POL 1195 CONFLICT AND NEGOTIATION | 3 CR**

**MnTC Goals: 5, 7**

Politics is conflict over values, ideas, and resources. Political Science is, in part, the study of conflict and conflict management. This course introduces students to perspectives on power and conflict and to diverse strategies for resolving conflict in various political, legal, social, and cultural settings. This course develops expertise, confidence, and skills for managing, transforming, and engaging conflict constructively, primarily through negotiation and mediation. Students reflect on their own style of conflict management and dispute resolution and on the roles of power, conflict, and negotiation at the individual, group, organizational, state, and system levels. The course is extremely hands-on and interactive. Extensive, frequent role plays and simulations demonstrate course themes and provide opportunities to practice managing conflict, resolving disputes, negotiating, and mediating.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall

**POL 1900 TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE | 1-4 CR**

**Prereq:** Topic-dependent

Examines specific topics in politics and public policy; intended for all students. Topics courses do not satisfy goals of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.

Credits: 1-4

**POL 2096 INTERNSHIP IN POLITICAL SCIENCE | 2-4 CR**

**Prereq:** Previous coursework in Political Science and consent of instructor and the Center for Experiential Education

Explores careers and training in a supervised work setting. Combines theory with field experience in a political setting to learn how public policy is shaped. Students spend approximately 2.5 hours per week, per credit on the job, and attend weekly seminars. Students may earn 3 to 8 credits per semester, with a maximum of 8 credits in any one discipline.

Credits: 2-4 Semesters: Fall, Spring

**POL 2250 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW | 3 CR**

**MnTC Goals: 5, 9**

Explores the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights as elements of national government and criminal justice. Addresses equal protection, due process, First Amendment, search and seizure, rights of the accused, rights of prisoners, presidential authority, and historic Supreme Court cases. Course includes debates and mock trials.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall

**POL 2900 TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE | 1-4 CR**

**Prereq:** Topic-dependent

Examines specific topics in politics and public policy; intended for second-year students. Topics courses do not satisfy goals of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.

Credits: 1-4

Last modified date: 1/20/2020 Normandale Community College