

BACHELOR OF ARTS, MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE: PRE-LAW CONCENTRATION

Code	Title	Hours
Bachelor of Arts, Major in Political Science: Pre-Law Concentration		
Core Curriculum (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/)		
Component Area I (Communication)		6
Component Area II (Mathematics) ¹		3
Component Area III (Life and Physical Science)		8
Component Area IV (Language, Philosophy, and Culture)		3
Component Area V (Creative Arts)		3
Component Area VI (U.S. History)		6
Component Area VII (Political Science/Government)		6
Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences)		3
Component Area IX (Component Area Option)		4
Degree Specific Requirements		
Foreign Language ²		14
Major: Foundation		
POLS 2304	Introduction to Political Science	3
POLS 3302	Introduction to Public Policy	3
POLS 3330	American Politics	3
POLS 3365	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
POLS 3374	Quantitative Methods for Political Science	3
POLS 3377	Survey of Political Theory	3
POLS 3379	Research and Writing in Political Science	3
POLS 3380	Introduction to International Relations	3
Major: Prescribed Electives		
POLS Electives ³		9
Electives: General		
General Electives ⁴		13
Concentration: Pre-Law		
Legal Foundation Courses		
POLS 3334	Judicial Systems ⁵	3
POLS 4334	Constitutional Law I: Civil Rights and Liberties ⁵	3
POLS 4335	Constitutional Law II: Gov Powers & State-Federal Relations ⁵	3
Law-Related Skills		
Select one course from the following:		3
COMS 3374	Persuasion	
ENGL 3377	Argument and Persuasion	
PHIL 2303	Critical Thinking	
PHIL 2352	Introduction to Contemporary Logic	
Substantive Legal Content		
Select two courses from the following:		6
Communication Studies		
COMS 3379	Freedom of Speech and Civic Communication	
Criminal Justice		
CRIJ 4330	Law And Society	
CRIJ 4332	Legal Aspects Of Corrections	
CRIJ 4394	Police Law	
General Business		

BUAD 3338	Entrepreneurial Law
BUAD 3355	Business Law
BUAD 3360	Human Resources Management Law
BUAD 4340	International Business Law
REAL 3365	Real Estate Law
History	
HSTY 3373	Black Civil Rights Movement
Kinesiology	
KINE 3365	Sport Law
Philosophy	
PHIL 4336	Philosophy of Law
Political Science	
POLS 3338	Victims' Rights, Politics, and Policy
POLS 3372	Contemporary Political Theory
POLS 3385	International Law and Organizations
POLS 4081	Problems in Political Science ⁶
POLS 4383	International Human Rights
Psychology	
PSYC 3383	Psychology And The Law
Security Studies	
SCST 3380	Law and Ethics in Homeland Security

Total Hours	120
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¹ MATH 1332 or MATH 1342 is recommended.

² Four Foreign Language courses in one language required. If a student uses the last two foreign language courses to satisfy the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area IV (Language, Philosophy, and Culture) and Component Area IX (Component Area Option) in addition to the degree specific requirements, additional elective credit hours will be needed to reach the minimum 120 credit hours.

³ All nine POLS Elective hours must be advanced. Courses in the Major: Foundation are not allowed to apply in this area. POLS 2305 and POLS 2306 are not allowed to apply in this area. Depending on the courses used to fulfill the Substantive Legal Content Concentration requirement, the department recommends POLS 3338, POLS 3372, POLS 3385, POLS 4081, and/or POLS 4383.

⁴ Depending on the courses used to fulfill the Law-Related Skills and/or the Substantive Legal Content Concentration requirements, the department recommends taking additional courses from either or both of those lists as General Electives.

⁵ As suggested in the Plan of Study, the department encourages, but does not require, students to take POLS 4334 and POLS 4335 after they have completed all other requirements, including POLS 3334.

⁶ Students may use POLS 4081 to fulfill an elective requirement when the course topic is pertinent to Legal Studies.

Notes

Students must earn a 2.0 minimum overall GPA in all coursework.

Students must meet a 2.0 minimum overall major GPA in all major coursework.

Students must earn a 2.0 minimum SHSU GPA in all coursework.

Students must meet a 2.0 minimum SHSU major GPA in all major coursework.

Additional Requirements:

- No grade below a C in a Political Science course will count toward the major.
- Students must have 42 advanced hours; at least 15 hours of POLS must be advanced.

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Component Area II (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaii) ¹		3 Component Area V (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareav)	3

Component Area VII (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareavii)		3 Component Area VII (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareavii)		3
ENGL 1301 ²		3 ENGL 1302 ²		3
Foreign Language ³		4 Foreign Language ³		4
HSTY 1301 ⁴		3 HSTY 1302 ⁴		3
		16		16
Second Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring		Hours
Component Area III (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaiii)		4 Component Area III (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaiii)		4
Component Area IV (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaiv)		3 Component Area IX (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaix)		3
Component Area VIII (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaviii)		3 Component Area IX (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaix)		1
Foreign Language ³		3 Foreign Language ³		3
POLS 2304		3 POLS 3330		3
		16		14
Third Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring		Hours
Law-Related Skills Courses ⁵		3 POLS 3334		3
POLS 3302		3 POLS 3365		3
POLS 3374		3 POLS 3377		3
POLS 3380		3 POLS 3379		3
		POLS Electives ⁶		3
		12		15
Fourth Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring		Hours
General Electives ⁷		6 General Electives ⁷		7
POLS 4334		3 POLS 4335		3
POLS Electives ⁶		3 POLS Electives ⁶		3
Substantive Legal Content ⁸		3 Substantive Legal Content ⁸		3
		15		16
Total Hours: 120				

¹ MATH 1332 or MATH 1342 is recommended.

² Satisfies the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area I (Communication).

³ Four Foreign Language courses in one language required. If a student uses the last two foreign language courses to satisfy the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area IV (Language, Philosophy, and Culture) and Component Area IX (Component Area Option) in addition to the degree specific requirements, additional elective credit hours will be needed to reach the minimum 120 credit hours.

⁴ Satisfies the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area VI (U.S. History).

⁵ See Law-Related Skills course list below.

⁶ All nine POLS Elective hours must be advanced. Courses in the Major: Foundation are not allowed to apply in this area. POLS 2305 and POLS 2306 are not allowed to apply in this area. Depending on the courses used to fulfill the Substantive Legal Content Concentration requirement, the department recommends POLS 3338, POLS 3372, POLS 3385, POLS 4081, and/or POLS 4383.

⁷ Depending on the courses used to fulfill the Law-Related Skills and/or the Substantive Legal Content Concentration requirements, the department recommends taking additional courses from either or both of those lists as General Electives.

⁸ See Substantive Legal Content course list below.

Notes

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Students must earn a 2.0 minimum SHSU GPA in all coursework.

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Additional Requirements:

- No grade below a C in a Political Science course will count toward the major.
- Students must have 42 advanced hours; at least 15 hours of POLS must be advanced.

Code	Title	Hours
Law-Related Skills Courses ⁵		
Select one course from the following:		
COMS 3374	Persuasion	3
ENGL 3377	Argument and Persuasion	3
PHIL 2303	Critical Thinking	3
PHIL 2352	Introduction to Contemporary Logic	3

Code	Title	Hours
Substantive Legal Content Courses ⁸		
Select two courses from the following:		
Communication Studies		
COMS 3379	Freedom of Speech and Civic Communication	3
Criminal Justice		
CRIJ 4330	Law And Society	3
CRIJ 4332	Legal Aspects Of Corrections	3
CRIJ 4394	Police Law	3
General Business		
BUAD 3338	Entrepreneurial Law	3
BUAD 3355	Business Law	3
BUAD 3360	Human Resources Management Law	3
BUAD 4340	International Business Law	3
REAL 3365	Real Estate Law	3
History		
HSTY 3373	Black Civil Rights Movement	3
Kinesiology		
KINE 3365	Sport Law	3
Philosophy		
PHIL 4336	Philosophy of Law	3
Political Science		
POLS 3338	Victims' Rights, Politics, and Policy	3
POLS 3372	Contemporary Political Theory	3
POLS 3385	International Law and Organizations	3
POLS 4081	Problems in Political Science ¹	1-3
POLS 4383	International Human Rights	3
Psychology		
PSYC 3383	Psychology And The Law	3
Security Studies		
SCST 3380	Law and Ethics in Homeland Security	3

¹ Students may use POLS 4081 to fulfill an elective requirement when the course topic is pertinent to Legal Studies.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) marketable skills initiative is part of the state's **60x30TX plan** and was designed to help students articulate their skills to employers. Marketable skills are those skills valued by employers and/or graduate programs that can be applied in a variety of work or education settings and may include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas.

The BA in Political Science: Pre-Law Concentration is designed to provide graduates with the following marketable skills:

- Analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Critical reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills.
- Interpersonal collaboration and relationship-building skills.