Liberal Arts - Political Science Concentration, A.A.

HEGIS: 5649.00
PROGRAM CODE: 01044
PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Dr. Jacob Segal

CONCENTRATION COORDINATOR: Dr. Jamie Aroosi

The Liberal Arts AA degree provides a foundation in general studies through exploration of an array of subject areas under liberal arts and sciences. Concentrations provide students opportunity to focus in a specific area. Courses promote development and application of effective communication skills, quantitative and scientific reasoning, critical thinking and analysis, and applying knowledge of human cultures, language and the natural world to issues experienced across diverse communities. The degree provides opportunity for transfer to baccalaureate programs.

The Political Science Concentration provides foundational course work to explore the meaning, creation, and function of law and government. This includes understanding not just *what* these structures are, but *how* they come to be and *how* they operate in society. Students deepen their understanding by focusing on key areas such as Political Theory, U.S. Politics, Global Politics, and State, Local, and Urban Politics.
The curriculum presented here applies to students who started the major in Fall 2025 or Spring 2026. If you enrolled as a matriculant prior to that, please see the *College Catalog* for the year you started the major as a matriculant for the curriculum requirements that apply to you.

Consultation with the Program Advisor is required.

Degree Maps:

Degree Map for Liberal Arts, A.A. - Political Science Concentration

Your Degree Map contains the suggested term-by-term course sequence for your academic path towards graduation.

To ensure successful and timely completion of your degree, it is recommended that you meet with your academic advisor to discuss your unique map.

Please note some courses *may* only be offered once an academic year.

Program Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the Liberal Arts degree program requirements, graduates will:

1. demonstrate and apply ethical judgment to real-world problems and issues while recognizing multiple perspectives.

2. apply knowledge of human cultures, language, or the natural world to problems and issues experienced across diverse communities.
3. produce or analyze creative works according to a field or discipline's vocabulary and theory, using relevant techniques and processes, and in response to best practices.

Political Science Concentration Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the Political Science Concentration requirements, graduates will:

1. utilize critical thinking to analyze, critique, and debate opinions on the central issues found in political science and associated subfields.
2. formulate cohesive positions about political issues using rigorous quantitative and qualitative data to support their arguments

College Requirements:

English and Math proficient as determined by the CUNY Proficiency Index, unless otherwise exempt, or successful completion of any required developmental course(s).

Civic Engagement Experiences:

One (1) Civic Engagement experience satisfied by Civic Engagement Certified or Civic Engagement Component course or approved outside activity.

Writing Intensive Requirement:

One (1) Writing Intensive Course in any discipline is required.

Required Core (4 Courses, 12 Credits):

When Required Core Courses are specified for a category they are strongly suggested and/or required for the major

*Note: You may elect to take a math or science course that is 4 credits or more. TAP counts 3 credits towards the requirements and the 4th credit as an elective.

- ENG 1200 - Composition I 3 Credit(s)
- ENG 2400 - Composition II 3 Credit(s)
- **Mathematical & Quantitative Reasoning Course 3 Credit(s) ***
- **Life & Physical Sciences Course 3 Credit(s) ***

Flexible Core (6 Courses, 18 Credits):

One course from each Group A to E. **and** one (1) additional course from any Group.
No more than two courses can be selected from the same discipline

A. World Cultures and Global Issues Designated Course

B. U.S. Experience in its Diversity Designated Course

C. Creative Expression Designated Course

D. Individual and Society Designated Course

E. Scientific World Designated Course*

***** Note: You may elect to take a math or science course that is 4 credits or more. TAP counts 3 credits towards the requirements and the 4th credit as an elective.

Major Requirements (6 Courses, 18 Credits):

Course used to satisfy the Major requirements **cannot** be used to also satisfy the Concentration requirements. Students enrolled in a Concentration **cannot** use the following required courses to also satisfy the CUNY Required or Flexible core.

- Arts 3 Credit(s) **or**
- Media and Film Studies 3 Credit(s) **or**
- Music 3 Credit(s) **or**
- Theatre 3 Credit(s)

AND

- Speech 3 Credit(s)

AND

- Literature **or** Philosophy 3 Credit(s)

AND

- U.S. Politics **or** U.S. History 3 Credit(s)

AND

- Psychology **or** Sociology 3 Credit(s)

AND

- World History 3 Credit(s) **or**
- Anthropology 3 Credit(s) **or**
- World Language 3 Credit(s)

Political Science Concentration (3 Courses, 9 Credits)

Courses used to satisfy the Concentration requirements **cannot** be used to also satisfy the Major requirements. Students enrolled in a Concentration **cannot** use the following required courses to also satisfy the CUNY Required or Flexible Core.

Select ONE (1) course from three of the four groups for a total of nine (9) credits

Group I: Political Theory

- POL 5000 - Clash of Political Ideas: Introduction to Political Theory 3 Credit(s)

Group II: U.S. Politics

- POL 5100 - Introduction to U.S. Government 3 Credit(s)
- POL 5500 - U.S. Political Parties 3 Credit(s)

Group III: Global Politics

- POL 5200 - Introduction to Comparative Government 3 Credit(s)
- POL 5900 - Introduction to International Relations 3 Credit(s)

Group IV: State, Local, and Urban Politics

- POL 5300 - State And Local Governments and Politics 3 Credit(s)
- POL 5600 - Urban Politics 3 Credit(s)

Electives:

3 credits sufficient to meet required total of 60 credits.

Notes:

- World Languages proficiency through the 200-level is recommended for students who do not have native fluency, or have not successfully completed three years of one foreign language in high school and passed the Regents Level 3 language exam. These students may take a 100-level World Language as a Flexible Core: World Cultures and Global Issues (Group A) Pathways requirement and a 200-level World Language as a major requirement. Other concentrations *may* be able to do as listed above.
- For concentrations other than General, it is recommended that you speak with your academic advisor.

Total Credits: 60