Talk to your academic advisor about the other exciting degree opportunities that are available through the department.
Political Science MAJOR MAP

2017-2018

DEGREE INFORMATION

FIRST YEAR

THE COURSES YOU NEED

If you have chosen the BA in POLS, you should begin taking required foreign language courses in the first year. BA and BS students should register for General Education courses (ENGL 1100 and MATH 1050 recommended), as well as POLS 1010 National Government and POLS 2010, 2020, and/or 2070 if they fit your schedule.

GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Explore your major and career options in consultation with your advisor. By the end of your first year you should have developed plans to complete specific internship(s) and/or travel, develop the experience necessary for the kind of employment you want, or begin to identify potential graduate schools.

SECOND YEAR

THE COURSES YOU NEED

Continue working on General Education requirements and your foreign language (if you’re a BA student), in addition to any remaining 2000 level POLS required courses. Take POLS 2090 and ENGL 2201 sometime during the year. Register for POLS electives and make a plan for completing courses required for your minor this year and into years 3 and 4.

GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Meet with Career Services often to work on your post-graduation plans. Investigate job-related skills and identify gaps in your résumé so you can address them early. Use the Occupational Outlook Handbook, USAJobs.gov, and/or other resources available through Career Services to identify common skills in your career field.

THIRD YEAR

THE COURSES YOU NEED

Internships, part-time jobs, student leadership positions, and volunteer or community engagement activities can help build your résumé and give you valuable experience. Connect directly with faculty members who share your interests and attend career fairs to explore your interests, network, and identify opportunities.

GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Join student organizations that suit your interests, which may include College Democrats, College Republicans, Model United Nations, or the Pre-Law Society. Students can also consider the Student Government Association or the Student Activities Board. For a full list of student organizations, visit OrgSync.

THIRD YEAR

THE COURSES YOU NEED

Make it a goal to complete your General Education requirements during your third year. Schedule POLS 3031 in the fall semester and POLS 3032 in the spring. Register for any remaining POLS core classes and choose courses in your POLS concentration if you are a BS student or POLS electives if you are a BA student.

GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Interview for and complete internships. Submit a proposal to present a polished research paper from one of your POLS courses at the North Carolina Political Science Association or another state or regional conference. Also consider undertake research journals such as the Pi Sigma Alpha Journal of Undergraduate Research.

FOURTH YEAR

THE COURSES YOU NEED

Complete POLS concentration requirements if you are a BS student or POLS electives if you are a BA student. Ensure that you have enough credit hours to graduate and have fulfilled all requirements for your minor. Apply for graduation and make plans to participate in university and department commencement ceremonies.

GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Volunteering for political, governmental, or social organizations is a great way to get experience in your field, build your résumé, test your interest in working with diverse populations, and develop your professional network.

VISIT US ONLINE

For more information and an interactive map PDF, visit:
ECU.EDU/POLSCI
FACEBOOK.COM/ECUPOLSCI

POST-GRAD OPTIONS

You will find there are a lot of career opportunities available to you after completing your degree in Political Science from East Carolina University. These may include:
- Federal, state, or local government;
- Domestic or international nonprofit organizations, think tanks, interest groups, and lobbying firms;
- Political campaign consulting, work for a political party, or for a polling entity;
- Law school;
- Jobs in the legal system;
- Careers in the private sector;
- Military service or law enforcement.

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