



POLITICAL SCIENCE

Area F Learning Outcomes

A student who successfully completes the Political Science Area F has made the first important steps down the road that leads to knowing how to think about the nature of the political world, how we have gotten to the current system, how political systems operate, and how to reason critically. The road also leads to the ability to write clearly, concisely, and cogently.

An area F is an introduction to a Bachelor's degree, not a Bachelor's degree. Students who complete the Political Science Area F have only begun their studies in political science. For this reason, the learning outcomes should be modest.

The student learning outcomes for the Political Science Area F are:

1. Students will demonstrate an introductory collegiate-level understanding of some of the key debates in political science.
2. Students will demonstrate an introductory collegiate-level knowledge of some of the central concepts and theories in governance, politics, or international relations.
3. Students will produce written work that shows an introductory collegiate-level understanding of methods of critical thinking.

Area F Guidelines

Area F consists of 18 semester hours of lower-division (1000- and 2000-level) courses related to the Political Science program of study and/or prerequisite to courses required in the major:

I. SOCIAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COURSES: These courses include foundational courses in the following disciplines: anthropology, economics, geography, history, philosophy, psychology, sociology, African-American studies, gender studies, and in interdisciplinary courses involving a combination of the above (political science may be included as one of the disciplines in the interdisciplinary courses).	0-18 hours max.
II. SOCIAL SCIENCE BASIC SKILLS COURSES: Computer skills/research methods Foreign language courses Math courses in statistics and calculus Logic	0-15 hours max

III. FOUNDATION COURSES IN POLITICAL SCIENCE Introduction to Political Science Introduction to State and Local Government Introduction to Public Administration Introduction to Comparative Politics Introduction to Global Issues Introduction to Domestic Issues	0-9 hours max.
--	----------------

Each institution may select up to 18 hours from the courses in the three sections, but it should not exceed the number of hours listed for each section. If an institution wishes to use only Section I or any parts of Sections II or III to arrive at the 18 hours, then this is a valid choice.