

POLITICAL SCIENCE, B.A.

Saint Louis University's Bachelor of Arts in Political Science can prepare students for advanced study in various areas: law, public administration, international relations, urban affairs, business and political science. Political scientists study power, politics and various political processes, systems and behaviors.

The discipline of political science covers many topics, from campaigns and elections in the United States to economic development and democratization worldwide to diplomacy and globalization. Political science majors at SLU learn to address big questions, such as what makes a government legitimate or what constitutes a good society. They also come to understand causes and mechanisms for addressing significant global challenges like terrorism, poverty, climate change and war.

Political science students at Saint Louis University pursue jobs in government, international organizations, nonprofit organizations, education, law, journalism, diplomacy, survey research and fields related to promoting social justice.

Program Highlights

- Undergraduates can take classes before earning their B.A. in political science and quickly finish an M.A. in political science as part of the accelerated M.A. program (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/political-science/accelerated-bachelors-masters-program/>).
- SLU's political science program is distinctive in its commitment to preparing students to become engaged citizens locally and globally. Students grapple with some of the most important social justice problems of the time, from racism and poverty at home to war, persistent underdevelopment and oppression abroad.
- The SLU political science department is big enough to offer a wide range of classes and small enough that students get individual attention from faculty.

Curriculum Overview

Students can study the politics of most areas of the world and global security and economic development issues. They can augment their study of politics with work in various distinctive interdisciplinary programs, including programs devoted to area studies (Asia, Russia and East Europe), global and local social justice, foreign service, political journalism, African American studies, gender studies and more.

Students can choose among five options for their B.A.

General Major

The general major covers American politics, comparative politics, international relations and political thought and allows students the flexibility to choose classes that reflect their particular interests.

International Affairs Concentration

The international affairs concentration permits students to study economic development, international security and political change worldwide.

International Relations Concentration (SLU-Madrid)

The international relations concentration is an innovative and rigorous course of study designed to enhance knowledge and understanding

of global affairs offered at Saint Louis University-Madrid (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/>).

Public Law Concentration

The public law concentration focuses on law and courts and the relationship of both to larger issues of justice, social change and democracy.

Public Policy Concentration

The public policy concentration examines the practical application of knowledge to governance and social problems.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Undergraduate students majoring in political science at SLU may take six credits of electives through internships offered in areas such as political campaigns, foreign service, state and federal government, and overseas fieldwork. These internships permit students to gain professional experience working with elected officials, organizations that serve immigrants or disadvantaged communities, law firms, nonprofit organizations or other groups working toward the public good. Students have interned in St. Louis, Washington, D.C., and many countries worldwide.

Students can participate in faculty research projects or complete an independent honors thesis examining a topic of their choice.

Careers

Graduates with an undergraduate degree in political science are prepared for jobs in government, international organizations, community and nonprofit organizations, education, law, NGOs, journalism, diplomacy, survey research and fields related to the promotion of social justice.

An undergraduate degree in political science also provides marketable skills in empirical data analysis and practical problem-solving. It is a traditional major for students interested in law school or planning a political career.

Admission Requirements

Begin Your Application (<https://www.slu.edu/apply.php>)

Saint Louis University also accepts the Common Application and the Coalition Application.

Freshman

All applications are thoroughly reviewed with the highest degree of individual care and consideration to all credentials that are submitted. Solid academic performance in college preparatory coursework is a primary concern in reviewing a freshman applicant's file.

To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, applicants must be graduating from an accredited high school, have an acceptable HiSET exam score or take the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED or HiSET.

Students who have attempted fewer than 24 semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must follow the above freshmen admission requirements. Students who have completed 24 or more

semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must submit transcripts from all previously attended college(s).

In reviewing a transfer applicant's file, the Office of Admission holistically examines the student's academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student's ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University. Where applicable, transfer students will be evaluated on any courses outlined in the continuation standards of their preferred major.

International Applicants

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/>)
- All academic records must include an English translation. An official course-by-course transcript evaluation may be required and accepted.

Tuition

Tuition/Fee	Cost Per Year
Undergraduate Tuition	\$58,960
University Fees	\$1,000

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php>)

Cost of Attendance (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/cost-of-attendance.php>)

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/tuition-summer-current.pdf>)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- **Scholarships:** Scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
- **Financial Aid:** Financial aid is provided through grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

Saint Louis University makes every effort to keep our education affordable. In fiscal year 2025, 99.6% of first-time freshmen and 92% of all students received financial aid (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>) and students received more than \$517 million in aid University-wide.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by Feb. 1.

For more information on scholarships and financial aid, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

Learning Outcomes

1. **St. Louis:** Students will be able to identify the structure and operation of political systems in the U.S., across a variety of countries, and in multinational organizations. **SLU-Madrid:** Students will be able to identify and compare political systems in the Western world, international trends at the global level and multinational organizations.
2. Students will be able to distinguish among various approaches to studying political phenomena.
3. Students will be able to read carefully and evaluate and construct analytical arguments in clear and logical prose.
4. Students will be able to analyze how the outcomes of political systems are affected by the structure of institutions.
5. Students will be able to design original research to test arguments and hypotheses with qualitative and/or quantitative approaches.

Requirements

Political Science students must complete a minimum of **36 credits** for the major.

Code	Title	Credits
University Undergraduate Core (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/university-core/)		32-35
Major Requirements		36
POLS 1150	American Political Systems	3
Comparative Politics Requirement (p. 4)		3
International Relations Requirement (p. 4)		3
Political Thought Requirement (p. 4)		3
<i>Methods Sequence</i>		<i>6</i>
<i>Students may take either POLS 2001 & POLS 2002 in St. Louis or POLS 2003 & POLS 2004 in Madrid. The requirement cannot be fulfilled by combining POLS 2001 with POLS 2003, POLS 2001 with POLS 2004, or POLS 2002 with POLS 2003.</i>		
POLS 2001 & POLS 2002	Research Methods in Political Science: Foundations and Research Methods in Political Science: Applications	
or POLS 2003 & POLS 2004	Qualitative Methods in Political Science and Quantitative Methods in Political Science	
Political Science Electives		12
<i>Student choose 12 credits in the POLS subject code, with a Political Science Elective attribute or a Concentration</i>		
International Affairs Concentration (p. 3)		
International Relations Concentration (Madrid) (p. 3)		
Public Law Concentration (p. 3)		
Public Policy Concentration (p. 4)		
Senior Seminar Requirement		6

Choose two classes from the range POLS 4000-4899, POLS 4990, POLS 4930. With permission, students may substitute graduate classes in the range POLS 5000-5899, or POLS 5930. To register for a senior seminar, students must have completed at least one course in the same sub-field and they must have fulfilled the methods requirement. If a student's major includes a concentration, one senior seminar must be within that concentration. The two 4000-level seminar classes must be completed at Saint Louis University, not by transfer credit.

University Electives	49-52
Total Credits	120

Program Notes

Political science majors may not count more than six credits of independent study (POLS 4980 Advanced Independent Study (1-6 cr)) and/or internship work toward the major. The two 4000-level seminars and the methods sequence must be completed at Saint Louis University, not by transfer credit. Students may not count more than four 1000 level courses toward the major and must take at least four 3000 or higher-level courses.

To give some focus to a major, students are encouraged to take three or four courses in at least one of the four sub-fields or a cross-sub-field area of interest in political science (like social justice, democratization or legal studies). Students should consult with department faculty advisors in selecting courses.

No one class can fulfill more than one requirement in the major.

Research Project Option

As an alternative to one of the 4000-level seminars, students having a grade-point average of 3.30 or better may, with department chair approval, take POLS 4960 Senior Research (3 cr), an individual research project under the supervision of a political science faculty member.

Honors Thesis Option

The political science honors thesis option is for qualified and highly motivated students. These students need to inform the coordinator of undergraduate studies of their interest by the spring of their junior year if they want to write the thesis during their senior year or by the fall of the junior year if they want to start a semester earlier.

Students doing an honors thesis must have a political science GPA of 3.50 and an overall GPA of 3.40. This program involves a full year, two-course sequence: POLS 4990 Research Design (3 cr) and POLS 4991 Political Science Honors Thesis (3 cr) . Students doing honors theses will have a 39-credit major. POLS 4990 Research Design (3 cr) fulfills one 4000-level seminar requirement.

Internships

The political science department encourages majors to take political science internships as part of their degree programs. These provide excellent practical experience that potential employers appreciate. Internships often help majors select a future career. Students select internships in consultation with their mentors. The department offers a variety of internships, which may satisfy up to six credits of electives. Students may contact the coordinator of undergraduate studies for more information.

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 3910	Federal Government Internship	
POLS 3911	State or Local Government Internship	
POLS 3912	Public Service Internship	
POLS 3914	Foreign Service Internship	
POLS 3915	Legal Internship	
POLS 3916	Campaign Internship	
POLS 3917	Research Internship	
POLS 4910	Political Science Internship	

Continuation Standards

Students must have a 2.00 grade point average (GPA) in all courses used to fulfill major requirements. Students who fall below the 2.0 GPA in major coursework will be placed on program probation. If a student's major GPA falls below a 2.00 for two consecutive semesters, the student will be eligible for dismissal from the major.

International Affairs Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
International Relations Requirement (p. 4)		6
One of the International Relations courses must be POLS 1600 and can satisfy the general major requirement		
Comparative Politics Requirement (p. 4)		6
One of the Comparative Politics courses can satisfy the general major requirement		
Additionally, 3 of the 6 required major Senior Seminar hours must have the International Affairs Seminar attribute (p. 4)		
Total Credits		12

International Relations Concentration (Madrid)

Code	Title	Credits
<i>International Relations Requirement</i>		<i>6</i>
One of the International Relations courses must be POLS 1600 and can satisfy the general major requirement		
<i>Comparative Politics Requirement</i>		<i>6</i>
One of the Comparative Politics courses must be POLS 1500 and can satisfy the general major requirement		
Additionally, 3 of the 6 required major Senior Seminar hours must have the 'Political Science - International Relation (Undergraduate) (PSIR)' attribute		
Total Credits		12

Public Law Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
Public Law Electives (p. 5)		12
Select 12 credits with the Public Law Elective attribute		
Additionally, 3 of the 6 required major Senior Seminar hours must have the Public Law Seminar attribute. These 3 hours may not be counted towards the 12 Public Law Elective credits for the concentration. (p. 5)		
Total Credits		12

Public Policy Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
Policy Elective Requirement (p. 4)		12
Select twelve credits with the Policy Elective attribute		
Additionally, 3 of the 6 required major Senior Seminar hours must have the Policy Seminar attribute. These 3 credits may not be counted towards the 12 Policy Elective credits. (p. 5)		
Total Credits		12

Comparative Politics Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 1500	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
POLS 1510	Politics of the Developing World	3
POLS 1540	Blood and Money: Ethnic War	3
POLS 2510	European Politics	3
POLS 2520	Introduction to African Politics	3
POLS 2530	Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics	3
POLS 2550	Political Systems of the Sub-Sahara	3
POLS 2560	The Politics of Asia	3
POLS 2570	Introduction to Latin American Politics	3
POLS 2590	Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3
POLS 3500	East Asian Political Economy	3
POLS 3520	Communism, Capitalism and Social Justice	3
POLS 3530	Comparative Revolutions	3
POLS 3567	Political Development in Contemporary Spain	3
POLS 3810	Latin American-U.S. Relations	3

International Relations Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 1600	Introduction to International Politics *	3
POLS 2600	Introduction to International Political Economy	3
POLS 2640	International Terrorism	3
POLS 2691	Theory and Practice of Human Rights	3
POLS 2820	American Foreign Policy	3
POLS 3600	Problems of Globalization	3
POLS 3620	International Organization and the Management of World Problems	3
POLS 3630	International Security and Conflict Resolution	3
POLS 3640	International Law	3
POLS 3650	International Relations of Africa	3
POLS 3810	Latin American-U.S. Relations	3

* Required when international affairs is the student's concentration.

International Affairs Seminar Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 4500	Russian Political Culture	3
POLS 4510	Democratization	3
POLS 4520	Political Change	3
POLS 4530	Authoritarian Politics: Rigging Elections and Clinging to Power	3
POLS 4650	War, Peace, and Politics	3
POLS 4670	Politics of International Trade and Finance	3
POLS 4692	Theories of World Politics	3
POLS 4840	Global Health Politics and Policy	3

Political Thought Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 1700	Foundations of Political Theory	3
POLS 2700	Fundamental Issues in Political Philosophy	3
POLS 3710	Ancient and Medieval Classics in Political Thought	3
POLS 3720	Renaissance and Modern Political Theories	3
POLS 3770	Feminist Theory: Gender Justice	3

Policy Elective Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 1510	Politics of the Developing World	3
POLS 2010	Ethics and Politics	3
POLS 2140	The American Presidency	3
POLS 2200	State and Local Politics	3
POLS 2220	Urban Politics	3
POLS 2230	Mass Incarceration	3
POLS 2300	Public Administration	3
POLS 2600	Introduction to International Political Economy	3
POLS 2820	American Foreign Policy	3
POLS 3100	Judicial Politics	3
POLS 3300	U.S. Public Policy	3
POLS 3520	Communism, Capitalism and Social Justice	3
POLS 3810	Latin American-U.S. Relations	3
POLS 3910	Federal Government Internship	1-6
POLS 3911	State or Local Government Internship	1-6
POLS 3912	Public Service Internship	1-6
POLS 3915	Legal Internship	1-6
POLS 4150	Gender and Politics	3
POLS 4171	Law, Policy, Society	3
POLS 4300	Law, Politics, and Regulatory Policy	3
POLS 4325	Public Sector Budgeting	3
POLS 4340	Issues in Public Policy	3
POLS 4360	Urban Economic Development	3
POLS 4650	War, Peace, and Politics	3
POLS 4840	Global Health Politics and Policy	3
POLS 4960	Senior Research	3

POLS 4980	Advanced Independent Study	1-6
POLS 4990	Research Design	3

POLS 4171	Law, Policy, Society	3
POLS 4300	Law, Politics, and Regulatory Policy	3

Policy Foundation Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 2200	State and Local Politics	3
POLS 2220	Urban Politics	3
POLS 2300	Public Administration	3
POLS 2600	Introduction to International Political Economy	3
POLS 3300	U.S. Public Policy	3

Policy Seminar Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 4150	Gender and Politics	3
POLS 4171	Law, Policy, Society	3
POLS 4300	Law, Politics, and Regulatory Policy	3
POLS 4325	Public Sector Budgeting	3
POLS 4340	Issues in Public Policy	3
POLS 4360	Urban Economic Development	3
POLS 4650	War, Peace, and Politics	3
POLS 4840	Global Health Politics and Policy	3
POLS 4960	Senior Research	3
POLS 4980	Advanced Independent Study	1-6
POLS 4990	Research Design	3

Public Law Elective Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 1300	Introduction to Law	0,3
POLS 2100	The American Constitution	3
POLS 2230	Mass Incarceration	3
POLS 2710	Theories of Justice	3
POLS 3100	Judicial Politics	3
POLS 3130	Civil Liberties and Civil Rights	3
POLS 3340	Foundations of Law	3
POLS 3640	International Law	3
POLS 3915	Legal Internship	1-6
POLS 4120	Civil Rights: A Moot Court Seminar	3
POLS 4126	Sexuality and the Law	3
POLS 4171	Law, Policy, Society	3
POLS 4120	Civil Rights: A Moot Court Seminar	3
POLS 4126	Sexuality and the Law	3
POLS 4171	Law, Policy, Society	3
POLS 4300	Law, Politics, and Regulatory Policy	3

Public Law Seminar Attributed Courses

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 4120	Civil Rights: A Moot Court Seminar	3
POLS 4126	Sexuality and the Law	3
POLS 4131	Race, Class, and Punishment	3

Roadmap

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in consultation with each student's academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

Roadmap notes:

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an "!" are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

General Major

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	2-3
CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes / Must be taken at SLU)	1
CORE 1900	Eloquentia Perfecta 1: Written and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
POLS 1150	American Political Systems (satisfies CORE 3600)	3
1000 or 2000-level course in International Relations	Some options carry Core Global Interdependence attributes	3
General Electives		3
		Credits 15-16
Spring		
CORE 1200	Eloquentia Perfecta 2: Oral and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 60 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
1000 or 2000-level course in Comparative Politics	Some options carry Core Identities in Context, Global Interdependence, or Dignity, Ethics and a Just Society attributes	3
Political Thought requirement (1700, 2700, 3710, 3720, or 3770)	Some options carry Core Identities in Context or Dignity, Ethics and a Just Society attributes	3

General Electives		3
Credits		15
Year Two		
Fall		
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression	2-3
CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	3
POLS 2001	Research Methods in Political Science: Foundations	3
General Electives		6
Credits		14-15
Spring		
CORE 3800	Ways of Thinking: Natural and Applied Sciences	3
CORE 2500	Cura Personalis 2: Self in Contemplation	0
POLS 2002	Research Methods in Political Science: Applications	3
POLS Electives		3
General Electives		6
Credits		15
Year Three		
Fall		
CORE 3400	Ways of Thinking: Aesthetics, History, and Culture	3
POLS Electives		6
General Electives		6
Credits		15
Spring		
CORE 4000	Collaborative Inquiry	3
POLS 4000 Level Seminar	Some options carry Core Writing Intensive attribute	3
General Electives	Be sure to fulfill all Core attributes	6
POLS Electives		3
Credits		15
Year Four		
Fall		
CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
POLS 4000 Level Seminar		3
General Electives		11
Credits		15
Spring		
General Electives	As needed to complete Core and graduation requirements	16
Credits		16
Total Credits		120-122

International Affairs Concentration

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	2-3

CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes / Must be taken at SLU)	1
CORE 1900	Eloquentia Perfecta 1: Written and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
POLS 1150	American Political Systems (satisfies CORE 3600)	3
POLS 1600	Introduction to International Politics (Fulfills Core Global Interdependence attribute)	3
General Electives		3
Credits		15-16
Spring		
CORE 1200	Eloquentia Perfecta 2: Oral and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 60 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
1000 or 2000-level course in Comparative Politics	Some options carry Core Identities in Context, Global Interdependence, or Dignity, Ethics and a Just Society attributes	3
Political Thought requirement (1700, 2700, 3710, 3720, or 3770)	Some options carry Core Identities in Context or Dignity, Ethics and a Just Society attributes	3
General Electives		3
Credits		15
Year Two		
Fall		
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression	2-3
CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	3
POLS 2001	Research Methods in Political Science: Foundations	3
General Electives		6
Credits		14-15
Spring		
CORE 3800	Ways of Thinking: Natural and Applied Sciences	3
CORE 2500	Cura Personalis 2: Self in Contemplation	0
POLS course with International Relations Attribute		3
POLS 2002	Research Methods in Political Science: Applications	3
General Electives		6
Credits		15
Year Three		
Fall		
CORE 3400	Ways of Thinking: Aesthetics, History, and Culture	3
POLS Course with Comparative Politics Attribute		3
POLS Electives		3

General Electives		6
Credits		15
Spring		
CORE 4000	Collaborative Inquiry	2-3
POLS Electives		3
General Electives		10
Credits		15-16
Year Four		
Fall		
CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
POLS 4000-level seminar	From the range PLS 4500-4699 or POLS 4840	3
General Electives		11
Credits		15
Spring		
POLS 4000-level seminar	Some options carry Core Writing Intensive Attribute	3
General Electives	As needed to complete Core and graduation requirements	13
Credits		16
Total Credits		120-123

Public Law Concentration

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	2-3
CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes / Must be taken at SLU)	1
CORE 1900	Eloquentia Perfecta 1: Written and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
POLS 1150	American Political Systems (satisfies CORE 3600)	3
1000 or 2000-level course in International Relations	Some options carry Core Global Interdependence attributes	3
General Electives		3
Credits		15-16
Spring		
CORE 1200	Eloquentia Perfecta 2: Oral and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 60 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
1000 or 2000-level course in Comparative Politics	Some options carry Core Identities in Context, Global Interdependence, or Dignity, Ethics and a Just Society attributes	3

Political Thought requirement (1700, 2700, 3710, 3720, or 3770)	Some options carry Core Identities in Context or Dignity, Ethics and a Just Society attributes	3
General Electives		3
Credits		15
Year Two		
Fall		
POLS 2001	Research Methods in Political Science: Foundations	3
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression	2-3
CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	3
POLS 2710	Theories of Justice	3
General Electives		3
Credits		14-15
Spring		
CORE 3800	Ways of Thinking: Natural and Applied Sciences	3
CORE 2500	Cura Personalis 2: Self in Contemplation	0
POLS 2100	The American Constitution (or other Public Law elective course)	3
POLS 2002	Research Methods in Political Science: Applications	3
General Electives	Be sure to fulfill all Core attributes	6
Credits		15
Year Three		
Fall		
CORE 3400	Ways of Thinking: Aesthetics, History, and Culture	3
POLS 3130	Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (or other Public Law elective course)	3
General Electives		9
Credits		15
Spring		
CORE 4000	Collaborative Inquiry	2-3
POLS 3130	Civil Liberties and Civil Rights	3
General Electives		10
Credits		15-16
Year Four		
Fall		
CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
General Electives		11
POLS 4171	Law, Policy, Society ((or a Public Law Seminar))	3
Credits		15
Spring		
POLS 4000-level seminar	Some options carry Core Writing Intensive attribute	3
General Electives	As needed to complete Core and graduation requirements	15
Credits		18
Total Credits		122-125

Public Policy Concentration

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	2-3
CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community (Must be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes / Must be taken at SLU)	1
CORE 1900	Eloquentia Perfecta 1: Written and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 36 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
POLS 1150	American Political Systems (satisfies CORE 3600)	3
1000 or 2000-level course in International Relations	Some options carry Core Global Interdependence attributes	3
General Electives		3
Credits		15-16
Spring		
CORE 1200	Eloquentia Perfecta 2: Oral and Visual Communication (Should be taken in first 60 credit hours at SLU / Cannot carry attributes)	3
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
1000 or 2000-level course in Comparative Politics	Some options carry Core Identities in Context, Global Interdependence, or Dignity, Ethics and a Just Society attributes	3
Political Thought requirement (1700, 2700, 3710, 3720, or 3770)	Some options carry Core Identities in Context or Dignity, Ethics and a Just Society attributes	3
General Electives		3
Credits		15
Year Two		
Fall		
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression	2-3
CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	3
POLS 2001	Research Methods in Political Science: Foundations	3
General Electives		6
Credits		14-15
Spring		
CORE 3800	Ways of Thinking: Natural and Applied Sciences	3
CORE 2500	Cura Personalis 2: Self in Contemplation	0
POLS 2300	Public Administration ((or other elective course in the Public Policy concentration))	3
POLS 2002	Research Methods in Political Science: Applications	3

General Electives	Be sure to fulfill all Core attributes	6
Credits		15
Year Three		
Fall		
CORE 3400	Ways of Thinking: Aesthetics, History, and Culture	3
POLS 3300	U.S. Public Policy	3
General Electives		9
Credits		15
Spring		
CORE 4000	Collaborative Inquiry	2-3
POLS 4300	Law, Politics, and Regulatory Policy (or Public Policy seminar)	3
Elective Course in Public Policy Concentration		3
General Electives		10
Credits		18-19
Year Four		
Fall		
CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
POLS 4300	Law, Politics, and Regulatory Policy ((or Public Policy seminar))	3
General Electives	Be sure to fulfill all Core attributes	11
Credits		15
Spring		
General Elective	As needed to complete Core and graduation requirements	13
Credits		13
Total Credits		120-123

International Relations Concentration (Madrid)

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
POLS 1000	Introduction to Politics	3
MATH 1200	College Algebra	3
UNIV 1020	The First-Year Seminar-Madrid	1
POLS 1500	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
University or Core Electives		6
Credits		16
Spring		
POLS 1600	Introduction to International Politics	3
POLS 1700	Foundations of Political Theory	3
Minor course ¹		3
University or Core Electives		6
Credits		15
Summer		
POLS 1150	American Political Systems	3
Credits		3
Year Two		
Fall		
POLS 2xxx		3

ECON 1900	Principles of Economics ²	3
Minor course		3
Core Electives		6
Credits		15
Spring		
POLS 2xxx		3
POLS 2003	Qualitative Methods in Political Science	3
Minor course		3
General Electives		6
Credits		15
Year Three		
Fall		
POLS 2xxx		3
POLS 2xxx		3
Minor course		3
General Elective		3
Core Elective		3
POLS 2004	Quantitative Methods in Political Science	3
Credits		18
Spring		
POLS 3xxx		3
CMM Requirement: Select one of the following:		3
CMM 2400	Media and Society	
CMM 4460	Global Media	
CMM 3930	Special Topics	
University Elective		3
Minor course		3
Credits		12
Year Four		
Fall		
POLS 3xxx		3
POLS 4xxx		3
Minor course		3
University Electives		5
Credits		14
Spring		
POLS 4610	International Relations: Theory and Practice	3
POLS 4630	The European Union: Politics and Political Economy	3
Elective		3
Minor course		3
Credits		12
Total Credits		120

¹ The number of courses required may vary depending on minor

² Prerequisite: MATH 1200 College Algebra (0,3 cr).

Madrid

SLU-Madrid's political science program fosters a theoretical and empirical understanding of key international dynamics, major crises and opportunities for change. It aims at giving students strong analytical skills and functional competencies specific to political science and

international relations. Our goal is to strengthen our students' awareness of global events and to become actors for positive change.

Curriculum Overview

Saint Louis University offers a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in international relations. It can be completed in Spain. You also have the option to begin your studies in other political science disciplines – American politics, comparative politics or political thought, for example – and complete your degree at SLU-St. Louis.

The major in political science places special emphasis on the study of international, multilateral and regional political and economic institutions while examining public and private state and non-state actors' roles and interactions. As a political science student at SLU-Madrid, you'll be exposed to a broad spectrum of issues in the increasingly complex and interrelated world, as well as national and international security challenges, such as threats posed by nuclear weapons, terrorism, poverty, climate change and environmental issues, pandemics and health-related challenges.

Faculty

The faculty at Saint Louis University-Madrid are experts in their respective fields. They are internationally recognized teachers, researchers and mentors. Learn about our faculty members (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/faculty-profiles.php>), including their education, credentials, experience and contact information.

Faculty Research

The SLU-Madrid faculty maintains robust programs of research in a variety of fields. See below for more data.

Find Faculty Research Information (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/faculty-research.php>)

Find Research Resources (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/faculty/research-resources.php>)

Fieldwork, Internships and Careers

A degree in international relations prepares you for careers in local, state and federal governments, diplomacy, international trade and business, nongovernmental organizations, policy analysis, political research, law and education.

To combine theoretical and practical learning, qualified political science students may choose to earn up to three credit hours toward their degree by doing an internship. These students learn to implement the skills they study while gaining valuable professional experience at institutions such as governmental organizations, embassies, think tanks, companies and nonprofits.

Admission

SLU-Madrid Application (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/apply.php>)

Application Deadlines

- April 1 - Fall admission (July 1 for EU students)
- Aug. 1 - Spring admission (Nov. 1 for EU students)
- March 1 - Summer sessions (for applicants who require a student visa)

- April 15 - Summer sessions (for applicants who do not require a student visa)

Contact Us

Office of Admissions

Avenida del Valle, 34

28003 Madrid, Spain

P. (+34) 91 554 58 58

admissions-madrid@slu.edu

Office Hours: Mondays through Fridays: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (3 p.m. on Fridays from May 15 - Sept. 1)

Tuition and Fees

SLU-Madrid is committed to providing a quality Jesuit education at an affordable price. Tuition rates at SLU-Madrid are approximately 40% lower than at comparable private universities in the U.S.

If you have questions or would like to speak with a financial aid officer, email us at financialaid-madrid@slu.edu.

- Tuition and Fees (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/admissions/tuition-fees.php>)
- Scholarships and Financial Aid (<https://www.slu.edu/madrid/admissions/scholarships-financial-aid.php>)

2+SLU

2+SLU programs provide a guided pathway for students transferring from a partner institution.

Political Science, B.A. (STLCC 2+SLU) (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/2pluslu/stlcc/political-science/>)

Contact Us

For additional information about this program, please contact pols-admin@slu.edu or call 314-977-3035.