



Program Planning Guide

Current and past Program Planning Guides are available on the UofL website at www.uleth.ca/ross/ppgs/ppg.html

Calendar Year: 2012/2013

Faculty: Arts & Science

"This then—the knowledge of the natures and the habits of souls—is one of the things that is of the greatest use for the art whose business it is to care for souls. And we assert that that art is politics." (Plato)

"Politics is who gets what, when, and how." (Harold Lasswell)

What is Political Science?

Political science is the systematic study of government, politics, and political behaviour, both empirically and normatively. Empirically, it looks at how political conflict is organized and resolved, how rulers are chosen, how governmental decisions are taken, and what policies and laws are determined and implemented, in settings ranging from Canada as a whole to our provincial and local governments to other countries to the relations amongst countries. Normatively, it considers how political actors understand their obligations towards one another, and the degree to which decisions are made out of a sense of right or out of expediency.

Political Science Courses

All courses in the Department are organized under five areas: Canadian Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Public Administration, Law and Policy, and Political Theory. However, because the subject matter knows no clear-cut boundaries, you may discover your pursuit of specific interests leading you through courses in all five areas. At the same time, to bring some sense and organization to your program, the Department has prepared a sheet of guidelines to help you out (please see page 3 of this Program Planning Guide).

Career Opportunities

You're undoubtedly curious about what you can do with a Political Science background. Among the most obvious jobs associated with Political Science are politicians, government officials, bureaucrats, lawyers, journalists, city planners, teachers, and law enforcement officers - and our graduates have gone into all of them. Of course, there are many graduates who do not gravitate to occupations traditionally related to Political Science, but in a rapidly-changing, highly mobile society this may be understandable. Nevertheless, their Political Science education will be crucial to them as they assume and execute their duty and role as Canadian citizens. So, too, will your exposure to Political Science help you in this way.

Contact the Department of Political Science

If you have questions about the above or other matters or just want more information about Political Science, please feel free to get in touch with any member of the Department.

Co-operative Education

A Co-op option, requiring three work terms, is available. Students interested in the Co-operative Education/Internship program should contact the Coordinator of Co-operative Education in the Career Resources Centre (AH154 | phone: 403-382-7154) for further information.

Program Requirements

The B.A. degree with a major in Political Science requires 40 semester courses, including a minimum of 13 courses in the major. A maximum of 20 courses in Political Science is allowed.

Transfer Credit

Remember that you may use both University of Lethbridge credit and credit transferred from another college or university to meet degree and major requirements. Transfer credit may be either specified or unspecified. Specified credit is indicated on your transcript by the subject name and the specific number of the course, e.g., Political Science 1000, 2210, etc. Unspecified credit (1XXX, 2XXX, etc.) is indicated by the subject name and level of the course in parentheses, e.g., Political Science (1000 level), Political Science (2000 level), etc.

Unspecified Course Credit

Unspecified course credit means that the University of Lethbridge does not offer the same course you transferred in, but we recognize it and treat it as a regular course. An unspecified course would count as one of your maximum of 20 from one department, but it could not meet a specific course requirement. For example, if Political Science 2410 is required in your program, you could not use Political Science (2000 level) to fulfill that requirement. Students with unspecified transfer credit need to consult an Academic Advisor to establish how the transfer credit fits in the degree program. This should be done as soon as possible after transfer credit is awarded.

Program Worksheet

Name : _____ **ID :** _____

Required courses:

- _____ 1. Political Science 1000 - Introduction to Political Science
- _____ 2. Political Science 2110 - International Relations
- _____ 3. Political Science 2210 - Canadian Politics and Government
- _____ 4. Political Science 2310 - Comparative Politics and Government
- _____ 5. Political Science 2511 - Introduction to Political Theory
- _____ 6. Political Science 2610 - Introductory Research Methods
- _____ 7-11. Five Political Science courses at the 3000/4000 level
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____
 - 4. _____
 - 5. _____
- _____ 12-13. Two Political Science courses at the 4000 level
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____

Note: *Political Science 4980 - Applied Studies, Political Science 4990 - Independent Study, and Political Science 4995 - Undergraduate Thesis may not be included as part of the 13-course minimum for the major; they are strongly encouraged for students taking courses beyond this minimum, however.*

Sample Sequencing Plan

Shown below is a sample sequence of courses for your degree. If you follow this plan, you should be able to graduate in four years, provided you complete five courses per semester. This is just one example of how you could complete your major and degree requirements; you may find that a different sequence works as well as this one.

<p>Year 1, Fall Political Science 1000 GLER course GLER course GLER course GLER course</p>	<p>Year 1, Spring Political Science 2000 level GLER course GLER course GLER course GLER course</p>
<p>Year 2, Fall Political Science 2000 level Political Science 2000 level Elective Elective Elective</p>	<p>Year 2, Spring Political Science 2000 level Political Science 2000 level Elective Elective Elective</p>
<p>Year 3, Fall Political Science 3000/4000 level Political Science 3000/4000 level Elective Elective Elective</p>	<p>Year 3, Spring Political Science 3000/4000 level Political Science 3000/4000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective</p>
<p>Year 4, Fall Political Science 3000/4000 level Political Science 4000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective</p>	<p>Year 4, Spring Political Science 4000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective Elective</p>

Terms Used

GLER course: A course that could count toward the General Liberal Education Requirement. You may use courses in your major towards this 12-course requirement. See the 2012/2013 University of Lethbridge Calendar, Part 4 - Academic Regulations (p. 90) for complete information.

The Faculty of Arts and Science offers Liberal Education 1000 and 2000, specifically designed to introduce first-year students to the wide scope of human knowledge and teach essential university success skills, critical thinking, and integrative thinking (see the 2012/2013 University of Lethbridge Calendar, Part 14 - Courses, p. 327). LBED 1000 and 2000 may be used toward satisfying the GLER.

Elective: A course that you may choose freely from all those available and applicable to your program. Use courses inside or outside your major, bearing in mind any restrictions that may apply (e.g., a maximum of 20 courses from any one department).



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