


# PATHWAYS | POLITICAL SCIENCE

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science



COLLEGE OF  
LIBERAL ARTS

	COURSE SELECTION	ASK FOR ASSISTANCE	GAIN EXPERIENCE	GET INVOLVED
FRESHMAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>POLI 1090 American Government in a Multicultural World</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You are encouraged to meet with your CLA advisors and the POLI department advisor twice a year, in mid-September and in mid-February.</li> <li>Utilize Academic Support services on campus, such as Study Partners, Supplemental instruction, and Academic Coaching.</li> <li>Don't be shy...visit your instructors during office hours and ask questions if you need clarification on something in class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use LinkedIn (linkedin.com/alumni) to identify past graduates in your major.</li> <li>Contact them to set up informational interviews and shadowing opportunities to gain further understanding of your major in the world of work.</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freshmen are encouraged to consider serving in leadership roles in organization that will enhance their resume for future endeavors.</li> <li>Service organizations, honor societies, social organizations, and professional societies all provide leadership opportunities and valuable real-world experience for students.</li> <li>Quality involvement is encouraged over quantity involvement.</li> </ul>
SOPHOMORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>POLI 3000 Research Methods</li> <li>Political Theory class to complete the group/political theory requirement.</li> <li>Consider taking a class in two of the following areas: Comparative Politics, International Relations, Public Administration, Public Law and Conflict resolution or American politics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit the Career Center and develop a plan for after graduation.</li> <li>Consider job shadowing and interviewing professionals working in careers that interest you.</li> <li>Research potential employers in your chosen field; research graduate programs of interest.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research internship opportunities and study abroad options related to your major, your career goals, or your graduate school goals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You are encouraged to augment your POLI degree with a minor in an area of interest that will enhance your skills for a chosen career, graduate, or professional school path.</li> </ul>
JUNIOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete two to three POLI classes in the fall and spring to complete the concentration mix, count toward a specific POLI concentration, and count toward some POLI electives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan for graduate school, take the GRE or LSAT in a timely manner.</li> <li>Visit potential graduate program campuses. Create a job search plan or a graduate school plan and include important deadlines for applications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study abroad, complete an internship, or consider part-time work directly related to your future career goals.</li> <li>Explore research opportunities if graduate school is your desired path.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society, has a chapter at Auburn.</li> <li>Initiations are conducted twice a year, and applications and eligibility requirements are available in the POLI department office in 7080 Haley.</li> </ul>
SENIOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete the POLI concentration and POLI elective groups.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin narrowing your career path interests or your graduate school options.</li> <li>Send out résumés and graduate school applications. Keep as many options open as possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete a study abroad experience, internship and/or part-time work related to your field, if you haven't already participated in one of those areas.</li> <li>Consider conducting undergraduate research to enhance your résumé for graduate school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If your schedule allows you may consider participating in Auburn on the Hill.</li> <li>This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience at the federal level of governance.</li> <li>See <a href="http://auburn.edu/washington">auburn.edu/washington</a> for additional information.</li> </ul>

## CAREER PLANNING



Mary Martin Hall, home of the Auburn University Career Center

### AUBURN UNIVERSITY CAREER CENTER

303 MARY MARTIN HALL | [AUBURN.EDU/CAREER](http://auburn.edu/career)

Political Science is an experience heavy field. A prospective graduate should maximize their time at Auburn by taking advantage of experiential opportunities as much as you are able. The field can be terminal at the bachelor level of education, but some specialties will require graduate education.

#### CIA AGENT

MINIMUM EDUCATION: B.A.

ENTRY LEVEL SALARY RANGE: \$58.5K-\$81.2K

These are just three options out of many that Political Science majors pursue. For more career options be sure to check out "What Can I Do With a Major In..." on [auburn.edu/career](http://auburn.edu/career).

#### LOBBYIST

MINIMUM EDUCATION: B.A.

ENTRY LEVEL SALARY RANGE: \$64K-\$82.1K

#### POLICY ANALYST

MINIMUM EDUCATION: M.A.

ENTRY LEVEL SALARY RANGE: \$37.5K-\$54.3K