



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Bay de Noc Community College

Fall 2017

Western Michigan University Political Science Curriculum Guide

Pre-political science requirements:

- The Political Science department offers five undergraduate majors: a standard Political Science major, and concentrations in International and Comparative Politics, Public Law, American Public Policy, and Secondary Education. Please see the WMU Political Science department website for a complete look at your choices;
- All of the concentrations require the following courses:

WMU courses	Bay courses
PSCI 2000	POLI 111 or 111H
PSCI 2400 or 2500	POLI 110 or 201 or 201H

(The International and Comparative Politics concentration requires **both** 2400 and 2500)
- The Secondary Education major requires the above courses and the following:

WMU courses	Bay courses
PSCI 2020	POLI 262 or 262H
ECON 2010 or 2020	ECON 131 or 132
HIST 2100 and 2110	HIST 211 or 211H and 212 or 212H
GEOG 1020 or 1050 or 2050	GEOG 110 or GEOG 121
- Education majors should look at the College of Education and Human Development's website for further information about prerequisites, requirements, and advising for students who are intending to pursue secondary education-political science;
- The International and Comparative Politics major also requires 2 years of one foreign language, which can be met in one of three ways:
 - Successful completion of the 2010 level course at WMU, in any language;
 - Successful completion of equivalent courses at another institution;
 - Passing and placing into the third year of study, via the proctored Foreign Language Placement Evaluation Exam offered at WMU. Please check with the WMU World Languages or Spanish department for information about this option;
 - If the student's first language is not English, then the student is exempt from this requirement. Determination of eligibility for this exemption is based on whether the student was required to take the TOEFL test for admission, and can be verified through the WMU departments of Spanish or World Languages and Literatures.
- All political science majors must complete a minimum of 30-33 credit hours in their major, and it is expected that transfer students will take at least one-half of the minimum in WMU's political science department.

General education requirements:

- Please see the WMU general [education program transfer guide](#) for information about all of the courses that you may take at Bay that will count for the requirements at WMU. Courses in a political science major will usually fulfill two of your distribution Areas. Please consult with your WMU A & S advisor;
- The political science majors are administered through the WMU College of Arts & Sciences (A & S). All students graduating from the College of Arts & Sciences must meet the world language proficiency by completing two semesters (6-8 hours) of the same foreign language or American Sign Language, or passing WMU's proficiency by exam. Please contact the College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Advising Office at (269) 387-4366 with any questions. Neither the MACRAO nor the MTA satisfy the world language requirement.
 - If the student's first language is not English, then the student is exempt from this requirement. Determination of eligibility for this exemption is based on whether the student was required to take the TOEFL test for admission, and can be verified through the WMU departments of Spanish or World Languages and Literatures.
- A & S requires a critical thinking course, to be chosen from Proficiency 4c. See the general education transfer guide link above. The MACRAO Agreement or the Michigan Transfer Agreement will satisfy this requirement.

Important notes:

- Typically this major appeals to students with career interests in politics and government, business, education, and law;
- For the American Public Policy major, the political science department recommends a minor, or additional course-work, in accounting or economics;
- Students considering **law school** can use the pre-law resources to plan their college preparation, and should plan to meet with a pre law advisor during their first semester at WMU. There is a pre-law section in the Political Science department website;
- The International and Comparative Politics major requires at least three courses from outside the PSCI department that focus on foreign, international, or cross-national topics. Please consult with a political science department advisor regarding this requirement. Advisors may be contacted at wmich.edu/politics/academics/undergraduate/advising;
- The A & S advisors strongly suggest that students apply to WMU at least 9 months before starting classes.

Approved by:

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