

# POLITICAL SCIENCE SF SCHOLARS ROADMAP

The San Francisco State Scholars program provides undergraduate students with an accelerated pathway to a graduate degree. Students in this program pursue a bachelor's and master's degree simultaneously. This program allows students to earn graduate credit while in their junior and/or senior year, reducing the number of semesters required for completion of a master's degree.

**This roadmap is a suggested plan of study and does not replace meeting with an advisor. Please note that students may need to adjust the actual sequence of courses based on course availability. Please consult an advisor in your major program for further guidance.**

Course	Title	Units
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
ENG 114	Writing the First Year: Finding Your Voice (A2) <sup>1</sup>	3
PLSI 200	Introduction to American Politics (Major Core, USG/CSLG)	3
GE Area A <sup>2</sup>		3
GE Area B: Quantitative Reasoning (B4) <sup>3</sup>		3
GE Area C		3
<b>Units</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
PLSI 250	Comparative Politics (Major Core)	3
GE Area A		3
GE Area B: Physical Science (B1) and Laboratory Science (B3) <sup>4</sup>		3-4
GE Area E		3
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective <sup>5</sup>		3
<b>Units</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
PLSI 275	Introduction to Political Theory (Major Core)	3
GE Area B: Life Science (B2) and Laboratory Science (B3) <sup>4</sup>		3-4
GE Area C		3
GE Area D		3
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective <sup>5</sup>		3
<b>Units</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
PLSI 303	Fundamentals of Political Science (Major Core)	2
GE Area C		3
GE Area D		3

GE Area F <sup>±</sup>		3
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective <sup>5</sup>		3
<b>Units</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>Summer Semester</b>		
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective - Take Two <sup>5</sup>		6
<b>Units</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
PLSI 302GW	Writing for Political Science - GVAR (Major Core)	4
PLSI 304	Scientific Inquiry in Political Science (Major Core)	4
GE Area UD-B: Upper-Division Physical and/or Life Sciences (Consider SF State Studies Course)		3
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective - Take Two <sup>5</sup>		6
<b>Units</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
Breadth Requirement - Take Two <sup>6</sup>		6-8
GE Area UD-C: Upper-Division Arts and/or Humanities (Consider SF State Studies Course)		3
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective - Take Two <sup>5</sup>		6
<b>Units</b>		<b>15-17</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>		
<b>Summer Semester</b>		
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective - Take Two <sup>5</sup>		6
<b>Units</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
PLSI 700	Research Methods (Graduate Core)	3
Breadth Requirement - Take One <sup>6</sup>		3-4
Major Electives - Take One <sup>7</sup>		3-4
Political Science Topic Seminar <sup>8</sup>		3
GE Area UD-D: Upper-Division Social Sciences (Consider SF State Studies Course)		3
<b>Units</b>		<b>15-17</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
PLSI 780	Seminar in Political Theory (Graduate Core)	3
Major Electives - Take One <sup>7</sup>		3-4
Culminating Experience <sup>9</sup>		3-4
Additional Graduate Elective <sup>10</sup>		3
Complementary Studies or SF State Studies or University Elective <sup>5</sup>		3
<b>Units</b>		<b>15-17</b>

**Fifth Year**

**Fall Semester**

PLSI 740	Seminar in American Politics (Graduate Core)	3
PLSI 760	Seminar in Comparative Politics (Graduate Core)	3
Political Science Topic Seminar <sup>8</sup>		3
<b>Units</b>		<b>9</b>

**Spring Semester**

Select One (Culminating Experience):		3
PLSI 896 & 896EXM	Preparation for Written Comprehensive Examination and Culminating Experience Examination	
PLSI 898	Master's Thesis	
Additional Graduate Electives - Take Two <sup>10</sup>		6
<b>Units</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>151-159</b>

<sup>1</sup> ENG 114 can only be taken if you complete Directed Self-Placement (DSP) and select ENG 114; if you choose ENG 104/ENG 105 through DSP you will satisfy A2 upon successful completion of ENG 105 in the second semester; multilingual students may be advised into alternative English courses.

<sup>2</sup> To avoid taking additional units, it is recommended that you meet the **SF State Studies** (AERM, GP, ES, SJ) requirements within your GE or major.

<sup>3</sup> To determine the best B4 course option, students should complete the online advising activity at mathadvising.sfsu.edu (<https://mathadvising.sfsu.edu/>). Questions? Contact Gator Smart Start. (<https://gatorsmartstart.sfsu.edu/>)

<sup>4</sup> Consider taking a class combined with a laboratory or a separate lab to fulfill B3 if not already satisfied.

<sup>5</sup> **Complementary Studies**

12 units of Complementary Studies are required of all candidates for the B.A. degree in Political Science. These units must come from courses bearing a prefix other than PLSI that are not cross-listed with Political Science. Students can satisfy this requirement by completing a related minor, a secondary major, or through an approved Study Abroad program.

Complementary Studies courses should have a direct bearing on the study of politics or deepen and enrich the study of politics. Such courses are typically found in departments like International Relations, Urban Studies and Planning, or Philosophy, and in the College of Ethnic Studies.

Eight of the 12 Complementary Studies units may count toward the major as elective units if approved in advance by a Political Science advisor. Students must consult with an advisor in the department to ensure that their choices fulfill the department's requirements.

Courses from the following departments will be considered to be part of Complementary Studies for Political Science. Any minor automatically fulfills Complementary Studies and, depending on one's emphasis, foreign languages can also fulfill Complementary Studies if they are associated with a focus on comparative politics and/or area studies.

- Africana Studies
- American Indian Studies
- Anthropology
- Asian American Studies
- Criminal Justice
- Environmental Studies
- Ethnic Studies
- History
- Humanities
- International Relations
- Latina/Latino Studies
- Philosophy
- Sexuality Studies
- Sociology
- Urban Studies and Planning
- Women and Gender Studies

Students who have earned AA-T or AS-T degrees and are pursuing a similar B.A. degree at SF State are required to fulfill the Complementary Studies requirement as defined by the major department. Students should consult with a major advisor about how transfer units and/or SF State units can best be applied to this requirement in order to ensure degree completion within 60 units.

**6 Breadth Requirement (10-12 units)**

Upper-division Political Science courses selected to include at least one course in three of the four sub-fields:

**American Politics**

PLSI 460 Topics in American Politics (4 units)\*  
 PLSI 461 Voting Behavior, Campaigns, and Elections (4 units)  
 PLSI 462 Applied Public Opinion Research (4 units)  
 PLSI 463 The Politics of Immigration in the United States (4 units) (AERM, SJ)  
 PLSI 464 Race and American Politics (4 units) (UD-D, AERM, SJ)  
 PLSI 465 Reason, Passion, and Political Behavior (4 units)  
 PLSI 467 Politics and Community Organizing (4 units)  
 PLSI 468 Women and American Politics (4 units)  
 PLSI 469 Women's Political Movements in the United States (4 units)  
 PLSI 470/SXS 470/WGS 470 The Politics of Sex and Reproduction (4 units)  
 PLSI 472 Civic and Political Engagement (4 units)  
 PLSI 473 California Politics and Government (4 units) (CSLG, SJ)  
 PLSI 475 San Francisco Political Issues (4 units)  
 PLSI 476 The American Presidency (4 units)  
 PLSI 477 Congress and the Presidency (4 units)  
 PLSI 479 The United States Congress (4 units)  
 PLSI 512 Urban Politics and Community Power (4 units)  
 PLSI 603/USP 603 Public Service Internships (3 units)  
 & PLSI 604/USP 604 Internship Seminar (1 unit)

**Comparative Politics**

PLSI 307/I R 307 Qualitative Methods in Political Science and International Relations (4 units)  
 PLSI 328/I R 328 Domestic and Foreign Policy: Post-Communist Regions (4 units)  
 PLSI 403 Cases in Comparative Politics (4 units) (GP, SJ)  
 PLSI 404/I R 404 Politics of China (4 units) (UD-D, GP)  
 PLSI 406 Radical Right Politics: Far-Right Parties in Contemporary Europe (4 units) (UD-D, GP, SJ)  
 PLSI 407 Politics of Russia (4 units) (UD-D, GP)  
 PLSI 408/LTNS 670 Mexican Politics and Society (3 units) (UD-D, AERM, GP, SJ)  
 PLSI 409/I R 409 Russia and World Order (4 units) (GP)  
 PLSI 410 Middle East Politics (4 units) (UD-D, GP)  
 PLSI 411/I R 411 East Asian Politics (4 units) (UD-D, GP)  
 PLSI 412/I R 412 South Asian Politics (4 units) (GP)  
 PLSI 416 Ethnicity and Nationalism (4 units) (UD-D, GP)  
 PLSI 417/I R 417 Gender, Equality, and Politics: A Comparative Perspective (4 units)  
 PLSI 418 Political Transitions in East & Southeast Asia (4 units)  
 PLSI 419 Comparative Political Economy (4 units) (UD-D, GP)  
 PLSI 422/I R 422 Law and Courts in Comparative Perspective (4 units)  
 PLSI 424 Social Movements (4 units)  
 PLSI 425/I R 425 Imagining Power in the Middle East (4 units) (GP)  
 PLSI 431 Constructing Kurdistan (4 units) (GP)  
 PLSI 459/I R 459 Refugees in Global Perspective (4 units) (UD-C, AERM, GP)

**Political Theory**

PLSI 309 Methods and Approaches in Political Theory (4 units)  
 PLSI 351 Political Theory: The Classical Tradition (4 units)  
 PLSI 352 Political Theory: Reformation to Nineteenth Century (4 units)  
 PLSI 353 Political Theory: The Twentieth Century (4 units)  
 PLSI 354 Politics, the Environment, and Social Change (4 units) (UD-D, ES, SJ)

PLSI 355 Politics and Ethics of the Consumer Society (3 units) (UD-D, ES, SJ)  
 PLSI 356 Political Theories of Neoliberalism (4 units)  
 PLSI 360 Development of American Political Thought (4 units)  
 PLSI 371 Marxist Political Theory (4 units)  
 PLSI 372/HUM 372/I R 372 Critical Political Theory (4 units)  
 PLSI 381 Political Theories of Sexuality (4 units) (UD-D, SJ)  
 PLSI 382 Politics and Literature (4 units)  
 PLSI 386 Introduction to Critical Social Thought (3 units) (UD-D, SJ)  
 PLSI 387 Non-Western Comparative Political Thought (4 units)  
 PLSI 388 Politics and the Popular (4 units) (UD-D, SJ)  
 PLSI 389 Latin American Revolutionary Societies (4 units)  
 PLSI 392 Latin American Political Thought (4 units)  
 PLSI 393 Anarchist Political Theory (4 units) (UD-D, SJ)  
 PLSI 394/LABR 394 Political Theories of Work, Labor, and Free Time (4 units)  
 PLSI 396 Fascism and Communism in 20th Century Europe (4 units) (UD-D, GP, SJ)

**Public Law**

PLSI 308 Research and Writing for Public Law (4 units)  
 PLSI 478 Judicial Process (4 units) (SJ)  
 PLSI 481 Race and Public Law (4 units)  
 PLSI 552 Individual Rights and the Constitution (4 units) (SJ)  
 PLSI 553 Legal Issues (4 units)  
 PLSI 554 Separation of Powers and Federalism (4 units)  
 PLSI 555 Moot Court (4 units)\*\*  
 PLSI 556 Constitutional Law: First Amendment (4 units)  
 PLSI 557 Constitutional Law: The Fourteenth Amendment (4 units)  
 PLSI 561 Jurisprudence (4 units)  
 PLSI 610 Judicial and Legal Internship (3 units)  
 &PLSI 611 Judicial and Legal Internship Seminar (1 unit)

**7 Electives (7-10 Units)**

Select enough to reach 42 units for the major. It is recommended that elective units be taken in Political Science. However, up to 4 upper-division units may be selected from closely related departments with the consent of a major advisor. Please note that only 3 units of electives can come from lower-division coursework.

- PLSI 100 Understanding Politics (3 units) (D1, SJ)
- PLSI 105 Principles of Government and Politics (3 units)
- PLSI 106 Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy: Introduction to Political Economy (3 units) (D1, SJ)
- PLSI 150/PHIL 150 Contemporary Moral/Political Issues (3 units) (C2, SJ)
- PLSI 216 The 2020 Presidential Election: Issues and Analysis (2 units)
- PLSI 318 Modern Citizenship: Pundits, Podcasts, and Political Know-How in the 21st Century (2 units)
- PLSI 320 Political Forum (2 units)
- PLSI 321/I R 321 Development and Foreign Policy: Africa (4 units)
- PLSI 322/I R 322 Latin American Policy Analysis (4 units) (UD-GP, SJ)
- PLSI 325/I R 325 Chinese Foreign Policy (4 units)
- PLSI 329/I R 329 U.S.-Japan Politics (4 units)
- PLSI 342/I R 342 Modern Conflict: Cyber Warfare, Food Security, and Crises in the International System (4 units)
- PLSI 362/I R 362 Domestic & Transnational Sources of U.S. Foreign Policy (4 units)
- PLSI 373 Essentials of California Politics (1 units) (CSLG)
- PLSI 395 Political Theories of Pedagogy and Community Activism (3 units) (SJ)
- PLSI 430/JS 430/I R 430 Israeli Democracy: Politics, Institutions, and Society (3 units) (UD-D, GP)
- PLSI 492/USP 492 Research Methods (4 units)
- PLSI 493/USP 493 Data Analysis (4 units)
- PLSI 500/LABR 500 Labor and Government (3 units)
- PLSI 544/I R 544 Women in the World (4 units) (UD-D, GP, SJ)
- PLSI 560/USP 560 Urban Poverty and Policy (4 units) (UD-D, SJ)
- PLSI 570/USP 570/LABR 570 Urban Health Policy (3 units)
- PLSI 580/USP 580 Housing Policy and Planning (3 units) (UD-D, AERM, GP, SJ)
- PLSI 685 Projects in the Teaching of Political Science (1-4 units)
- PLSI 699 Independent Study (1-4 units)

**8 Political Science Topic Seminars (6 units)**

Two PLSI graduate seminar topics (6 units). These are seminars that focus on a substantive topic in a political science subfield offered in our department. Students may fulfill their 6 units with two courses from one subfield or from more than one subfield.

- Topics in American Politics – PLSI courses with a number in the range of 741 to 759
- Topics in Comparative Politics – PLSI courses with a number in the range of 761 to 779
- Topics in Political Theory – PLSI courses with a number in the range of 781 to 797

**9 Bachelor Culminating Experience (3-4 units)**

- PLSI 605 Senior Seminar: Student's Choice Empirical Research Project (4 units)
- PLSI 606 Senior Seminar in American Politics (3 units)
- PLSI 607 Senior Seminar in Comparative Politics (3 units)
- PLSI 608 Senior Seminar in Political Theory (3 units)
- PLSI 609 Senior Seminar in Public Law: Legal Issues (3 units)
- PLSI 613 Senior Seminar: The Politics of Harry Potter (3 units)
- PLSI 614 Senior Seminar: Politics of Abortion in the United States (3 units)

**10 Additional Electives (9 units)**

Students should take an additional 9 units that may include:

- Any other PLSI graduate topic seminar
- PLSI 701, PLSI 707, PLSI 708, or other graduate PLSI courses.
- Any upper-division (300-level or above) undergraduate PLSI courses.  
Note: for students who do not have a Political Science BA and/or seek more writing instruction in political science, we strongly recommend PLSI 302GW.
- Any graduate or upper-division undergraduate courses from International Relations, Public Administration, or Urban Studies and Planning.
- For both undergraduate and graduate electives, Philosophy, Anthropology, Sociology, Communication Studies, or History courses may be permitted but **MUST** receive prior approval from a faculty advisor.

\* PLSI 460 is a variable topic course and may be taken more than once for credit. If taken more than once, any additional semesters count towards the Political Science Electives.

\*\* Moot Court (PLSI 555) may be repeated once for credit, but only 4 units may be applied to the Breadth requirement.