



BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE CIVIC & NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP OPTION

AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

NAME	
E NUMBER	

2025-2026

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: 40 HRS

LANGUAGE: 9 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
ENG 1001G Composition & Language	3		
ENG 1002G Composition & Language II	3		
CMN 1310G Intro. to Speech Comm.	3		

HUMANITIES/FINE ARTS: 9 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
Humanities _____	3		
Fine Arts _____	3		
Humanities or Fine Arts _____	3		

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: 9 HRS

Must be from two different disciplines.

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
PLS 1153G/1193G	3		
PLS 2253G/2293G	3		
Non PLS _____	3		

POLITICAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS: 40 HRS

REQUIRED COURSES: 16 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
PLS 1153G American Gov't	3		
OR PLS 1139G American Gov't Honors			
PLS 1500 Political Science Forum	1		
PLS 2000G Intro Public Affairs	3		
PLS 2033 Research Methods	3		
PLS 4600 Capstone (prerequisite: 75 hrs., PLS 1500 , and PLS 2033)	3		
+ CHOOSE 1 OF THE FOLLOWING			
PLS 1003 Intro. to Politics	3		
PLS 3613 Public Policy	3		
PLS 3623 Public & Nonprofit Mgmt	3		

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: 6 HRS (CHOOSE 2)

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
PLS 4793 Civic Nonprofit Leadership	2		
PLS 4873 HR Mgt Govt Nonprofit	2		
PLS 4893 Budget Govt Nonprofit	2		

CIVIC/NONPROFIT ELECTIVES: 12 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
Elective 1 _____	3		
Elective 2 _____	3		
Elective 3 _____	3		
Elective 4 _____	3		

GIS: 3 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
GEO 3810 Intro GIS	3		

SCIENCE AWARENESS: 7 HRS

One biological and one physical science course, one of which must involve a lab.

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
BIO _____ Lab? ☐			
Phy. Sci. _____ Lab? ☐			

MATHEMATICS: 3 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
MAT _____	3		

SENIOR SEMINAR: 3 HRS

After completion of 75 credits. Choose from PLS 4600, EIU 4XXXG, or STA 4000G

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
PLS 4600 Capstone	3		

FOREIGN LANGUAGE: 0-8 HRS

☐ Exempt if 2 yrs in high school with "C" average.

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
WL _____ G	4		
WL _____ G	4		

APPLIED LEARNING: 3 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
PLS 2503 Legal Research (only 1 HR counts)	1		
PLS 2513 Moot Court (1 hr) ☐ ☐ ☐			
PLS 2611 Model IL Gov't (1 hr) ☐ ☐ ☐			
PLS 3970 Study Abroad			
PLS 4275 Internship			
PLS 4503 Independent Study			
PLS 4444 Honors Independent Study			

CIVIC & NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP ELECTIVES

PLS 2333 Political Campaigning
PLS 3603 State and Local Government
PLS 3733 Interest Groups and Lobbying
PLS 3723 Political Behavior
PLS 3653 American Indian Politics
PLS 3703 African American Politics
PLS 3903 Women & Politics
PLS 3713 Political Parties and Elections
PLS 3862 Spec Top US/Policy/PubAd
PLS 3743 Congress
PLS 3753 The American Presidency
PLS 3773 Religion & Politics in the US
PLS 4763 Environmental Politics & Policy
PLS 4783 Health Politics & Policy
PLS 4793 Civic and Nonprofit Leadership*
PLS 4893 Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations*
PLS 4873 HR Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations*

*Cannot count for both a required course and an elective.

PLS 4555/Honors Research, PLS 4644/Honors Thesis, and the 5000-level seminar count for Field Requirements and Electives, with admission into Departmental Honors, and with the academic advisor and department chair's approval.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

☐ 120 Hours
☐ 40 SH of upper division courses (3000+)
☐ 2.00 Cumulative GPA
☐ 2.00 Major GPA

☐ Cultural Diversity
☐ Application for Graduation (First semester junior year)
☐ Electronic Writing Portfolio 1 ☐ 2 ☐
See www.eiu.edu/~assess/ for requirements

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

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SUGGESTED 4-YEAR SEQUENCE

YEAR 1				YEAR 3			
FALL		SPRING		FALL		SPRING	
PLS 1500	1	ENG 1002G/1092G	3	Civic Nonprofit Elective 2	3	Civic Nonprofit Elective 3	3
PLS 1153G/1193G	3	Fine Arts Gen. Ed.	3	GEO 3810	3	PLS Applied Learning Req.	3
ENG 1001G/1091G	3	Social/Behav. Sci. Gen. Ed.	3	Life Science Gen. Ed.	3	Upper Division Electives	6
Humanities Gen. Ed.	3	Elective	3	Upper Division Elective	3	Elective	3
Physical Science Gen. Ed.	4			Elective	3		
Total	15	Total	12	Total	15	Total	15
YEAR 2				YEAR 4			
FALL		SPRING		FALL		SPRING	
PLS 2033	3	Civic Nonprofit Elective 1	3	PLS 4600	3	PA Requirement 2	3
PLS 2000G	3	CMN 1310G	3	PA Requirement 1	3	Upper Division Electives	9
MAT 1160G/2250G/2290G	3	Human./Fine Arts Gen. Ed.	3	Upper Division Electives	6	Electives	3
WL__ 1101G	4	WL__ 1102G	4	Elective	3		
Elective	3	Elective	3				
Total	16	Total	15	Total	15	Total	15

Students with dual/transfer/AP credits have more room to take electives or pursue a double major or minor. Students who need a foreign language graduation requirement have fewer elective options. We recommend completing this requirement in your 1st year.

*Any Math general education course will count in the major, but these classes are recommended.
**There are many paths to completing the applied learning requirement - talk to your academic advisor.

NOTES, QUESTIONS, MINOR REQUIREMENTS: