

Political Science and International Affairs, BA (Boston)

Through this combined major, undergraduates will develop an awareness of global affairs and international relations since the early 20th century. The combined major addresses diverse and cross-disciplinary theories of interstate relations (conflict, cooperation, hierarchies); civil society, transnational advocacy networks, global social movements; political processes, institutions, and actors; and state-society relations (democracy, authoritarianism, inequalities, citizenship).

Program Requirements

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/>).

BA Language Requirements

All BA students are required to complete the BA degree language requirements, for a total of 12 semester hours of language study or demonstrated equivalent proficiency, as described in Additional Requirements for BA students (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/ba-requirements/>). Successful demonstration of proficiency does not reduce total minimum semester hours of study required to earn the BA degree.

NUpath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUpath Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/>).

Political Science Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Political Science Requirements		
POLS 1150	American Government	4
POLS 1155	Comparative Politics	4
POLS 1160	International Relations	4
POLS 2400	Quantitative Techniques	4
Political Theory		
Complete one of the following:		4
POLS 2325	Ancient Philosophy and Political Thought	
POLS 2328	Modern Political Thought	
POLS 2330	American Political Thought	
POLS 2332	Contemporary Political Thought	
Political Science Electives		
<i>Note: Elective courses may also fulfill requirements of an optional concentration of this program.</i>		
Complete four political science courses at or above POLS 2000		16

CONCENTRATION LIST

- American Political Institutions (p. 6)
- Campaigns and Elections (p. 7)
- Comparative Politics (p. 7)
- Identity, Culture, and Politics (p. 7)
- International Relations and Diplomacy (p. 7)
- Law and Legal Studies (p. 8)
- Public Policy (p. 8)
- Security Studies (p. 8)

Supporting Course for Political Science

Code	Title	Hours
Mathematics		
Complete one of the following to fulfill the prerequisite for POLS2400		4
MATH 1213	Interactive Mathematics	

MATH 1215	Mathematical Thinking
MATH 1231	Calculus for Business and Economics
MATH 1241	Calculus 1
MATH 1251	Calculus and Differential Equations for Biology 1
MATH 1341	Calculus 1 for Science and Engineering
MATH 1342	Calculus 2 for Science and Engineering

International Affairs Requirements

Courses used to fulfill major requirements may not be used to satisfy the global dynamics requirement. See department for additional courses.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
ECON 1115	Principles of Macroeconomics	4
or ECON 1116	Principles of Microeconomics	
HIST 2211	The World Since 1945	4
or HIST 2311	Colonialism/Imperialism	
INTL 1101	Globalization and International Affairs	4
INTL 3400	International Conflict and Negotiation	4

International Experiential Learning

Complete at least one “international semester” via study abroad, international internship, international co-op, or two short-term programs.

International Affairs Elective

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following courses:		4

Code	Title	Hours
INTL 2480	Women and World Politics	
INTL 2500	Race and Global Human Mobility	
INTL 2600	Artificial Intelligence and World Politics	
INTL 3150	Global Philanthropy	
INTL 3200	Cities in a Global Context	
INTL 3350	Borders and Racial Security	
INTL 3406	International Law	
INTL 3430	Revolution, Civil War, and Insurrection	
INTL 3450	Security, Culture, Power	
INTL 3520	Global Political Economy	
INTL 4100	Forced Migration: Refugees, Exiles, and Displaced Persons	
INTL 5010	International Human Rights Law and Policy	
INTL 5100	Climate and Development	

Global Dynamics Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following. Courses are divided into thematic groups to aid students in deciding which courses to take and have no bearing on major requirements.		4

Code	Title	Hours
<i>Environment</i>		
ENVR 1110	Global Climate Change	
ENVR 2515	Sustainable Development	
ENVR 3150	Food Security and Sustainability	
INTL 5100	Climate and Development	
INTL 5268	International Environmental Policy	
or PPUA 5268	International Environmental Policy	
PPUA 5267	Climate Policy and Justice	
SOCL 1246	Environment and Society	

Law, Diplomacy, and Global Governance

ANTH 3442	Anthropology of Law
COMM 2303	Global and Intercultural Communication
HIST 1100	Law and History
INTL 2480	Women and World Politics
or WMNS 2480	Women and World Politics
INTL 2600	Artificial Intelligence and World Politics
INTL 3520	Global Political Economy
INTL 5010	International Human Rights Law and Policy
POLS 1155	Comparative Politics
POLS 1160	International Relations
POLS 2370	Religion and Politics
POLS 3405	International Political Economy
POLS 3406	International Law
POLS 4910	Model United Nations

Human Rights and Social Justice

AFCS 3900	Gender and Black World Literatures
AFCS 4526	Afro-Asian Relations in the Americas
ANTH 3100	Gender, Social Justice, and Transnational Activism
or POLS 3100	Gender, Social Justice, and Transnational Activism
HIST 2303	Gender and Reproductive Justice
HIST 2373	Gender and Sexuality in World History
INTL 2480	Women and World Politics
or WMNS 2480	Women and World Politics
INTL 5010	International Human Rights Law and Policy
PHIL 5001	Global Justice

Conflict and Security

CRIM 3030	Global Criminology
CRIM 3060	Political Crime and Terrorism
CRIM 5203	Security in the 21st Century
HIST 1206	Drug Trade and Drug War: History, Security, Culture
HIST 1389	History of Espionage 1: Antiquity to World War II
HIST 1390	History of Espionage 2: Cold War Spies
HIST 2217	The Global Far-Right since 1945: Politics, Culture, Violence
HIST 3330	The Global Cold War
HIST 3334	Assassinations in World History
INTL 3430	Revolution, Civil War, and Insurrection
INTL 3450	Security, Culture, Power
JRNL 3300	Covering Conflicts: Peace, War, and the Media
or INTL 3300	Covering Conflicts: Peace, War, and the Media
PHIL 5001	Global Justice
POLS 2282	The Holocaust and Comparative Genocide
POLS 3418	Nationalism
POLS 3420	U.S. National Security Policy
POLS 3423	Terrorism and Counterterrorism
POLS 3430	Revolution, Civil War, and Insurrection
or INTL 3430	Revolution, Civil War, and Insurrection
POLS 4918	Model NATO

Globalization

AFCS 2600	Issues in Race, Science, and Technology
ANTH 2305	Global Markets and Local Culture
ANTH 2315	Religion and Modernity
ECON 3290	History of the Global Economy
ECON 3635	International Economics

HIST 1215	Origins of Today: Historical Roots of Contemporary Issues
HIST 2211	The World Since 1945
HIST 2311	Colonialism/Imperialism
INTB 3310	Cultural Aspects of International Business
INTL 2480	Women and World Politics
or WMNS 2480	Women and World Politics
INTL 3200	Cities in a Global Context
INTL 3520	Global Political Economy
POLS 1160	International Relations
POLS 2370	Religion and Politics
POLS 3405	International Political Economy
POLS 3406	International Law
<i>Population, Migration, and Diaspora</i>	
AFCS 1101	Introduction to African American and Africana Studies
AFCS 1270	Introduction to Global Health
or PHTH 1270	Introduction to Global Health
AFCS 3424	Epidemiology of Pandemic Diseases and Health Disparities in the African Diaspora
ANTH 1101	Peoples and Cultures
ANTH 4220	South Asian Diasporas
CRIM 1400	Human Trafficking
HIST 1218	Pirates, Planters, and Patriots: Making the Americas, 1492–1804
INTL 2500	Race and Global Human Mobility
INTL 3200	Cities in a Global Context
INTL 4100	Forced Migration: Refugees, Exiles, and Displaced Persons
PHIL 1111	Introduction to World Religions
PHIL 1271	Sex in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
POLS 2359	Immigration Politics
<i>Development</i>	
ANTH 2305	Global Markets and Local Culture
ECON 3291	Development Economics
ECON 3404	International Food Policy
ECON 3405	A Critique of Capitalism
ECON 5650	Economic Growth and Applications
ENVR 2515	Sustainable Development
HIST 2011	Capitalism and Business: A Global History
INNO 2206	Global Social Enterprise
INTB 1203	International Business and Global Social Responsibility
or INTB 1209	International Business and Global Social Responsibility
INTL 3150	Global Philanthropy
INTL 3520	Global Political Economy
INTL 5100	Climate and Development
PHTH 5230	Global Health
POLS 3487	Politics of Developing Nations
<i>Communication and Media</i>	
COMM 2303	Global and Intercultural Communication
INTB 3310	Cultural Aspects of International Business
JRNL 3300	Covering Conflicts: Peace, War, and the Media
or INTL 3300	Covering Conflicts: Peace, War, and the Media
JRNL 5360	Global Reporting
LANG 3600	Language Policy
MSCR 2325	Global Media

Regional Analysis Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Complete three of the following, two of which must be in one region. Select courses taken during a semester study abroad or specific Dialogue of Civilizations courses may count as regional analysis courses pending approval of the international affairs head faculty adviser. See department for additional courses:		12

Code	Title	Hours
<i>Africa</i>		
AFCS 2410	Possession, Sacrifice, and Divination in African Diasporic Religions	
AFCS 2900	Swahili, Culture, and Politics in Kenya	
AFCS 4939	Community Health, Culture, and Development in Kenya	
ANTH 4510	Contemporary Issues in Global Africa	
HIST 2390	Africa and the World in Early Times	
or AFCS 2390	Africa and the World in Early Times	
INNO 3308	Business Economic History of South Africa	
MUSC 1128	Music of Africa	
<i>Asia</i>		
ANTH 4350	Ethnography of Southeast Asia	
ANTH 4410	Neoliberalism in Asia	
ANTH 4515	Culture and Politics in Modern India	
ASNS 1150	East Asian Studies	
or HIST 1150	East Asian Studies	
HIST 1246	World War II in the Pacific	
HIST 1252	Japanese Literature and Culture	
HIST 1253	History of Vietnam Wars	
HIST 1500	Modern China	
HIST 2351	Modern Japan	
JPNS 1260	Japanese Film	
JPNS 1700	Introduction to Japanese Pop Culture	
PHIL 1275	Hinduism, Buddhism, and Beyond	
PHIL 1290	Chinese Philosophy and Religion	
PHIL 2395	Japanese Buddhism	
POLS 3485	China: Governance and Foreign Policy	
<i>Europe</i>		
ANTH 4210	Anthropology of Eastern Europe	
FRNH 1501	Introduction to French Culture	
HIST 1170	Europe: Empires, Revolutions, Wars, and Their Aftermath	
HIST 1272	Europe in the Middle Ages, 500–1500	
HIST 1286	History of the Soviet Union	
HIST 2370	Renaissance to Enlightenment	
HIST 2375	The Tudors, the Stuarts, and the Birth of Modern Britain	
HIST 2388	World War II in Eastern Europe	
INTL 3455	Russian Foreign Policy	
or POLS 3455	Russian Foreign Policy	
POLS 3435	Politics and Governance of Europe and the European Union	
SPNS 1504	Cultural History of Spain	
<i>Latin America</i>		
AFCS 2330	Afro-Latin American Studies	
ANTH 4500	Latin American Society and Development	
HIST 1187	Introduction to Latin American History	
HIST 2025	Latin American History through Film	
LACS 1220	Latino, Latin American, and Caribbean Studies	

SPNS 1240	Latin American Film
SPNS 1505	Latin American Culture, History, and Politics
SPNS 3240	Social Justice in Latin American and Latinx Film
SPNS 3715	New Narratives: Latin America after 1989
SPNS 3720	Literature, Arts, and Poverty in Latin America
SPNS 4655	Latin American Literature
<i>Middle East</i>	
ARAB 1502	Introduction to Arab Culture
ECON 1292	Economic History of the Middle East
HIST 1185	Introduction to Middle Eastern History
INTL 1150	The Mediterranean World: An Overview
INTL 1160	Middle East Studies
INTL 2100	Modern Israel
INTL 2200	America and the Middle East
PHIL 1280	Islam: Rituals, Traditions, and Debates
PHIL 1285	Jewish Religion and Culture
POLS 3465	Government and Politics in the Middle East

International Affairs Foreign Language Requirement

Complete coursework in a language through at least intermediate-level two (course number 2102 or higher). *Note:* Completing this requirement satisfies the language requirement for the BA degree.

Integrative Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Research Methods		
POLS 2399	Research Methods in Political Science	4
or INTL 2718	Research Methods in International Affairs	
Capstone		
Complete one of the following:		4
INTL 4700	Senior Capstone Seminar in International Affairs	
POLS 4701	Political Science Senior Capstone	
POLS 4703	Senior Thesis	

Political Science and International Affairs Combined Major Credit Requirement

Complete 84 semester hours in the major.

Experiential Liberal Arts

All students in this College of Social Sciences and Humanities program are required to complete the Experiential Liberal Arts Requirement (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/#ela>).

Program Requirement

128 total semester hours required

CONCENTRATION IN AMERICAN POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

Code	Title	Hours
Complete four of the following:		16
POLS 3160	Campaign Strategy	
POLS 3300	The U.S. Congress	
POLS 3302	Judicial Process and Behavior	
POLS 3307	Public Policy and Administration	
POLS 3310	Public Opinion, Voting, and Elections	

CONCENTRATION IN CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
POLS 3160	Campaign Strategy	4
POLS 3302	Judicial Process and Behavior	4
Campaigns and Elections Electives		
Complete two of the following:		8
POLS 2345	Urban Policies and Politics	
POLS 3310	Public Opinion, Voting, and Elections	
POLS 3320	Politics and Mass Media	

CONCENTRATION IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Code	Title	Hours
Theoretical Requirement		
Complete two of the following:		8
POLS 2282	The Holocaust and Comparative Genocide	
POLS 2356	Democratic Erosion	
POLS 2359	Immigration Politics	
POLS 2370	Religion and Politics	
POLS 3418	Nationalism	
POLS 3430	Revolution, Civil War, and Insurrection	
POLS 3487	Politics of Developing Nations	
Regional Requirements		
Complete one of the following:		4
POLS 3435	Politics and Governance of Europe and the European Union	
POLS 3465	Government and Politics in the Middle East	
Experiential/Practicum Requirement		
Complete one of the following:		4
POLS 4915	Model Arab League	
POLS 4918	Model NATO	
POLS 4937	Dialogue of Civilizations: Government and Politics Abroad	

CONCENTRATION IN IDENTITY, CULTURE, AND POLITICS

Code	Title	Hours
Core Course		
POLS 3418	Nationalism	4
Electives		
Complete three of the following:		12
POLS 2359	Immigration Politics	
POLS 2368	Music and Politics in America and Abroad	
POLS 2370	Religion and Politics	
POLS 3309	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues in Public Policy	
POLS 3324	Law and Society	

CONCENTRATION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

Code	Title	Hours
Experiential/Practicum Requirement		
Complete one of the following:		4
POLS 4910	Model United Nations	
POLS 4915	Model Arab League	
POLS 4938	Dialogue of Civilizations: International Politics Abroad	
Core Courses		
Complete three of the following:		12
POLS 3405	International Political Economy	

POLS 3406	International Law
POLS 3435	Politics and Governance of Europe and the European Union
POLS 5408	International Security

CONCENTRATION IN LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES

Code	Title	Hours
Complete four of the following:		16
POLS 2330	American Political Thought	
POLS 3300	The U.S. Congress	
POLS 3302	Judicial Process and Behavior	
POLS 3324	Law and Society	
POLS 3406	International Law	
POLS 4500	U.S. Constitutional Law	
POLS 4505	U.S. Civil Liberties	

CONCENTRATION IN PUBLIC POLICY

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirement		
POLS 3307	Public Policy and Administration	4
Electives		
Complete three of the following:		12
POLS 2345	Urban Policies and Politics	
POLS 2390	Science, Technology, and Public Policy	
POLS 2395	Environmental Politics and Policy	
POLS 3425	U.S. Foreign Policy	

CONCENTRATION IN SECURITY STUDIES

Code	Title	Hours
Complete four of the following:		16
POLS 3420	U.S. National Security Policy	
POLS 3423	Terrorism and Counterterrorism	
POLS 3425	U.S. Foreign Policy	
POLS 3430	Revolution, Civil War, and Insurrection	
POLS 3487	Politics of Developing Nations	
POLS 5408	International Security	

Plan of Study
Sample Plan of Study: Four Years, Two Co-ops

Year 1							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ENGW 1111		4 HIST 2211		4 Foreign language core course		4 Elective (Dialogue Of Civilizations possible)	4
INTL 1101		4 MATH 1215 (or other MATH course as pre-requisite for POLS 2400)		4 Elective		4 Elective (Dialogue of Civilizations possible)	4
MATH 1215		4 POLS 1150		4			
POLS 1155		4 POLS 1160		4			
POLS 1000		1					
		17		16		8	8
Year 2							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ECON 3290		4 POLS 2400		4 Elective (Dialogue of Civilizations possible)		4 Co-op	0
POLS Thought course		4 INTL undergraduate elective		4 Elective (Dialogue of Civilizations possible)		4	

POLS undergraduate elective	4	POLS undergraduate elective	4				
Foreign language core course	4	Foreign language core course	4				
	16		16		8		0
Year 3							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Co-op	0	ENGW 3315		4 INTL undergraduate elective		4 Co-op	0
		INTL 3400		4 POLS undergraduate elective		4	
		INTL undergraduate elective		4			
		POLS undergraduate elective		4			
	0		16		8		0
Year 4							
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours				
Co-op	0	Capstone requirement	4				
		Foreign language core course	4				
		INTL undergraduate elective	4				
		POLS undergraduate elective	4				
	0		16				

Total Hours: 129