

Georgia State University – College of Arts & Sciences

POLS Co-op Information

Undergraduate student pursuing a BA in Political Science (POLS), Pre-Law.

Prior to starting their co-op session on site, Political Science students will have essential quantitative research methods skills and will have been introduced to the principles of judicial process, American constitutional law, and civil liberties. In addition, they will complete at least one Political Science elective. They will also gain practice in simulation exercises to hone their analytical and presentation skills, through participation in the department’s Mock Trial and/or Model UN or Model Arab League.

After the co-op, students will gain further in-depth knowledge in their area of specialization.

The following courses are completed before employment begins.

POLS 3800	Introduction to Political Science Research Methods: This course covers the foundations of political science research. Topics include research design, hypothesis testing, inference and statistical tests. Students will complete the course with a basic understanding of how social science research is conducted.
POLS 3140	Judicial Process and Courts: Social and political context of judicial decisions with emphasis on Supreme Court decision-making. Also relates judicial process to public policy.
POLS 4130	American Constitutional Law: Development of U.S. constitutional system and fundamental principles of constitutional interpretation. Includes the courts and judicial review, authority of Congress in fields of commerce and taxation, authority of the president and federal-state relations.
POLS 4131	Civil Liberties and Rights: Supreme Court’s interpretation of the Bill of Rights and Fourteenth Amendment. Areas covered include administration of justice, freedom of expression and religion, and equal protection of racial, sexual, political and economic groups.
POLS 4424, 4426, OR 4955	Model UN, Arab League, or Mock Trial: These courses prepare and give students practice in international organization or courtroom simulations. Students must quickly prepare policy memos and position papers to represent their assigned role. Students learn extemporaneous speaking, presentation and debating skills and gain practice in thinking on their feet. High performing students may be chosen to represent GSU at regional, national, and international competitions.
POLS 4900	This course is a Senior Capstone Seminar that all Political Science majors are required to take by their senior year. Topic of the seminar varies according to faculty research interest and student demand.
POLS Electives	Electives available for students in the pre-law track include: Courses on American Law, the American Legislative Process, advanced courses in American Politics and Political Behavior; International Law; Human Rights; and Comparative Legal Systems.

POLS Single Co-op Plan Pre-Law

YEAR	SUMMER		FALL		SPRING		MAYMESTER	
	Course	Hours	Course	Hours	Course	Hours	Course	Hours
1			ENGL 1101	3	ENGL 1102	3		
			Area A(2) MATH	3/4	POLS 2401	3		
			POLS 1101	3	LANG 1002	3		
			Area B Elective	2	Area C Elective	3		
			POLS 4955	3	POLS 4955	3		
			Total Hours	14/15	Total Hours	15		
2	Area F Elective	3	POLS 3800	3	POLS 4130	3		
	Area F Elective	3	POLS 3140	3	POLS 4131	3		
			Area C Elective	3	Area E Elective	3		
			Area D Elective	3	Area F Elective	3		
			POLS 4951 or 4952 or 4955	3	Area E Elective	3		
					POLS 4424 or 4426 or 4955	3		
		Total Hours	6	Total Hours	15	Total Hours	18	
3	Area D Elective	4	POLS Elective	3	POLS 4900	3		
	Area E Elective	3	Area F Elective	3	POLS Elective	3		
			Area H Elective	3	Area H Elective	3		
			Area H Elective	3	Area D Elective	4		
			Area H Elective	3	Area F Elective	3		
		Total Hours	7	Total Hours	15	Total Hours	16	
4	Co-op Session				Area H Elective	3		
					Area H Elective	3		
					Area H Elective	3		
					Area H Elective	3		
					Area B Elective	2		
		Total Hours	14					