

## Georgia State University – College of Arts & Sciences

### POLS Co-op Information

#### Undergraduate student pursuing a BA in Political Science (POLS), Government Track

Prior to starting their first co-op session on site, Political Science students will have essential quantitative research methods skills. They will also be knowledgeable about voting behavior and about state, local, and federal government. They will also complete at least one Political Science elective. Finally, they will gain practice in simulation exercises to hone their analytical and presentation skills.

Upon completion of the co-op session on site, students will gain further expertise in their area of specialization through additional Political Science electives.

POLS 3800	<b>Introduction to Political Science Research Methods:</b> 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 4155	<b>Voting and Elections:</b> Covers political, institutional, social and psychological factors involved in individual and group electoral decisions. Emphasis placed on the role of campaigns and candidate strategy in shaping voting decisions.
POLS 3171	<b>Congressional Simulation:</b> This simulation provides students with an opportunity to experience how a legislative body makes decisions about policy. Students will take away from the class knowledge about both the legislative process and the substantive policy areas the mock legislature takes up, as well as enhanced negotiating skills.
POLS 4125, OR 4120	<b>Southern Politics (4120) or Georgia Politics &amp; Government (4125):</b> Topics include local government and politics. Students will complete these courses with an understanding of local politics, as well as the development and practices of local, state and regional institutions.
POLS 4115, OR 3110	<b>Urban Politics (4115) or State Politics (3110):</b> Topics in Urban Politics (4115) include the impact of urban society on the structure and function of county and municipal governments. Students will learn about community power structure and decision-making, metropolitan growth, federal-local relations, as well as problems in urban communities. In state politics (3110), students learn about political processes and the organization, powers, functions of government at the state level in the United States.
POLS 4424, 4426, OR 4955	<b>Model UN, Arab League, or Mock Trial:</b> 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 <b>Senior Capstone Seminar</b> 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	<b>POLS Electives available to students in the Government track include:</b> Advanced courses in voter behavior and American political institutions; advanced courses in political science research methods; and courses in public law, such as Civil Liberties, Judicial Process, Constitutional Law and American Law.

\*Although students in this track focus primarily on American government, they benefit from understanding the position of the United States within international organizations like the United Nations.

# Cooperative Education Program

## POLS Single Co-op Plan - Government

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 4951 or 4952	3	*POLS 4424 OR 4426	3		
			<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>14/15</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>		
2	Area F Elective	3	POLS 3800	3	POLS 4125 or 4120	3		
	Area F Elective	3	POLS 4158	3	POLS 4115 or 3110	3		
			POLS 3171	3	Area E Elective	3		
			Area F Elective	3	Area F Elective	3		
			Area D Elective	3	Area E Elective	3		
			POLS 4651 or 4952 or 4955	3	POLS 4424 or 4426 or 4955	3		
		<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>18</b>	
3	Area B Elective	2	POLS 4900	3	Area D Elective	3		
	Area E Elective	3	POLS Elective	3	Area F Elective	3		
			Area C Elective	3	Area H Elective	3		
			Area H Elective	3	Area D Elective	4		
			Area H Elective	3				
			Area H Elective	3				
		<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>13</b>	
4	Co-op Session			Area H Elective	3			
				Area H Elective	3			
				Area H Elective	3			
				Area D Elective	4			
				<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>13</b>			