

Sample Education Plan

Associate in Arts (AA)

Area of Focus: Political Science



Please note that the AA degree is not awarded in a specific major or focus area.

This is a SAMPLE plan to help guide you toward courses relevant to your interests while you are deciding on a transfer institution. Suggested courses are based on requirements of several four-year institutions and the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) Political Science Panel. Please note that requirements vary among four-year colleges and universities. It is important to check early with your transfer school and academic advisor to ensure you are taking appropriate courses and meeting all requirements. You will find transfer guides for specific universities on MCC's website: www.mchenry.edu/transfer.

AA Degree Requirements: Area of Focus—Political Science

Students are encouraged to complete an AA degree prior to transfer. A minimum of 60 credits is required for transfer as a junior into a bachelor's degree political science program.

Please refer to MCC's AA degree planning sheet in the current academic catalog for specific degree requirements and course options.

Suggested Courses

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE CURRICULUM	CREDITS	OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS	CREDITS
Communications		Diversity and Multicultural Studies	
^ENG 151 Composition I	3	Two 3-credit hour courses are required. Courses that fulfill this requirement may be used to fulfill credits in Humanities/Fine Arts, Social/Behavioral Sciences, or Electives. See current catalog for complete list of Diversity & Multicultural Studies course options and how they apply toward degree requirements.	
^ENG 152 Composition II	3		
SPE 151 Introduction to Speech	3		
Humanities and Fine Arts		Electives (approximately 23 credits, will depend on credit value of your required course selections)	
IAI Fine Arts	3	Recommended Courses (select with your advisor):	
IAI Humanities	3	PLT 150 Intro to Political Thought	3
IAI Humanities or Fine Arts	3	PLT 251 International Relations	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences		PLT 255 Comparative Government	3
HIS 170 or 172 US History I or US History II	3	Foreign Language	0–16
PLT 151 US Government	3	Examples of other courses that may satisfy requirements for your transfer school:	
PSY 151 or SOC 151 Introduction to Psychology or Introduction to Sociology	3	ECO 251, ECO 252, PLT 261, PLT 281.	
^Physical and Life Sciences		Total Credits Required for AA Degree	60
(7 credits, 1 lab course)		Many 4-year schools will accept a maximum of 60–64 transfer credits.	
IAI Physical Science	3–4		
IAI Life Science	3–4		
Mathematics			
^IAI Mathematics	3		
(Recommended—MAT 120 or 220 General Statistics or Statistics)			

^Course has prerequisite(s)—Please reference the current academic catalog for prerequisites. Mathematics course selection will depend on your transfer school. Requirements vary among four-year schools.

NOTE:

- Your transfer school may require at least 1 year of foreign language. High school foreign language may or may not count. It is always recommended that the foreign language requirement be completed prior to transfer.
- The AA degree includes the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) package. Meet with an MCC academic advisor to learn more about the IAI GECC and transfer benefits.

For more information:
advising@mchenry.edu or (815) 479-7565
www.mchenry.edu/advising





Transfer Notes

Political science is the study of the theory and practice of government and politics. Students of politics describe and analyze political systems and behavior. Bachelor's degree programs offer courses in areas such as public administration, public law, international relations, comparative politics, political behavior, political philosophy, and US government.

Graduates of bachelor's degree programs in political science find career opportunities in areas such as national, state, and local government; the corporate world; legal work; education; governmental affairs; interest groups; and international organizations.

Admission and specific course requirements vary among four-year institutions. Political science majors may have the choice of earning a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, depending on the school they attend. Some schools require additional math and science coursework for the BS degree. Competency through the second, third, or fourth semester of a single foreign language is required for the BA degree in some schools and for all majors in the College of Arts and Sciences at other schools. Ask about the language requirement of the schools you are considering, and complete the required foreign language courses before transfer. In some cases, two years of foreign language study in high school will substitute for two semesters in college.

A political science major may pursue a program leading to state licensure as a high school teacher. Licensure requirements vary by state. Almost all states require that applicants to teacher education programs be tested for competency in basic skills and undergo a criminal background check.

Transfer Schools

Many schools offer majors in political science. Following are a sample of Illinois public and private four-year institutions that offer political science programs:

- Augustana College
- Aurora University
- Benedictine University
- Bradley University
- Chicago State University
- Concordia University
- DePaul University
- Dominican University
- Eastern Illinois University
- Elmhurst College
- Illinois State University
- Illinois Wesleyan College
- Knox College
- Lake Forest College
- Lewis University
- Loyola University
- Millikin University
- Monmouth College
- National Louis University
- North Central College
- North Park University
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Northern Illinois University
- Northwestern University
- Olivet Nazarene University
- Rockford University
- Roosevelt University
- Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Springfield
- University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign
- Western Illinois University
- Wheaton College

Transfer Resources

www.itransfer.org—iTransfer is a portal for transfer assistance in the state of Illinois. Find information about the Illinois Articulation Initiative and MyCreditsTransfer (Transferology—a nationwide transfer tool).

www.mchenry.edu/transfer—Find transfer guides, course equivalencies, partnership agreements, and other transfer resources.

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