

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (LEGAL STUDIES)

**Web Site:** <https://twu.edu/political-science/undergraduate-programs/bachelors-degrees-in-political-science/>

The Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science (Legal Studies emphasis) provides an excellent foundation for proceeding to graduate programs in the field or to careers in the public or nonprofit sector. In addition, this degree provides an excellent background and professional preparation in the following fields: legal assistance; law school; teaching at middle school, secondary school, or college level; library science; work with archives; journalism; criminal justice administration; foreign service; non-profit organizations; and administrative, federal, and state civil service.

## Marketable Skills

Defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30 Strategic Plan (<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/miscellaneous/the60x30-strategic-plan/>) as, "Those skills valued by employers that can be applied in a variety of work settings, including interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skills areas. These skills can be either primary or complementary to a major and are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities."

- Employers seek employees who can work collaboratively in groups. The B.S. in Political Science (Legal Studies) develops this skill by requiring students to work on group projects (presented in front of the instructor and peers), identify clear roles within the group (e.g., spokespersons/team leaders), and present the findings of the group in a public forum.
- Employers seek employees who have solid writing and compositional skills. The B.S. in Political Science (Legal Studies) develops this skill by requiring students to engage in clear, persuasive, grammatically, and stylistically correct writing projects (research papers, policy briefs, reaction papers, memos, position papers, etc.).
- Employers seek employees who have solid oral communication skills. The B.S. in Political Science (Legal Studies) develops these skills by requiring students to present their research in a public forum (that is, in front of a class of peers) using visual aids (slides, charts, graphs, etc.) or to role-play in a public forum requiring extensive research on that role.
- Employers in the legal field seek employees who have advanced analytical skills, especially in legal issues. The B.S. in Political Science (Legal Studies) develops these skills through extensive content coverage of the law and legal issues, requiring students to analyze those legal issues and questions related to law and politics.

## Admissions

All applicants must meet the general undergraduate admission requirements (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/admission-information/>).

## Degree Requirements

**Total Semester Credit Hours (SCH):** 120

**Major:** 36 SCH; **Minor (optional):** 18 SCH

**Program Code:** POLSCIENCE.BS.LEGAL **CIP Code:** 45.1001.00

### Texas Core Curriculum

Code	Title	SCHs
ENG 1013	Composition I	3
ENG 1023	Composition II	3
Mathematics		3
Life & Physical Sciences		6
Language, Philosophy, & Culture		3
Creative Arts		3
HIST 1013	History of the United States, 1492-1865	3
HIST 1023	History of the United States, 1865 to the Present	3
POLS 2013	U.S. National Government	3
POLS 2023	Texas Government	3
Social & Behavioral Sciences		3
CAO: Women's Studies		3
CAO: First Year Seminar, Wellness or Mathematics		3
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>42</b>

### Courses Required for Major

Code	Title	SCHs
POLS 3153	Law, Politics, and Public Policy	3
POLS 3173	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
POLS 3723	Modern Political Thought	3
POLS 4073	Constitutional Law: Governmental Structure	3
POLS 4533	International Relations	3
POLS 4833	Political Science: Scope and Methods	3
POLS 4933	Senior Seminar	3
Choose 15 SCH from the following		15
POLS 3243	Criminal Law	
POLS 3253	Criminal Evidence and Procedure	
POLS 3303	The American Legislative Process	
POLS 3393	Gender, Identity, and the Law	
POLS 4083	Constitutional Law: Individual Rights	
POLS 4093	Constitutional Rights and Criminal Justice	
POLS 4263	Women, Elections, and Strategy	
POLS 4563	Global Law and Legal Systems	
POLS 4603	Legal Studies Internship	
POLS 4606	Legal Studies Internship	
POLS 4813	Seminar in Public Policy	
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>36</b>

### Departmental Requirements

Code	Title	SCHs
English Literature (2000 level or higher if not already completed)		3
Global Perspectives (if not already completed)		3
*Electives (select with academic advisor)		36
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>42</b>

• *Students are encouraged to select internship credit as part of the electives.*

## Recommended Plan of Study

\*The example below is only a suggestion. It is recommended to see an advisor for a personalized Plan of Study.

### First Year

Fall		TCCN	SCHs
Creative Arts Core			3
ENG 1013	Composition I	ENGL 1301	3
HIST 1013	History of the United States, 1492-1865	HIST 1301	3
UNIV 1231	Learning Frameworks: First-Year Seminar	EDUC 1100, EDUC 1200, EDUC 1300	1
Wellness/Mathematics CAO Core			2
Social/Behavioral Science Core			3
<b>SCHs</b>			<b>15</b>
Spring		TCCN	SCHs
ENG 1023	Composition II	ENGL 1302	3
HIST 1023	History of the United States, 1865 to the Present	HIST 1302	3
Mathematics Core			3
Multicultural Women's Studies CAO Core			3
Elective (Global Perspectives course)			3
<b>SCHs</b>			<b>15</b>

### Second Year

Fall		TCCN	SCHs
English Literature			3
POLS 2013	U.S. National Government	GOVT 2305	3
Life/Physical Science Core			3
Elective			3
Elective (or minor)			3
<b>SCHs</b>			<b>15</b>
Spring		TCCN	SCHs
POLS 2023	Texas Government	GOVT 2306	3
Language, Philosophy, and Culture Core			3
Life/Physical Science Core			3
Elective			3
Elective (or minor)			3
<b>SCHs</b>			<b>15</b>

### Third Year

Fall		TCCN	SCHs
POLS 3173	Introduction to Comparative Politics		3
POLS 4533	International Relations		3
Elective			3
Elective (or minor)			3
Elective			3
<b>SCHs</b>			<b>15</b>
Spring		TCCN	SCHs
POLS 3723	Modern Political Thought		3

POLS 4073	Constitutional Law: Governmental Structure		3
Political Science elective for major			3
Elective (or minor)			3
Elective			3
<b>SCHs</b>			<b>15</b>
Fourth Year			
Fall		TCCN	SCHs
POLS 3153	Law, Politics, and Public Policy		3
POLS 4833	Political Science: Scope and Methods		3
Elective (or minor)			3
Elective (or minor)			3
Elective			3
<b>SCHs</b>			<b>15</b>
Spring		TCCN	SCHs
POLS 4933	Senior Seminar		3
Political Science elective required for major (advanced)			3
Political Science elective required for major (advanced)			3
Political Science Elective (advanced)			3
Political Science Elective (advanced)			3
<b>SCHs</b>			<b>15</b>
<b>Total SCHs:</b>			<b>120</b>