

Political Science

(POLS)



Explore the actions of governments, judicial systems and political parties while discovering movements in society and in the power relations of everyday life. Our Political Science program is designed to develop your political analysis ability, critical skills and democratic awareness.

Sample First Year Schedule

Your first year classes in Political Science will consist of a mixture of courses within your major, general education courses and elective courses outside your major.

Course Type	Course(s)	Credits
Major Course	AP/POLS 1000 - Introduction to Politics: Exploring the Democratic Experience	6.00
General Education Course	Any approved 1000 level course from the Humanities or Social Sciences	6.00 or 9.00
General Education Course	Any approved course from the Natural Sciences	6.00
Course Outside Political Science	Any course that is not a Political Science course or general education course	3.00 or 6.00
Elective Course	Any course for which you meet the prerequisite requirements	3.00
Total		30.00 (maximum)

Program Options

With Political Science, you have the option of taking another program within the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies as a Double Major or pursuing another program as a Minor. Political Science can also be taken as a minor.

Double Major Options Include:

- Anthropology
Criminology
Health and Society
International Development Studies
- Law and Society
Philosophy
Sociology
+ many more!

Minor Options Include:

- Anthropology
Health and Society
International Development Studies
Philosophy
- Professional Writing
Public Administration
Sociology
+ many more!

The York Promise

York is here to support you throughout your unique university journey. Beyond academic achievement, we strive to enrich your student experience through personal and professional development by offering:

- Career-Focused Services**
Career advising, career fairs and networking opportunities to help sharpen your professional edge.
- Academic Support**
Learning skills workshops, outstanding libraries, academic accommodations, transition programs and academic advising services designed to help you every step of the way.
- Social & Leadership Development Programs**
A vibrant social scene with more than 300 clubs and organizations to enhance student life, and help you develop soft skills you can bring to the table in your future career.



Maria-Palma Zito
Fourth Year Student
Political Science

"The Political Science program has challenged me to think creatively about major world issues. Learning about leadership and the impact of politics on a global scale has helped me find my voice and establish my own perspective on relevant topics and issues."

Your Degree Pathway

A degree in Political Science requires the completion of 90 Credits for a Bachelor's Degree (three years) or 120 Credits for an Honours Degree (four years). Your courses will consist of Major, General Education, and Elective Courses.

First Year

First year will introduce you to the university environment, provide you with general education courses, and allow options for you to study courses aligned with your own interests.



Political Science Courses: Introduction to Politics

General Education Courses: Humanities, Social Sciences or Natural Sciences (for non-science students)

Elective Courses: Your choice of courses outside of Political Science

Second Year

In your second year, you will continue your development in the fundamentals of Political Science.



Political Science Courses: Perspectives on Politics, Canadian Democracy in a North American Context, Introduction to International Politics, States and Societies in the Global Context: Introduction to Comparative Politics

General Education Courses: Humanities, Social Sciences or Natural Sciences (for non-science students)

Elective Courses: Choose new subjects to explore or continue to develop skills from previous selections

Third Year

Your third year in Political Science will allow you to explore specific interests in the field.



Political Science Course Options: Modern Political Thought, Political Culture of Race and Racism, Global Political Economy, Human Rights and Global Economy, War and Peace in the Middle East + many more

Elective Courses: Choose new subjects to explore or continue to develop skills from previous selections

Fourth Year

In your fourth and final year, you will focus on specialized courses in your field and continue to explore elective courses of interest.



Political Science Course Options: Classical Political Theory, The Politics of Cyberspace, The Politics of Aging, Peace Research, Gender and International Relations, Gun Politics, Social Justice and Political Activists + many more

Elective Courses: These courses can include additional Political Science courses or further courses of interest at the upper level



Your Degree!