Political Science Focus

Associate in Arts - Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA)

The study of political science concentrates on the philosophy, structure and function of government. Career opportunities exist in law, private business, public administration, nonprofit organizations and teaching. Complete studies to transfer to earn a bachelor's degree.

For a roadmap that identifies the preferred sequencing of courses and other specific recommendations from faculty, please see the corresponding program map(s):

- Political Science Focus Associate in Arts - Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA) (lowercolumbia.edu/program-maps/social-science/AADTA-Political-Science)

Degree Requirements

Total credits required to earn this degree: 90 in courses numbered 100 or above with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0. A course cannot be credited toward more than one distribution or skill area.

LCC students must meet distribution requirements for bachelor degrees, associate degrees, and specific certificates. See Diversity and Distribution Lists (lowercolumbia.edu/publications/catalog/distribution-lists/) for more information.

General Education Requirements

- **Communications:**

  15 credits: ENGL& 101 English Composition I ***AND***
  (ENGL& 102 Composition II ***OR*** ENGL& 235 Technical Writing) ***AND***
  (CMST& 220 Public Speaking ***OR*** CMST& 230 Small Group Communication).
- **Quantitative/Symbolic Reasoning Skills:**

  5 credits - MATH& 107 or higher.
- **Humanities:**

  15 credits – Selected from at least two disciplines on the *Distribution List*. No more than 5 credits in foreign language at the 100 level, no more than 10 credits from any one discipline. No more than 5 credits in performance/skills courses are allowed.
- **Natural Sciences:**

  15 credits – Selected from at least two disciplines on the Distribution List; must include 5 credits of lab courses. At least 10 credits in physical, biological and/or earth sciences. No more than 5 credits from Computer Science, Mathematics, and Engineering. Courses used to satisfy this requirement may not be used to satisfy the Quantitative Skills requirement. ANTH& 205, BIOL& 100 and 5 additional credits from physical and/or earth science are recommended. BIOL& 100 meets the laboratory requirement.
- **Social Sciences:**

  15 credits – Selected from at least two disciplines on the *Distribution List*. No more than 10 credits from any one discipline.
- **Diversity:**

  5 credits – From the *Diversity Course List*. Courses that meet this requirement may also be used toward other graduation requirements. Diversity courses are listed in the quarterly schedule and identified by 'DIV' attached to the course title. Example: SOC& 101 – Introduction to Sociology:DIV.

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- **Electives:**

  25 credits - See advisor for approved list of electives. No more than 15 credits may be taken from the *Restricted Course List* on the *Distribution List*.

Recommended Electives

Course Code	Course Title	Number of Credits
POLS& 101	Intro to Political Science	5
POLS 107	Comparative Government	5
POLS& 202	US Government	5
POLS& 203	International Relations	5
POLS 220	The Law and Social Issues	5

AA-DTA Outcomes

Upon the completion of the AA DTA, students will be prepared for transfer to a four-year institution for their intended career pathway, and have the following skills and abilities:

Global Skills (assessed at degree level):

- Communication: Express ideas and information in writing and speaking in a manner that is clear and appropriate to the audience, and read and listen effectively.
- Critical Thinking: Apply objective, valid methods of inquiry and problem-solving to draw rational, ethical, and coherent conclusions.
- Quantitative Literacy: Reason and solve quantitative problems from a wide array of authentic contexts and everyday life situations.
- Teamwork: Facilitate a team's ability to achieve a desired goal or outcome.

General education outcomes (assessed at course level):

- Diversity: Examine the causes and expressions of difference, power, and discrimination.
- Humanities: Explore how people process, document, and express their social and cultural experience.
- Social Science: Examine society, behavior, and relationships among individuals within a society.
- Natural Science: Develop familiarity with various aspects of the physical world and scientific explanations of observed phenomena.

Area of study outcomes:

- Clearly communicate complex information and concepts in writing and/or verbally.
- Examine political issues and policies from diverse perspectives, evaluating them in terms of both private and public good.
- Apply social science reasoning to a range of political issues and problems.

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- Critically question political claims, analyzing their supporting evidence and identifying their underlying values and assumptions.
- Comprehend how politics influences students and their world.

Notes

Revised June 2024 (effective Summer 2024)

Program planning is based on information available at the time of preparation. It is the student's responsibility to meet with their LCC advisor and with an advisor at the college to which they plan to transfer for specific requirements. Consult the LCC catalog for LCC graduation requirements.

Most four-year universities require one year of a single foreign language as a graduation requirement.

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