

# POLITICAL SCIENCE PATHWAY

## ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA) - 60 CREDITS

### About this program

The Political Science Transfer Pathway AA offers students the opportunity to complete an Associate of Arts degree with course credits that directly transfer to designated political science bachelor's degree programs at Minnesota State universities. The curriculum has been specifically designed so that students completing this pathway degree and transferring to one of the seven Minnesota State universities enter the university with junior-year status. All courses in the Transfer Pathway associate degree will directly transfer and apply to the designated bachelor's degree programs in a related field.

### Program outcomes

1. Demonstrate familiarity with the methods and concepts used in the study of political science.
2. Demonstrate familiarity with political institutions and processes.
3. Develop skills that enable participation in public and civic life.
4. Reflect on their own political, social and cultural values as they relate to the study of political science.

### Curriculum overview

<b>Crds</b>	<b>Requirement type</b>
6	Required courses
12	Restricted electives in courses
21	Restricted electives in MnTC Goal Areas
21	Restricted electives in course types
60	<b>Total</b>

**Developmental courses note:** A student may be required to enroll in developmental courses in reading, writing and math. A student's scores on the Accuplacer assessment will determine enrollment in developmental courses. The purpose of developmental courses is to prepare students for the demands of a college-level curriculum. *Credits may vary.*

**Accreditation:** Minnesota State Community and Technical College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The Higher Learning Commission 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500 Chicago, IL 60604-1411 <http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org> Phone: 312.263.0456 / 800.621.7440

## Curriculum requirement details

### Required courses

Course	Crds
ENGL1101 - College Writing .....	3
POLS1120 - American National Government .....	3

### Other requirements or restricted electives

#### 3 credits from one or more of these Courses:

Course title	Credits
POLS2204 - Comparative Government .....	3
POLS2206 - Global Politics .....	3

#### 3 credits from one or more of these Courses:

Course title	Credits
COMM1120 - Introduction to Public Speaking...	3
COMM1130 - Small Group Communication .....	3
COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication ....	3

#### 3 credits from one or more of these Courses:

Course title	Credits
POLS1130 - State and Local Government .....	3
POLS2204 - Comparative Government .....	3
POLS2206 - Global Politics .....	3
POLS2950 - Introduction to Social Research ....	3

#### 3 credits from one or more of these Courses:

Course title	Credits
ENGL1205 - Writing About Literature .....	3
ENGL1210 - Writing About Current Issues .....	3
ENGL1215 - Professional and Technical Writing	3

#### 6 credits from these Goal Areas:

- 3. Natural Sciences

#### 3 credits from these Goal Areas:

- 4. Mathematics/Logical Reasoning

#### 3 credits from these Goal Areas:

- 5. History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

#### 9 credits from these Goal Areas:

- 6. The Humanities and Fine Arts

---

**21 credits from these Course Types:**

- General Education w/MnTC Goals
- 



## Course summaries

**ENGL1101 - College Writing** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This is an introductory writing course designed to prepare students for later college and career writing. The course focuses on developing fluency through a process approach, with particular emphasis on revision. Students will consider purpose and audience, read and discuss writing and further develop their own writing processes through successive revisions to produce polished drafts. Course work will include an introduction to argumentative writing, writing from academic sources and a short research project.

**Prerequisites:**

- Completion of ELL1080, ENGL0096, or ENGL0097 with a grade of C or higher OR placement into college-level English.

**POLS1120 - American National Government** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 5 and 9. This course provides an analysis of the organization, institutions and functions of the United States government.

**POLS2204 - Comparative Government** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 5 and 8. This course provides an introduction to the various systems of government used around the world. Students will compare the processes and institutions of both industrialized and underdeveloped nations and explore how cultures and histories have affected the development of those political systems.

**POLS2206 - Global Politics** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 5 and 8. This course is an introduction to the field of global and international politics, with an emphasis on the history, structure and processes of global relations. Students will study the role of state and non-state actors such as nations, international conflict, war, global economic relations and international organizations.

**COMM1120 - Introduction to Public Speaking** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This course clarifies the process of oral communication, clarifies the basic principles of public speaking and allows the student to increase the application of these principles while both speaking and listening.

**COMM1130 - Small Group Communication** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 1 and 2. This course focuses on communication issues in small groups and the importance of small group work in business today. An emphasis will be placed on improving communication skills for successful teamwork, group cohesiveness and the responsibility to group goals and tasks. Students will be provided with opportunities to build their group communication skills through practice.

**COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This course will focus on improving students' abilities to communicate effectively in one-to-one dyadic encounters by providing experience-based instruction. Extensive in-class and out-of-class analyses allow the student to examine his/her own and others' informal social interactions. The long-term goal is for the student to apply interpersonal communication theories to daily interactions and draw his/her own conclusions about the effectiveness of interpersonal communication.

**POLS1130 - State and Local Government** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 5 and 9. This course provides an analysis of the organization, procedure and functions of state and local governments and their relationship with the national government.

**POLS2204 - Comparative Government** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 5 and 8. This course provides an introduction to the various systems of government used around the world. Students will compare the processes and institutions of both industrialized and underdeveloped nations and explore how cultures and histories have affected the development of those political systems.

**POLS2206 - Global Politics** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 5 and 8. This course is an introduction to the field of global and international politics, with an emphasis on the history, structure and processes of global relations. Students will study the role of state and non-state actors such as nations, international conflict, war, global economic relations and international organizations.

**POLS2950 - Introduction to Social Research** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goals 2 and 5. This course introduces methods and concepts used in the research process in the social sciences and related fields. Topics covered include the application of the scientific method to social and behavioral research, definitions and measurements of variables, research design, experiential methods and survey techniques. The use of literature reviews and the importance of critically evaluating research will be emphasized. Common descriptive and inferential statistics used in social science disciplines also will be introduced. This course is identical to SOC 2950 and PSYC 2950 and is cross-listed with both of those courses. Students may choose to enroll in the course with the prefix most appropriate to their transfer and career goals.

**ENGL1205 - Writing About Literature** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This course builds on the foundations of College Writing and provides students with additional opportunities to develop fluency in their writing through a process approach. Students will read critically from a variety of literary genres, explore meaning through academic research and respond through discussion and writing.

**ENGL1210 - Writing About Current Issues** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This course builds on the foundations of College Writing and provides students with additional opportunities to develop and refine their writing through a process approach. Students will explore current issues by critically reading a variety of texts, conducting academic research and responding through discussion and writing.

**ENGL1215 - Professional and Technical Writing** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This course provides instruction in writing and designing professional and technical documents, including print and non-print correspondence, descriptions, instructions, reports and proposals, along with promotional material. Analysis, critical thinking and synthesis of sources will be covered, along with the development of presentation skills. Coursework also includes a formally documented, multi-source professional project.



# POLITICAL SCIENCE PATHWAY

## ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA) - 60 CREDITS

### Program Plan — "Political Science Pathway"

Locations: Fergus Falls, Detroit Lakes, Moorhead, Wadena, Online

#### 1st Fall Term (15 credits)

##### Courses

Course	Crds
ENGL1101 - College Writing .....	3
POLS1120 - American National Government .....	3

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

Goal Area 3. Natural Sciences

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

Goal Area 6. The Humanities and Fine Arts

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

- COMM1120 - Introduction to Public Speaking ..... 3
- COMM1130 - Small Group Communication ..... 3
- COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication ..... 3

#### 1st Spring Term (15 credits)

##### Courses

No specific courses set for this term.

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

Goal Area 5. History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

Goal Area 6. The Humanities and Fine Arts

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

- POLS2204 - Comparative Government ..... 3
- POLS2206 - Global Politics ..... 3

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

- ENGL1205 - Writing About Literature ..... 3
- ENGL1210 - Writing About Current Issues ..... 3
- ENGL1215 - Professional and Technical Writing ..... 3

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

General Education w/MnTC Goals

#### 2nd Fall Term (15 credits)

##### Courses

No specific courses set for this term.

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

Goal Area 3. Natural Sciences

**3 credits in one or more of the following:**

Goal Area 4. Mathematics/Logical Reasoning

---

**9 credits in one or more of the following:**

General Education w/MnTC Goals

---

**2nd Spring Term (15 credits)**

---

**Courses**

No specific courses set for this term.

**3 credits in one or more of the following:**

Goal Area 6. The Humanities and Fine Arts

---

**3 credits in one or more of the following:**

- POLS1130 - State and Local Government ..... 3
  - POLS2204 - Comparative Government ..... 3
  - POLS2206 - Global Politics ..... 3
  - POLS2950 - Introduction to Social Research ..... 3
- 

**9 credits in one or more of the following:**

General Education w/MnTC Goals

---