

PRE-LAW EMPHASIS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Although there are many acceptable majors for pre-law students, political science is one of the most common. After all, political science is the closest of all majors to the institutions and values with which law deals. The primary study of law is the state, and so too for political science. Additionally, the demands of political science courses (reading of complex texts, independent research, frequent class presentations, and demanding writing assignments) strengthen the analytical and communications skills that the practice of law requires.

Students should be aware that a pre-law emphasis or a transcript filled with law courses does not improve their chances of gaining admission to law school. Law school admissions committees look for breadth and rigor in a student's academic program (as well as a high GPA and LSAT score). The Pre-Law Emphasis in Political Science is available only to political science majors.

The Pre-Law Emphasis requires at most **six (6)** courses:

- Three (3) Political Science courses from **List A**
- Three (3) non-Political Science courses, as described below:
 - One (1) from **List B**
 - One (1) from **List C**
 - One (1) from either **List B or C**

Declare your Pre-law emphasis with a Program Petition Form obtained in A&S 230, and track your progress toward completion using your degree audit on e-campus. Questions can be directed to Dr. Peretti (A&S 236, tperetti@scu.edu) or Therese Mathis (A&S 230).

List A – Three (3) Courses	Double-Dippers (Poli Sci, Public Sector, CORE)
Poli 45 – Criminal Justice System	Public Sector Emphasis
Poli 124 – Law, Security, and Force	Poli UD International Relations
Poli 125 – International Law	Poli UD International Relations
Poli 127 – Special Topics: Global Perspectives in Women & Law	Poli UD International Relations, CORE Women's & Gender Studies
Poli 160 – The Constitution and Equality	Poli UD American Politics; Public Sector Emphasis
Poli 161 – Law and Politics in the U.S	Poli UD American Politics; Public Sector Emphasis
Poli 167 – The Making of Public Policy	Poli UD American Politics; Public Sector Emphasis
Poli 168 – Special Topics in Public Policy	Poli UD American Politics; Public Sector Emphasis
Poli 185P – Senior Seminar in U.S. Politics (only if offered by Chen or Peretti)	Poli Senior Seminar
Poli 197A or 197B – Public Sector Study & Internship <i>Can fulfill a List A requirement IF the internship is law-related. Special approval required from Dr. Peretti.</i>	Poli UD Elective; Public Sector Emphasis
Poli 198 – Public Service Internship <i>Can fulfill a List A requirement IF the internship is law-related. Special approval required from Dr. Peretti.</i>	Poli UD Elective; Public Sector Emphasis

List B – One (1) Course	Double-Dippers (Poli Sci, Public Sector, CORE)
Phil 10 – Ethical Issues in the Law	CORE Ethics, Public Sector Emphasis
Phil 29 - Reasoning and Interpretation in Law	
Phil 113 – Ethics and Constitutional Law	CORE Ethics, Public Sector Emphasis
Phil 154 – Philosophy of Law	CORE Ethics
Econ 126 – Economics and Law	Public Sector Emphasis
Psych 155 – Psychology and Law	
Comm 170A – Communication Law and Responsibility	
Anthro 151 – Law and Society	Public Sector Emphasis
Soc 159 – Sociology of Crime	Public Sector Emphasis
Soc 160 – Law in a Changing Society	Public Sector Emphasis
Soc 176 – Elder Law	Public Sector Emphasis
Sctr 119 – Law in Judaism, Christianity & Islam	CORE 3 rd Religious Studies
Tesp 144 – Theology and the Law	CORE 3 rd Religious Studies

List C – One (1) Course	Double-Dippers (Poli Sci, Public Sector, CORE)
Phil 25 – Informal Logic	
Engl 79 – Writing about Literature & Culture	CORE 3 rd Writing
Engl 176 – Intensive Writing	CORE 3 rd Writing
Engl 177 – Argumentation	CORE 3 rd Writing

Plus One (1) Course from either List B or C	
Choose any one course from either List B or List C	

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- **Special Note:** Law-related Public Sector internships and Washington Semester Program (WSP) coursework in law can be approved for List A coursework. Please see Dr. Peretti or Dr. Chen to gain approval.
 - **Special Note:** Students participating in Washington Semester Program's Public Law, International Law, and Justice programs are guaranteed completion of one of their List A requirements. Students may also complete one or two additional List A course requirements, depending on their selection of research topic and internship.