

POLITICAL SCIENCE WITH A 3+3 TRACK TO LAW (BA)

This program was approved for students entering the university in the Summer 2025-Spring 2026 catalog year. For more information about catalog year, go to Catalog Year Information (<https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/university-wide-unit-specific-policies/catalog-year/>).

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a 3+3 Track to Law

Unit: College of Arts and Sciences (AS) (<http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/>)
Department: Political Science (<http://louisville.edu/politicalscience/>)
Academic Plan Code(s): POLS BA 3+3

Program Information

The College of Arts & Sciences and the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law have joined forces to create 3+3 Accelerated Law programs that allow eligible students in the College of Arts & Sciences to begin law school in their senior year of undergraduate study. Students substitute undergraduate major and elective requirements with the first 30 hours of law school, earning an undergraduate degree after their first year of law school and a Juris Doctor (JD) degree two years later. Students must have completed three years (6 semesters, fall & spring) of undergraduate course work post high school graduation, including transfer credit, prior to enrollment at Brandeis.

Completion of this degree requires work to be submitted for the department's Learning Outcomes Measurement. For details, contact the department.

Degree Summary

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ¹	31
	College/School Requirements	22
	Program/Major Requirements ¹	59
	Law School Courses	30
Minimum Total Hours		142

Departmental Admission Requirements

There are no specific admission requirements for this degree plan.

The Change Major Request form can be found under the Academic Progress tile on ULink.

Admission to Law School

Admission to the 3+3 track does not guarantee admission to the law school. Students seeking admission to law school must complete a law school application and satisfy all of Brandeis' admissions requirements, including its median GPA and LSAT expectations.

The law school requires that students seeking admission through the 3+3 program have completed three years of undergraduate course work, including transfer credit and credit earned in summer. It is recommended that students planning to pursue this track have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5.

For more information on Brandeis and its admissions requirements, please contact the Brandeis School of Law Office of Admissions (<http://louisville.edu/law/admissions/>). The office can also arrange for you to visit the law school and to sit in on a class.

General Education Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) [*]	31

The following courses are required by the program and satisfy the respective General Education Requirement(s)

POLS 201	Introduction to American Government and Politics - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
or POLS 202	Introduction to Comparative Politics - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)

*All degrees require the completion of the University-wide General Education Program (link provided above). Some General Education requirements may be met by the requirements for the major or supporting coursework, in which case additional electives may be required to complete the minimum hours for the degree.

College/School Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Arts & Sciences Requirements		
GEN 100	Student Success Center First Year Experience	1
or GEN 101	Arts & Sciences First Year Experience	
	Foreign Language ¹	12
	Elective in Humanities or Natural Sciences ²	9
WR – two approved courses at the 300 level or above ³		
Minimum Total Hours		22

Program/Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Department of Political Science		
POLS 201	Introduction to American Government and Politics - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ⁴	3
POLS 202	Introduction to Comparative Politics - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ⁴	3
POLS 204	Introduction to International Relations	3
POLS 390	Political Science Research Methods ⁵	3
POLS 495	Senior Seminar - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ⁶	3
Minimum Total Hours		15

Code	Title	Hours		
Additional Political Science Courses or Electives			POLS 505	Topics in Urban and Public Policy
Take at least one course from each of the five Political Science subfields:			POLS 510	Louisville Metro Council Internship
<i>American Politics</i> ⁷			POLS 511	Internship II
			POLS 512	Frankfort Legislative Internship
			<i>International Relations</i> ^{7,8,9,10}	
POLS 306	State Government	3	POLS 331	The United Nations and International Organization - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
POLS 311	American Presidency		POLS 332	International Law - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
POLS 312	Constitutional Law		POLS 333	American Foreign Policy
POLS 313	Constitutional Law		POLS 334	The Politics of Global Economic Relations
POLS 314	Judicial Politics		POLS 335	Global Environmental Politics
POLS 315	Race, Law and Politics - D1 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		POLS 336	Politics of European Integration and Foreign Policy
POLS 316	Gender, Sexuality & Law		POLS 338	National and International Security: Issues and Policies
POLS 317	American Congress		POLS 339	Terrorism
POLS 318	Religion and United States Politics - D1 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		POLS 341	Political Violence
POLS 319	Media and Politics		POLS 357	Religion and International Politics - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
POLS 320	Civil Rights and the Law II		POLS 363	Politics of Oil
POLS 321	Political Psychology and Public Opinion - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		POLS 364	Improving World Order
POLS 322	American Political Parties and Elections - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		POLS 371	Latin America in the World
POLS 323	Queer Politics		POLS 406	Topics in International Relations
POLS 324	Women in American Politics		POLS 444	Law, Diplomacy and Power: The Foreign Relations of the U.S.
POLS 327	Black Politics & Democracy - D1 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		POLS 506	Topics in International Relations
POLS 342	American Law and Lawyering		POLS 520	Coping with Conflict
POLS 401	Topics in American Politics - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		POLS 530	International Negotiation
POLS 501	Topics in American Politics		<i>Comparative Politics</i> ^{7,9,10}	
POLS 507	Topics in Digital Politics			
<i>Public Policy</i> ^{7,8}			POLS 304	Comparative Urban Politics
			POLS 328	Information Technology and Politics
POLS 302	Urban Political Economy	3	POLS 340	Politics and Government of Western Europe
POLS 304	Comparative Urban Politics		POLS 341	Political Violence
POLS 305	Urban Politics		POLS 345	Russia and Eurasia - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
POLS 310	Policy, Community & Service		POLS 347	Democratization
POLS 325	Public Administration		POLS 349	Comparative Political Culture - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
POLS 326	Public Policy - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)		POLS 350	African Government and Politics
POLS 333	American Foreign Policy		POLS 355	Introduction to Middle East Politics
POLS 335	Global Environmental Politics		POLS 356	Political Islam
POLS 348	Environmental Policy		POLS 362	Comparative Political Economy
POLS 405	Topics in Public Policy		POLS 363	Politics of Oil

POLS 365	The People's Republic of China - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 366	Politics of East Asia - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 367	Politics and Government of Southeast Asia	
POLS 370	Latin American Politics - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 371	Latin America in the World	
POLS 402	Topics in Comparative Politics	
POLS 437	The United States and East Asia - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 502	Topics in Comparative Politics	
POLS 563	Women in Developing Countries - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
Political Theory ⁷		3
POLS 381	Early Political Thought	
POLS 382	Modern Political Thought	
POLS 383	American Political Thought	
POLS 384	Democracy and Its Critics - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 386	Political Theory and Utopia - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 387	American Utopian Communities	
POLS 388	Contemporary Political Theory	
POLS 404	Topics in Political Theory	
POLS 504	Topics in Political Theory - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 568	Feminist Theory - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
Political Science Electives		6
Supporting Courses		
ECON 202	Principles of Macroeconomics - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
Electives in Social Sciences other than Political Science, with 9 hours at the 300-level or above		15
Minimum Total Hours		39

At least 50 of the total minimum hours required must be at the 300 level or above.

Code	Title	Hours
Culminating Undergraduate Experience (Graduation requirement)		
Requirement fulfilled by completing:		
POLS 495	Senior Seminar - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3

Law School Courses

Code	Title	Hours
LAW 802	Torts I	3
LAW 803	Torts II	3
LAW 804	Contracts I	3
LAW 805	Contracts II	3
LAW 806	Property I	3
LAW 807	Property II	3
LAW 808	Civil Procedure I	3
LAW 810	Criminal Law	3
LAW 811	Lawyering Skills I	3
LAW 812	Lawyering Skills II	3
Minimum Total Hours		30

- ¹ Completion of the intermediate level of a single foreign language
- ² In addition to courses counted toward General Education; 6 hours must be at 300 level or above
- ³ May be incorporated into other degree requirements
- ⁴ Fulfills General Education requirement.
- ⁵ Substitutions may be approved by the departmental advisor.
- ⁶ Fulfills WR requirement.
- ⁷ POLS 399 may be an appropriate elective under any category depending on its topic in a given semester.
- ⁸ POLS 333 may be used as an elective option under Public Policy or International Relations. It may only satisfy one requirement. It may not be used to satisfy both requirements.
- ⁹ POLS 341 may be used as an elective option under International Relations and Comparative Politics. It may only satisfy one requirement. It may not be used to satisfy both requirements.
- ¹⁰ POLS 363 may be used as an elective option under International Relations and Comparative Politics. It may only satisfy one requirement. It may not be used to satisfy both requirements.

Flight Plan

Year 1		Hours
Fall		
GEN 101	Arts & Sciences First Year Experience	1
ENGL 101	Introduction to College Writing - WC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
POLS 201	Introduction to American Government and Politics - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
POLS 111	Political Discourse - OC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
ECON 202	Principles of Macroeconomics - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3

Foreign Language 1	4
Hours	17
Spring	
ENGL 102 Intermediate College Writing - WC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
POLS 202 Introduction to Comparative Politics - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences - S	3
Foreign Language2	4
General Education: Cardinal Core Social & Behavioral Sciences Historical Perspective - SBH	3
Hours	16
Year 2	
Fall	
General Education: Cardinal Core Quantitative Reasoning - QR	3-4
Foreign Language 3	4
Political Science American Politics Elective	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities US Perspectives - AHP1	3
Natural Science Elective	3
Hours	16-17
Spring	
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities - AH	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences - S	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences Lab - SL	1
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities Global Perspectives - AHP2	3
POLS 204 Introduction to International Relations	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Social & Behavioral Sciences US Perspectives - SBP1	3
Hours	16
Year 3	
Fall	
Humanities Elective (300 level or above)	3
POLS 390 Political Science Research Methods	3
Political Sciences Public Policy Elective	3
Social Sciences Elective	3
International relations Elective	
Hours	12
Spring	
Humanities Elective (300 level or above)	3
Political Science Comparative Politics Elective	3
Political Science Political Theory Elective	3
Political Science Elective	3
POLS 495 Senior Seminar - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
Hours	15
Year 4	
Fall	
LAW 802 Torts I	3
LAW 804 Contracts I	3
LAW 806 Property I	3
LAW 810 Criminal Law	3
LAW 811 Lawyering Skills I	3
Hours	15
Spring	
LAW 803 Torts II	3
LAW 805 Contracts II	3
LAW 807 Property II	3

LAW 808 Civil Procedure I	3
LAW 812 Lawyering Skills II	3
Hours	15
Minimum Total Hours	122-123

The Flight Plan outlined above is intended to demonstrate one possible path to completing the degree within four years. Course selection and placement within the program may vary depending on course offerings and schedule, elective preferences, and other factors (study abroad, internship availability, etc.). Please consult your advisor for additional information about building a flight plan that works for you.

Degree Audit Report

Degree Audit reports illustrate how your completed courses fulfill the requirements of your academic plan, and which requirements are still outstanding. Degree audits also take transfer credits and test credits into account. "What-if" reports allow you to compare the courses you have completed in your current academic plan to the courses required in another academic plan. Should you have questions about either report, please consult with your academic advisor.

Flight Planner

The Flight Planner tool is available for you to create a personalized Flight Plan to graduation. Advisors have access to review your Flight Planner and can help you adjust it to ensure you remain on track to graduate in a timely manner.

To create these reports:

1. Log into your ULink account.
2. Click on the Academic Progress tile.
3. Select the appropriate report.
 - a. To run a Degree Audit report, click on "View my Degree Audit."
 - b. To create a What-if report, click on "What-if Advisement Report."
 - c. To run a Flight Planner report, click on "Use My Flight Planner."

Click here to run a Degree Audit report, create a What-if report, or run a Flight Planner report. (<https://ulink.louisville.edu>)