

# PLS General Checklist

Fall 2025/Spring 2026 Academic Year



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ PID: \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: B.A. Political Science-General Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

- University requirements can vary depending on incoming transfer credits and placement exam scores.
- TOTAL REQUIRED: **120** Credits
- Max: **20** repeat credits | Min: **2.0** GPA | Transfer: Only **10** of last 30 credits | Min: **30** credits taken at MSU.
- WRA fulfills Tier I Writing Requirement, consult the [RO](#) combinations for MTH requirements.
- 2 of 3 diversity designations must be met by the student in IAH and ISS courses (I, N, and D).

WRA: \_\_\_\_\_ MTH#1: \_\_\_\_\_ MTH#2: \_\_\_\_\_

ISB 200-level: \_\_\_\_\_ ISP 200-level: \_\_\_\_\_ ISB/ISP Lab: \_\_\_\_\_

ISS 200-level: \_\_\_\_\_ ISS 300-level: \_\_\_\_\_

IAH 201-210: \_\_\_\_\_ IAH 211+: \_\_\_\_\_

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

- Complete an experiential learning course approved by the CSS. Min: **2.0** GPA | Min: **3** credits | Max: **6** credits
- PLS majors should strongly consider the department's various [internship](#) and [study away / study abroad](#) programs in satisfaction of the experiential learning requirement.
- Complete a minimum of **30** credits in courses numbered at the 300-level and above. CSS courses, including PLS, may be used to satisfy this requirement.
- Complete a [breadth requirement](#) approved by the CSS. Many approved minors are **15** credits.
- No more than 2 courses may be used to satisfy both primary major and minor requirements.

Experiential Learning: \_\_\_\_\_ 30 credits at the 300-level or above: \_\_\_\_\_

### Minor

Requirement #1:	_____	3 credits
Requirement #2:	_____	3 credits
Requirement #3:	_____	3 credits
Requirement #4:	_____	3 credits
Requirement #5:	_____	3 credits

## MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

- General majors are required to complete **33** credits of PLS coursework (Min: **2.0** GPA).
- Course marked with a “W” fulfill the University’s Tier II writing requirement.

### REQUIRED:

\_\_\_ PLS 200 (3 credits)

#### 100-Level Intros:

Pick **two** courses (6 credits)

\_\_\_ PLS 100

\_\_\_ PLS 120

\_\_\_ PLS 140

\_\_\_ PLS 160

\_\_\_ PLS 170

#### 200-Level Methods:

Pick **one** course (3 credits)

\_\_\_ PLS 201

\_\_\_ PLS 202

#### 300-Level Special Topics:

Pick **one** course (3 credits)

\_\_\_ PLS 392

\_\_\_ PLS 397

#### 400-Level Writing:

Pick **one** course (3 credits)

\_\_\_ PLS 422(W)

\_\_\_ PLS 481(W)

### 300 Level PLS Electives:

Pick **five** additional PLS courses at the 300-400 level (15 credits):

**Course #1:**  
(3 credits)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Course #2:**  
(3 credits)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Course #3:**  
(3 credits)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Course #4:**  
(3 credits)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Course #5:**  
(3 credits)

\_\_\_\_\_

### Subfields:

\_\_\_ American Politics (A): PLS 100, 120, 301-321, 324-334

Satisfy **three** of four subfields:  
(may be met within the courses above)

\_\_\_ Political Philosophy (P): PLS 170, 371-377

\_\_\_ Comparative Politics (C): PLS 140, 322, 342-358

\_\_\_ International Politics (I): PLS 160, 363-364

- This checklist is intended for supplemental use **ONLY**. It is not an official MSU transcript.
- Consult a PLS academic advisor **ONCE** per semester.
- It is the student’s ultimate responsibility to monitor academic progress towards degree completion.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_



Department of Political Science  
**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**