**Recommended First Quarter Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower division POL course, except POL 51(^)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry Level Writing Course (ELWR)^ or Lower Division College English Composition</td>
<td>4-4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language*</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Course or First Year Seminar</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong></td>
<td><strong>12 - 15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^\) Students should not take GE or major courses with Writing Experience (WE) until ELWR is satisfied.

*Additional GE Course if Foreign Language has been met with AP/IB or exam score.

Some POL faculty typically offer FYS. Explore First Year Seminars: [https://fys.ucdavis.edu/](https://fys.ucdavis.edu/)

**Alternative Courses**

- If a student does not register for any POL courses that is 100% okay! The major is average sized and can be completed in 4 years if a student does not take any courses towards the major their first couple quarters.
- **Student should not take POL 051 their first quarter**, even if it is the only POL course with open seats. We strongly advise students to wait until their second/third quarter to take the course. Students have shared that taking an introductory POL course AND/OR STA 13/POL12Y prior to taking POL 051 has improved their comprehension/performance.
- It is recommended student take no more than 2 POL courses a quarter – reading and writing can add up. We encourage a balanced schedule.
- You might not get courses you want, but you will get a good schedule that will work towards graduation requirements.

**Placement Exams**

**Recommended**

**Foreign Language**: All students pursuing an A.B. degree in the College of Letters and Science complete a Foreign Language through the 15-unit level (For example: through SPA 003 or above.) Please see the UC Davis Language Center website for details on course placement or proficiency exams if you have familiarity with a language other than English.

**Not Required**

**Chemistry**: The Political Science major does not require the Chemistry Placement Exam. If you plan to take Chemistry courses, be sure to review placement requirements prior to enrollment.

**Computer Science**: The Political Science major does not require the Computer Science Placement Exam. If you plan to take Computer Science courses, be sure to review placement requirements prior to enrollment.

**Math**: The Political Science major does not require the Math Placement Exam. If you plan to take Math courses, be sure to review placement requirements prior to enrollment.

**Recommended First Year Goals**

- Many POL students pursue double majors and/or minors – find and take courses you are interested in outside of the major. Many courses that may complement and even enhance your knowledge of Political Science can be found outside of the POL department.
- Encourage intellectual exploration.
- Work towards your University/College requirements.
- Ensure a good transition from HS to college. Don’t overload courses, consider getting involved on campus. Check-in with yourself during first quarter to assess how you are doing - make changes for upcoming terms if needed.

**Updated March 2020**

**Email**: poladvising@ucdavis.edu

**Website**: [https://ps.ucdavis.edu](https://ps.ucdavis.edu)
**Additional information:**

PPS requires an internship and research component. Students cannot earn POL 192 units until they have 84+ units. We strongly encourage students to begin volunteering/interning/working only when they comfortable to do so. It seems early – but students should not leave the internship requirement for their last quarters.

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**AP/IB Exams and Major Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP/IB Exams</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>UCD Course</th>
<th>Can repeat for credit at UCD?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP US Government</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>No course credit.</td>
<td>Not included.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Comparative Politics</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>No course credit.</td>
<td>Not included.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Statistics</td>
<td>4, 5</td>
<td>STA 13</td>
<td>Yes; consult with an advisor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: This chart only covers scores that yield major credit for Political Science. For the most up-to-date list of all AP and IB scores and their credit at UC Davis, please refer to the charts available on the UC Davis Admissions website. [https://www.ucdavis.edu/admissions/undergraduate/freshman/exam-requirements](https://www.ucdavis.edu/admissions/undergraduate/freshman/exam-requirements)