

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION CONCENTRATION

Program Description

The **Political Science and Public Administration Concentration** is designed for students who plan to transfer to a four-year institution to pursue a bachelor's degree in political science, public administration, public policy, international relations, or a related field.

This concentration examines the structure and function of government systems, public institutions, and political processes at the local, national, and global levels. Students explore topics such as constitutional principles, public policy, civic engagement, public sector leadership, and the role of government in addressing social challenges. Coursework emphasizes critical analysis, research, persuasive communication, and the evaluation of policy and governance issues.

The program combines a strong behavioral and social science foundation with focused study in government and public service, preparing students for advanced academic work and civic leadership roles.

Transfer Information

The Political Science and Public Administration concentration is structured to align with bachelor's degree programs in political science, public administration, public policy, international studies, and related disciplines.

Students are encouraged to work closely with faculty and Advising & Transfer Services to ensure their coursework aligns with the requirements of their intended transfer institution. Students planning to transfer within New Jersey should explore the "Transfer Programs" feature on NJ Transfer (www.njtransfer.org (<http://www.njtransfer.org>)) to review articulation agreements and institutional requirements.

Early academic planning is recommended, particularly for students considering law school, graduate study, or careers in government and public service.

Career Information

The A.S. in Behavioral Science and Public Service – Political Science and Public Administration Concentration is designed primarily for transfer. A bachelor's degree is typically required for professional roles in government and public administration, and some careers may require graduate or professional study.

With further education, graduates may pursue careers such as:

- Public Policy Analyst
- Government or Legislative Aide
- Public Administrator
- International Relations Specialist

- Law (with additional study)
- Nonprofit or Community Organization Leader

Students are encouraged to consult with faculty and Career Services as they explore long-term academic and career goals. OCC students may also use Focus2 Career through Ocean Connect to research public service and policy-related professions.

Fall One		Credit Hours
Any STSC - Student Success Seminar course ¹		2
ENGL 151	English I	3
SOCI 181	Introduction to Sociology	3
PSYC 172	General Psychology	3
POLI 183	Introduction to Political Science	3
Credit Hours		14
Spring One		Credit Hours
ENGL 152	English II	3
CSIT 110	Introduction to Computers and Computer Applications	3
ENVI 152	Environmental Science Lecture	3
ENVI 152L	Environmental Science Lab	1
POLI 101	Global Issues	3
MATH 156	Introduction to Statistics	3
Credit Hours		16
Fall Two		Credit Hours
POLI 161	American Federal Government	3
POLI 162	American State and Local Government	3
COMM 154	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
ANTH 134	Cultural Anthropology	3
Any PHIL course		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring Two		Credit Hours
ECON 151	Macroeconomic Principles	3
POLI 265	Comparative Politics and Government	3
HIST 191 or SOCI 238	African-American History or Race and Ethnicity	3
HIST 174	United States History from 1877	3
Electives to meet 60 credits		3
Credit Hours		15
Total Credit Hours		60

¹ A variety of STSC -Student Success Seminar courses are available.