

Academic Rhode Map for BA Political Science Major at Rhode Island College

- This Rhode Map is a suggested pathway to graduation in 8 semesters
 - There are other valid pathways available to graduation - part time, summer/early spring classes, etc.
- The left column contains the suggested courses for each semester, the right column contains notes for the course and about progress towards graduation
- Some courses might not be offered during the semester shown on the map
 - In these cases, courses listed in future semesters can be substituted if their prerequisites have been satisfied
 - Your advisor can help you determine which courses can be used during your appointment each semester
- This Rhode Map is designed primarily with incoming freshmen in mind and assumes a Fall start
 - Transfer students can also use it as a guide, knowing that their transfer credits may have satisfied some requirements. Academic advisors are available to answer questions about how these will affect the program
 - Students starting in the spring may need to adjust based on class offerings and availability

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST					
	FYW 100 – Taken in first year (Cannot be used as elective)	Distribution Courses - One from each category		Math (M) - Suggested in first year	
	FYS 100 – Taken in first year (Cannot be used as elective)			Arts (A)	
	Connections – Taken after FYW & FYS			History/Philosophy (HP)	
				Literature/Language (LL)	
				Natural Science (NS)	
				Social & Behavioral Sciences (SB) -Satisfied by POL 102	
			Elective(s) for 40 total Gen Ed credits (E)		

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST					
	POL 102 American Government				SIX additional 4-credit political science courses, at least FOUR of which must be at the 300-level or above
	POL 103 Global Politics				
	POL 104 Introduction to Political Thought				
	POL 300 Methodology in Political Science				
	POL 308W Research and Writing in Political Science				

Graduation Requirements:

- **Completion of General Education Requirements** – See table above
- **Completion of Major Requirements** — See table above
- **RIC 100 or Equivalent** — Taken in first year
- **College Math Milestone** — Satisfied by placement exam or completion of MATH 010
- **College Writing Competency** — Satisfied by FYW 100 with a minimum grade of C
- **Minimum 120 Credit Hours** — At least 30 credits at RIC (of which 15 from major, including 12 at 300 or 400 level)
- **Minimum GPA** - 2.0 overall

The total credit count for the major is 44 credits, and 40 credits for General Education. However, 8 Gen. Ed. credits for SB and Elective can double count, so the program can be completed in 76 credits.

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SEMESTER 1	CR	SEMESTER 1 NOTES
FYW 100 First Year Writing OR FYS 100 First Year Seminar	4	FYW Directed Self Placement exam
RIC 100 Introduction to RIC	1	Exempt if taking COLL 101, COLL 150, or HONR 150
General Education Course Math (M)	3-4	If Math Milestone is not completed, take MATH 10 here
General Education Course (Any still needed)	3-4	
POL 102 American Government	4	Satisfies Gen Ed - Social and Behavioral Sciences (SB)
Requirements and GPA		<i>Aim for 16 earned credits (While 12 is fulltime, 16 credits are preferred to stay on track to graduate in 4 years). Math Milestone completed. Minimum 2.0 GPA</i>
# CREDITS EARNED	15 -17	<i>By October, make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester</i>

SEMESTER 2	CR	SEMESTER 2 NOTES
FYW 100 First Year Writing OR FYS 100 First Year Seminar	4	Complete FYS and FYW, for FYW, grade C or better
General Education Course (Any still needed)	3-4	
General Education Course (Any still needed)	3-4	
POL 103 Global Politics OR POL 104 Introduction to Political Thought	4	
Requirements and GPA		<i>Aim for minimum of 30 earned credits. Minimum 2.0 GPA</i>
# CREDITS EARNED	14 -16	<i>By March, make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester</i>

SEMESTER 3	CR	SEMESTER 3 NOTES
General Education Course (Any still needed)	3-4	
Gen Ed course, elective, or possible second major or minor	3-4	
Gen Ed course, elective, or possible second major or minor	3-4	
POL 111 Careers in Politics and Public Policy	1	Not required but recommended Prereq = FYW 100 and at least 15 credits.
POL 103 Global Politics OR POL 104 Introduction to Political Thought	4	
Requirements and GPA		<i>Minimum of 2.0 GPA</i>
# CREDITS EARNED	13 -17	<i>By October, make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester</i>

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SEMESTER 4	CR	SEMESTER 4 NOTES
POL 308W Research and Writing in Political Science OR POL 300 Methodology in Political Science	4	POL 308W prereqs = POL 102 and 30 credits. POL 300 prereqs = POL 102 and Gen Ed Math (M)
Additional POL course	4	Need SIX additional POL courses, with at least FOUR 300/400-level. Varied prereqs.– see catalog
Gen Ed course, elective, or possible second major or minor	3-4	
Gen Ed course, elective, or possible second major or minor	3-4	
Requirements and GPA		<i>Aim for minimum of 60 earned credits, with minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in the major</i>
# CREDITS EARNED	14 -16	<i>By March, make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester</i>

SEMESTER 5	CR	SEMESTER 5 NOTES
POL 308W Research and Writing in Political Science OR POL 300 Methodology in Political Science	4	POL 308W prereqs = POL 102 and 30 credits. POL 300 prereqs = POL 102 and Gen Ed Math (M)
Additional POL course	4	Need SIX additional POL courses, with at least FOUR 300/400-level. Varied prereqs.– see catalog
Elective or course in another major or a minor	3-4	
Elective or course in another major or a minor	3-4	
Requirements and GPA		<i>Aim for minimum of 75 earned credits, with minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in the major</i>
# CREDITS EARNED	14 -16	<i>By October, make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester</i>

SEMESTER 6	CR	SEMESTER 6 NOTES
Gen Ed - Connections	4	Prereqs = FYW and FYS
POL 300-level or above	4	Need SIX 300-level additional POL courses, with at least FOUR 300/400-level Varied prereqs – see catalog
POL 300-level or above	4	Also, Independent Study options. Ask advisor
Gen Ed course, elective, or possible second major or minor	3-4	If pursuing minor or second major make sure you have registered for this with the relevant department prior to audit
Requirements and GPA		<i>Aim for minimum of 90 earned credits, with minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in the major. Apply for degree audit online through MyRIC</i>
# CREDITS EARNED	15-16	<i>By March, make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester</i>

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SEMESTER 7	CR	SEMESTER 7 NOTES
POL 300-level or above	4	Need SIX 300-level additional POL courses, with at least FOUR 300/400-level Varied prereqs – see catalog
Elective or course in another major or minor	3-4	
Gen Ed course, elective, or possible second major or minor	3-4	If elective courses are 3 credits, need one additional course for full-time status (12 credits).
Requirements and GPA		<i>Aim for minimum of 105 earned credits, with minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in the major</i>
# CREDITS EARNED	≥12	<i>By October, make appointment with advisor to discuss your schedule for next semester</i>

SEMESTER 8	CR	SEMESTER 8 NOTES
POL 300-level or above	4	Completed SIX additional POL courses, with at least FOUR at the 300/400-level.
Elective or course in another major or minor	3-4	
Elective or course in another major or minor	3-4	If elective courses are 3 credits, need one additional course for full-time status (12 credits).
Requirements and GPA		<i>Need minimum of 120 earned credits, with minimum of 2.0 GPA overall and in the major</i>
# CREDITS EARNED	≥12	<i>Attend Gradfest and Commencement</i>

NOTES:

- The total number of credits needed for the major, general education, and other requirements may be less than the 120 required for graduation. Those remaining credits can be satisfied with electives, or they can be used toward a second major or minor which could be very useful.
 - Along with your advisor, this Rhode Map can help you determine if a second major or minor could fit into your plan

Approved by Department Chair: Seth Dixon

Date: 11/27/2024

Approved by Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Date: 11/27/2024

Revised: