

POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY & ECONOMICS: INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (BA)

Program Description

The Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PPE) major is an interdisciplinary program that combines studies in political science, philosophy, and economics. When you seek a bachelor's degree in PPE, you will take a core of classes from each of these three disciplines. You will also choose from one of seven concentrations.

The International Affairs concentration is best for students interested in international politics.

New Majors Onboarding

All newly admitted majors must attend this onboarding as an introduction to the School of Business, Government, and Economics. Please make note that there are no substitutions for this degree requirement.

Entering and Completing the Major

In order to earn a degree, you must complete at least one academic major. SPU encourages students to explore various academic paths, so if you change your mind about a major, or want to include an additional program, you are able to do so, as outlined below.

Note that the University encourages you to enter your chosen major(s) as soon as you have determined it and are eligible to join it, especially by the start of your junior year. Students who transfer as juniors and seniors should enter a major within their first two quarters at SPU.

- If this is your first quarter at SPU and you identified a major in this department as your first choice on your application for admission to the University, you have gained entry to the major. To change or add a major, follow these instructions (<https://spu.atlassian.net/l/cp/a3th1keb>).
- If you are an SPU student with an SPU cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better, follow these instructions (<https://spu.atlassian.net/l/cp/a3th1keb>) to enter a major in this department.
- The University requires a grade of C- or better in all classes that apply to a major; however, programs may require higher minimum grades in specific courses. You may repeat an SPU course only once for a higher grade.
- To advance in this program, meet with your faculty advisor regularly to discuss your grades, course progression, and other indicators of satisfactory academic progress. If your grades or other factors indicate that you may not be able to successfully complete the major or minor, your faculty advisor can work with you to explore options, which may include choosing a different major.
- You must complete the major requirements that are in effect in the SPU Undergraduate Catalog for the year you enter the major.

Politics, Philosophy & Economics: International Affairs (BA)

76 Credits Minimum, Including 39 Upper Division (UD)

Code	Title	Credits
Required Core: Political Science Courses		
POL 1120 or POL 4450	United States Government and Politics United States Constitutional Law	5
POL 2320 or POL 2330 or POL 3440 or HIS 3440	Comparative Political Systems International Relations War, Peace and World Order War, Peace & World Order	5
POL 4640	Political Theory: From Antiquity to the 21st Century	5
Section Credits Required		15
Required Core: Philosophy Courses		
PHI 1001	Logic and Critical Thinking	5
Select 5 credits out of the following:		5
PHI 1002	Ethics and the Good Life	
PHI 2222	Social Ethics	
PHI 2500	Science, Technology and Society	
PHI 3601	Ancient Philosophy	
PHI 3633	Early Modern Philosophy	
PHI 3770	Political Philosophy	
PHI 3771	Philosophy of Law	
PHI 3651	Contemporary Ethical Theory	5
Section Credits Required		15
Required Core: Economics Courses		
ECN 2101	Principles of Microeconomics	5
ECN 2102	Principles of Macroeconomics	5
ECN 3202 or ECN 3201	Intermediate Macroeconomics Intermediate Microeconomics	5
Section Credits Required		15
Required International Affairs Courses		
Select 15 credits of the following:		15
POL 3320	Political and Economic Development of Nations	
POL 3440	War, Peace and World Order ¹	
POL 3670	History of United States Foreign Relations	
HIS 3440	War, Peace & World Order ¹	
HIS 3448	Refugees and Human Trafficking: History of Forced Migration and the Law	
HIS 3730	History of the Modern Middle East	
HIS 3785	Trade, War, and The Making of East Asian Modernities	
POL 4452	International Law	
POL 4643	Methods of Political Analysis	
Section Credits Required		15
Supporting Courses		
BUS 1700	Spreadsheets	1
BUS 2700	Statistics for Business and Economics	5
BUS 2910	Early Career Preparation	1
BUS 3700 or POL 4643	Quantitative Methods for Decision Making Methods of Political Analysis	5
BUS 4942	Early Career Professional Development	1
POL 4899 or BUS 4899 or ECN 4899	Political Science Capstone Seminar Business Ethics Capstone in Economics	3

Section Credits Required	16
Total Credits	76

¹ POL 3440 War, Peace and World Order or HIS 3440 War, Peace & World Order may count here if not used elsewhere.

Additional Requirements and Information

- New Majors Onboarding

Suggested Course Sequence

This is a sample schedule of sequencing for the Politics, Philosophy, & Economics (PPE) major. The first two years of PPE curriculum lay a foundation of theories, concepts, and competencies, which support upper division and track courses later in your academic career. Be sure to regularly review your degree status check in Banner to make sure you are on track with all of your degree requirements. The minimum credits required is significant and requires careful course planning.

Course	Title	Credits
Freshman		
Autumn		
FYS 1000	First Year Seminar	3
POL 1120	United States Government and Politics	5
WRI 1000	Academic Inquiry and Writing Seminar	5
Ways of Knowing in the Arts (https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/exploratory-curriculum/#wkatext)		5
Credits		18
Winter		
BUS 1700	Spreadsheets	1
BUS 2700	Statistics for Business and Economics	5
PHI 1001	Logic and Critical Thinking	5
Exploratory Curriculum (https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/exploratory-curriculum/)		5
Credits		16
Spring		
ECN 2101	Principles of Microeconomics	5
TCOR 1000	The Christian Faith	5
Ways of Knowing in the Humanities (https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/exploratory-curriculum/#wkhtext)		5
Credits		15
Sophomore		
Autumn		
ECN 2102	Principles of Macroeconomics	5
TCOR 2000	Christian Scripture	5
Ways of Knowing in the Sciences (https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/exploratory-curriculum/#wksciencetext)		5
Major		5
Credits		20
Winter		
Apply to major!		
UCOR 2100	World History, Faith, and Reconciliation	5
Ways of Knowing in the Sciences (https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/exploratory-curriculum/#wksciencetext)		5
Major		5
Credits		15

Spring		
Major		15
Credits		15
Junior		
Autumn		
BUS 2910	Early Career Preparation	1
UCOR 3000	Faith, Philosophy, and Science	5
Major		10
Credits		16
Winter		
TCOR 3100	Christian Theology	5
Major		10
Credits		15
Spring		
PHI 3651	Contemporary Ethical Theory	5
Major		10+
Credits		5-15
Any Quarter		
BUS 3700	Quantitative Methods for Decision Making	5
Track Electives		
Any remaining Exploratory Curriculum (https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/exploratory-curriculum/)		
Credits		5
Senior		
Autumn		
BUS 4942	Early Career Professional Development	1
Major		15
Credits		16
Winter		
POL 4640	Political Theory: From Antiquity to the 21st Century	5
UD POL Elective		5
Major		5-8
Credits		15-18
Spring		
Major		15
Credits		15
Any Quarter		
BUS 4899	Business Ethics	5
UD POL Elective		5
Track Courses		
Any remaining Exploratory Curriculum (https://catalog.spu.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/baccalaureate-degree-requirements/exploratory-curriculum/)		
Credits		10
Total Credits		196-209

¹ ECN 4899 Capstone in Economics, POL 4899 Political Science Capstone Seminar, and PHI 4897 Philosophy of Religion are only offered Spring Quarter.

Freshman Notes

- 15 credits of PPE core courses double-count as exploratory “WK” coursework.
- Spreadsheets competency is required for courses early on. Take BUS 1700 Spreadsheets winter or spring quarter.

Sophomore Notes

- If you have not yet applied to the major, apply now! Applications are accepted year round and require good academic standing (2.0 or higher SPU cumulative GPA).

- PHI 3770 Political Philosophy alternative to PHI 1004 The Examined Life (but move to junior or senior year).
- Begin looking for an internship over the summer after your sophomore year. Recruiting often begins 6 to 12 months prior to an internship start date.

Junior Notes

- Concentration courses should be taken when they best fit your schedule.
- Some concentration courses are offered once per year, or in rare instances, once every other year. Plan accordingly.
- Complete a DBG approved internship.

Senior Notes

- Concentration courses should be taken when they best fit your schedule.
- Some concentration courses are offered once per year, or in rare instances, once every other year. Plan accordingly.