



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

ORIENTATION & ADVISING

*Undergraduate Academic Program
Guide for New Students*

2023/2024



Welcome to Concordia University and the Department of Political Science!

Congratulations on your acceptance and we are excited to see you on your way in your academic career. The Department of Political Science is a place to explore new ideas and theories of how people, and societies, create and exercise power. Faculty members explore how concepts of justice and democracy have evolved and changed and how different countries and institutions confront the challenges of governance, globalization, conflict, and growth. Along the way, you will learn to think critically, read carefully, argue convincingly, and write well. The Department offers numerous possibilities to explore policy-making in practice at talks by current and former government officials and internships for credit in government agencies and NGOs. Students can apply to study abroad to see global issues first hand, or participate in competitions such as Model United Nations or Jeux de la Science Politique. The Political Science Student Association, and Concordia Student Union, offer additional opportunities to put theory in practice and opportunities to engage with current political issues at home and abroad. Graduates from Political Science have gone on to careers in public service, law, journalism, and academia in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and abroad. The skills you learn over the next few years will open many doors, from employment with Members of Parliament to graduate and law schools to conducting policy analysis for Global Affairs Canada or the Canadian Space Agency or analyzing elections data with Statistics Canada. It is up to you what you choose to study and how you choose to make the most of the opportunities and resources available for you here in the Department and the University. Engaging in class debates, challenging preconceived ideas, and pushing yourself to improve your written arguments and oral presentation skills will provide value no matter what your future path. In addition, you will develop lifelong friendship and networks that will support you through the highs and lows of your university career. Your professors, and the staff, in the Department will be here to help you develop intellectually, to discuss your ideas and any problems you are having with the material, and to provide mentorship in finding your next steps.

I look forward to seeing where your time in the Political Science Department takes you!

Daniel Salée, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Political Science

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE PROGRAMS – MAJORS

The Department of Political Science offers the following programs of study:

42 BA MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

12 POLI 203³, 204³, 205³, 206³

30 Chosen from at least three of the five groups (see pages 4-7) in Political Science at the 300 or 400 levels with at least six credits at the 400 level

60 HONOURS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE - *Option A*

12 POLI 203³, 204³, 205³, 206³

6 Chosen from POLI 306³, 345³, 364³, 371³, 373³, 384³

6 Chosen from POLI 390³, 392³ and 393³

33 Chosen from at least three of the five groups (see pages 3-6) in Political Science at the 300 or 400 level with a minimum of twelve credits at the 400 level

3 POLI 496³ (*Honours Seminar*)

60 HONOURS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE - *Option B (Thesis)*

12 POLI 203³, 204³, 205³, 206³

6 Chosen from POLI 306³, 345³, 364³, 371³, 373³, 384³

6 Chosen from POLI 390³, 392³ and 393³

3 POLI 396³ (*Honours Tutorial*)

24 Chosen from at least three of the five groups (see pages 3-6) in Political Science at the 300 or 400 level with a minimum of nine credits at the 400 level

6 POLI 495⁶ (*Honours Thesis*)

3 POLI 496³ (*Honours Seminar*)

Note: If a student has not been directly admitted to the Honours Program, they may apply after the successful completion of 30 credits and less than 60, with a minimum GPA 3.5. Students who have met this criterion may apply to the Honours program by contacting the Honours Advisor. The application deadlines are May 15 for the Fall semester, and November 15 for the Winter semester.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE PROGRAMS - MINORS

Within the bachelor's degree, students can focus on another topic of interest by taking a "Minor". A student with a Major in Political Science can have a Minor in Human Rights Studies but not in Political Science. A Minor can also be chosen from another department.

The credits students take as Electives are the credits that also go towards the Minor. Students must meet the program requirements from the Department that offers the Minor in order to apply. Please see each department website for details. Most departments require students to complete their first year of study (or 24 credits) and have an acceptable GPA before applying.

24 MINOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

12 POLI 203³, 204³, 205³, 206³

12 Chosen from any of the five groups (see pages 3-6) in Political Science. A minimum of nine credits must be taken at the 300 or 400 level.

24 MINOR IN HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES

6 PHIL 241³; POLI 214³

18 Chosen from ENGL 369³, 380³, 382³, 383³, 387³; FPST 321³; GEOG 407³; HIST 315³, 359³, 477³; HIST 360³ or SOCI 367³; JOUR 442³; LOYC 240³ or POLI 208³; PHIL 232³, 342³, 343³, 345³; POLI 301³, 324³, 328³, 388³, 407³; POLI 389³ or THEO 343³; RELI 310³, 312³; SOCI 380³ or ANTH 380³; WSDB 381³, 385³, 386³, 390³

NOTE: For details on the course descriptions in the program listed above, please refer to the individual departmental course listings. Students who complete POLI courses for the Human Rights Minor cannot also count them for the Political Science Major.

CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

Political Science Co-operative Education Program

The Political Science co-operative education program is offered to all full-time honours or high achieving students who are enrolled in the Department and meet the academic requirements for co-op. Students interested in applying for the Political Science co-op program should refer to §24 (in the Undergraduate Calendar) where a full description of the admission requirements is provided. Academic content is identical to that of the regular programs, with some specific recommendations for courses to improve the students' job skills. While most of the positions will be in the Montreal area, students must be prepared to work in other parts of Canada. Students are supervised personally and must meet the requirements specified by the Faculty of Arts and Science and the Institute for Co-operative Education in order to continue their studies in the co-op format. Liaison between the student, the employers, and the Institute for Co-operative Education is provided by the Political Science co-op committee, which includes the student's advisors. Please refer to section [31.240](#), in the Undergraduate Calendar for the schedule of study and work terms and the full description of admission requirements.

Political Science Career Edge (C.Edge) Option

Political Science C.Edge (Career Edge) Option

The Political Science C.Edge option is offered through the Institute for Co-operative Education. Like the co-operative program, C.Edge allows students to gain practical experience through work terms related to their field of study. It is limited to one or two work terms, normally in the summer. Students interested in applying for the C.Edge option should refer to section [31.240](#), in the Undergraduate Calendar where a full description is provided.

<http://www.concordia.ca/academics/co-op/programs/career-edge.html>

Higher Learning

At this Institution of higher learning, we provide students with the opportunity to design their academic career plan while guiding them to the successful completion of a bachelor's degree. It is the student's sole responsibility to carefully read and follow the requirements of their academic program to ensure success. In this Academic Program Guide, the Department gathers pertinent information from the University's Undergraduate Calendar and adds Department information to help assist the student to make good decisions. There are many University policies and procedures to follow, and important dates and deadlines to respect, in order to accomplish the goal of choosing, registering, and completing all courses successfully.

We have created this document to help students ease into their academic experience with confidence. Please read this guide carefully and ensure that you understand the material before you begin.

THE FIVE GROUPS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Every Political Science course at Concordia University is from one of the five groups:

International Politics, Comparative Politics, Canadian and Québec Politics, Public Policy and Administration, and Political Theory.

Core Program

POLI 203 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 credits)

POLI 204 Introduction to Canadian Politics (3 credits)

POLI 205 Introduction to International Relations (3 credits)

POLI 206 Introduction to Western Political Theory (3 credits)

Group 1: International Politics

- POLI 301** Social Movements and Protest Politics (3 credits)
 - POLI 302** Causes of War (3 credits)
 - POLI 303** Chinese Security Politics (3 credits)
 - POLI 304** Theories of Foreign Policy Making (3 credits)
 - POLI 305** International Political Economy (3 credits)
 - POLI 311** International Public Law (3 credits)
 - POLI 312** Special Topics in International Politics (3 credits)
 - POLI 315** International Organizations (3 credits)
 - POLI 318** Introduction to Strategic Studies (3 credits)
 - POLI 329** American Foreign Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 332** Theories of International Relations (3 credits)
 - POLI 388** Human Rights and International Justice (3 credits)
 - POLI 391** Middle East and Global Conflict (3 credits)
 - POLI 394** Globalization and Sustainable Development (3 credits)
 - POLI 400** Advanced Seminar in International Relations Theory (3 credits)
 - POLI 402** Advanced International Political Economy (3 credits)
 - POLI 403** Global Ecopolitical Analysis (3 credits)
 - POLI 404** International Institutions (3 credits)
 - POLI 419** Strategic Studies (3 credits)
 - POLI 420** Politics of Conservation (3 credits)
 - POLI 421** Transnational Politics (3 credits)
 - POLI 422** Canadian Foreign Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 423** Peace Studies and Global Governance (3 credits)
 - POLI 486** Advanced Seminar in International Relations (3 credits)
-

Group 2: Comparative Politics

- POLI 301** Social Movements and Protest Politics (3 credits)
- POLI 307** The U.S. Presidency (3 credits)
- POLI 308** Politics of Emerging Economies (3 credits)
- POLI 310** Politics of the U.S. (3 credits)
- POLI 313** Special Topics in Comparative Politics (3 credits)
- POLI 319** European Politics and Government (3 credits)
- POLI 320** Development of Western Legal Systems (3 credits)
- POLI 322** Israeli Political System (3 credits)
- POLI 323** Politics of Eastern Europe (3 credits)
- POLI 327** Comparative Democratization (3 credits)
- POLI 331** Comparative Party Systems (3 credits)
- POLI 335** Politics of the People's Republic of China (3 credits)
- POLI 352** Comparative Urban Politics and Government (3 credits)
- POLI 366** Politics of Africa (3 credits)
- POLI 376** Politics of Northern Ireland (3 credits)
- POLI 379** Politics of Latin America (3 credits)
- POLI 395** Politics of the Middle East (3 credits)
- POLI 405** Comparative Electoral Systems (3 credits)
- POLI 406** Comparative Federalism and Political Integration (3 credits)

- POLI 410** Environmental Policy in the Developing World (3 credits)
 - POLI 412** Comparative Social Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 424** Corruption (3 credits)
 - POLI 429** Political Socialization in Canadian and Comparative Perspective (3 credits)
 - POLI 431** State-Society Relations in China (3 credits)
 - POLI 434** Politics of Violence in Latin America (3 credits)
 - POLI 435** Advanced Seminar in U.S. Politics (3 credits)
 - POLI 436** State and Society in the Middle East (3 credits)
 - POLI 437** Special Issues in African Development (3 credits)
 - POLI 438** Decentralization and Development (3 credits)
 - POLI 481** Advanced Seminar in European Politics (3 credits)
 - POLI 483** State and Society in Latin America (3 credits)
 - POLI 484** Post-Communist Democracies (3 credits)
 - POLI 485** Issues in Development and Democracy (3 credits)
 - POLI 487** Advanced Seminar in Comparative Politics (3 credits)
-

Group 3: Canadian and Quebec Politics

- POLI 309** Women and Politics in Canada (3 credits)
 - POLI 314** Special Topics in Canadian and Quebec Politics (3 credits)
 - POLI 321** Canadian and Quebec Law (3 credits)
 - POLI 324** Parliament and the Charter (3 credits)
 - POLI 334** Political Participation in Canada (3 credits)
 - POLI 339** Quebec Politics and Society/La vie politique québécoise (3 credits)
 - POLI 340** Canadian Political Culture (3 credits)
 - POLI 341** Provincial and Territorial Politics (3 credits)
 - POLI 351** Canadian Federalism (3 credits)
 - POLI 356** Canadian Political Parties (3 credits)
 - POLI 363** Issues in Canadian Public Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 365** Canadian Public Administration (3 credits)
 - POLI 367** Quebec Public Administration (3 credits)
 - POLI 407** Parliamentary Bills of Rights (3 credits)
 - POLI 408** Public Opinion and Public Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 409** Canada: State-Society Relations (3 credits)
 - POLI 428** Constitutional Politics in Canada (3 credits)
 - POLI 429** Political Socialization in Canadian and Comparative Perspective (3 credits)
 - POLI 488** Advanced Seminar in Canadian and Quebec Politics (3 credits)
-

Group 4: Public Policy and Administration

- POLI 316** Special Topics in Public Policy and Administration (3 credits)
- POLI 320** Development of Western Legal Systems (3 credits)
- POLI 328** Public Policy and the Politics of Equality (3 credits)
- POLI 330** Principles of Public Administration (3 credits)
- POLI 349** Political and Social Theory and the City (3 credits)

- POLI 352** Comparative Urban Politics and Government (3 credits)
 - POLI 353** Principles of Public Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 361** Advocacy Groups and Public Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 363** Issues in Canadian Public Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 365** Canadian Public Administration (3 credits)
 - POLI 367** Quebec Public Administration (3 credits)
 - POLI 410** Environmental Policy in the Developing World (3 credits)
 - POLI 411** Gender and Public Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 412** Comparative Social Policy (3 credits)
 - POLI 438** Decentralization and Development (3 credits)
 - POLI 463** Government and Business in Canada (3 credits)
 - POLI 489** Advanced Seminar in Public Policy and Administration (3 credits)
-

Group 5: Political Theory

- POLI 306** Classical Political Thought (3 credits)
- POLI 317** Special Topics in Political Theory (3 credits)
- POLI 345** Contemporary Political Philosophy (3 credits)
- POLI 349** Political and Social Theory and the City (3 credits)
- POLI 364** Hellenistic, Roman, Medieval Political Philosophy (3 credits)
- POLI 368** Media, Technology and Politics (3 credits)
- POLI 371** Early Modern Political Philosophy (3 credits)
- POLI 373** Late Modern Political Philosophy (3 credits)
- POLI 384** Principles of Political Theory (3 credits)
- POLI 386** Contemporary Liberalism and Its Critics (3 credits)
- POLI 389** Religion and Politics (3 credits)
- POLI 401** American Political Thought (3 credits)
- POLI 414** Authors of Political Imagination (3 credits)
- POLI 415** Modern Political Theory and Religion (3 credits)
- POLI 416** Ancient Political Texts (3 credits)
- POLI 417** Governance (3 credits)
- POLI 418** Machiavelli (3 credits)
- POLI 425** Foundations of Liberalism (3 credits)
- POLI 426** Nietzsche (3 credits)
- POLI 427** Political Thought of the Enlightenment (3 credits)
- POLI 433** Critics of Modernity (3 credits)
- POLI 490** Advanced Seminar in Political Theory (3 credits)

What if the course requirements for my degree change?

If the courses a student is required to take in the Minor, Major, or Honours program change, **that student MUST follow the course requirements from the Calendar of the year that they entered into the Political Science program.** The official date of entry is located at the top of the Unofficial Transcript (or Student Record).

How long will it take to finish my degree?

Full-time students are permitted to take 30 credits a year (September to April): 15 credits (5 courses - 3 credits each) in the Fall semester (September to December), and another 15 credits (5 courses - 3 credits each) in the Winter semester (January to April). **The degree can be completed in three years in a 90 credit program.** Some students may opt to take less than the maximum number of courses (e.g. 4 per semester - total of 24 credits in one academic year). The remaining credits may be made up during the summer session of which there are three sessions - May-August; May-June; and June-August. Some students choose to get ahead by taking courses in the summer session.

How many credits do I need to graduate? Which courses do I take?

For those students following the MAJOR in Political Science:

This depends on the length of the program that a student has been admitted to.

To know how many credits (90, 108, 120) a student must complete, they are to refer to the Unofficial Transcript (or Student Record) through the MyConcordia Portal - Student Center. The number of credits a student is required to complete will be indicated at the top of the Student Record under "Minimum Credits Required".

EXAMPLE: A normal full-time course load, of five 3-credit courses per term (Summer not included), in a 90 credit program, results in three years of study. This equation presumes the successful completion of all courses.

What does it mean to take 300 and 400 level courses in 3 of the 5 groups?

Every political science course at Concordia falls into one of five groups: International Politics; Comparative Politics; Canadian & Québec Politics; Public Policy & Administration; and Political Theory. Within the 30 credits a Political Science Major student takes at the 300 and 400 level, they must take at least one course in at least three of the five groups in order to graduate.

What are the Political Science Course Requirements for the Major?

42 Political Science course credits are required to complete the **MAJOR in Political Science**. They are distributed as follows:

(Honours students have different requirements)

12/42 credits are Introductory Core Program courses

POLI 203 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 credits)

POLI 204 Introduction to Canadian Politics (3 credits)

POLI 205 Introduction to International Relations (3 credits)

POLI 206 Introduction to Western Political Theory (3 credits)

☐ POLI 203

☐ POLI 204

☐ POLI 205

☐ POLI 206

30/42 credits are chosen from the list of courses offered at the 300 or 400 level

MAJOR PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS (30 Credits)

Credits taken from at least 3 of the 5 groups at the 300 or 400 level; 6 of which must be seminar courses (400 level)

8 courses: 24 credits 300 level

2 courses (min.): 6 credits 400 level

COURSE **GROUP ***

POLI _____

POLI _____

POLI _____

POLI _____

POLI _____

POLI _____

POLI _____

POLI _____

COURSE **GROUP***

POLI _____

POLI _____

* Groups 1 through 5 are listed on pages 6-9

What are the Elective Course Requirements?

Electives are the courses that students are free to choose in addition to the 42 credits they are allotted for their Political Science Major. These credits can be assigned to another Major, a Minor or an Elective group from any other discipline outside of Political Science, where available.

- **If in a 90-credit Program:** 48/90 credits = Elective requirement
- **If in 108-credit Program:** 66/108 credits = Elective requirement
- **If in a 120-credit Program:** 78/120 credits = Elective requirement

In the Department of Political Science, Elective credits must be broken down as follows:

24 of the total elective credits must be taken outside of the Department of Political Science, 6 credits of which must meet the General Education Requirement

ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS (24 credits) Outside of Political Science; of which 6 credits must meet the General Education Requirement.

1. ☐ Gen.Ed. _____ 2. ☐ Gen.Ed. _____
3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____
6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____

The remaining 24 elective credits may be taken inside or outside the Department of Political Science (90-credit program); the remaining 42 elective credits may be taken inside or outside the department (108-credit program); the remaining 54 elective credits may be taken inside or outside the department (120-credit program)

Plus ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS (24/42/54 credits) Inside or Outside of Political Science

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____/90
9. _____ 10. _____ 11. _____ 12. _____
13. _____ 14. _____/108 15. _____ 16. _____
17. _____ 18. _____/120

N.B. Each numbered line accounts for 3 credits.

What is the General Education Requirement?

The general education requirement is meant to provide breadth to the student's program of study. A candidate for graduation must satisfy the Arts and Science General Education Requirement by successfully completing a **minimum of six credits** from course offerings **OUTSIDE** the student's disciplinary sector, which is in this case, **the Social Science Sector**.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Applied Human Sciences; Economics; Education; Geography, Planning and Environment; Political Science; Religion; School of Community and Public Affairs; Simone de Beauvoir Institute; Sociology and Anthropology

HUMANITIES

Canadian Irish Studies, Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics; Communication Studies; English; Études françaises; History; Journalism; Liberal Arts College; Loyola International College; Philosophy; Theological Studies

SCIENCE

Biology; Chemistry/Biochemistry; Exercise Science; Mathematics and Statistics; Physics; Psychology; Science College

Students may also include courses offered by the **John Molson School of Business**, the **Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science**, and the **Faculty of Fine Arts** as credits for their General Education Requirement.

Distribution Requirement: Students enrolled in two areas of concentration which are both within the same disciplinary sector are required to take six credits outside of the sector. For example, students enrolled in a BA major in Political Science and Economics, both of which fall within the Social Sciences, must fulfill the requirement by successfully completing either six credits from the Humanities or Science sector, or three credits from the Humanities sector and three credits from the Science sector, or six credits from outside the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Students enrolled in two areas of concentration drawn from different disciplinary sectors will be considered as having satisfied the General Education requirement.

ESL courses or introductory English-language courses are not considered as substitutions for this requirement.

COURSE REGISTRATION

On a computer with internet access, open the Concordia University main page. Find and select *Student Hub*. Once open, select *Get to know your Student Information System (SIS)*. The “How to” guides therein serve as instructions on how to manage your Student Information System within your portal’s Student Center.

My Student Centre is the SIS **self-service dashboard** located in the My CU Account portal. From here, you can manage all your student-related tasks online: **registering** for or **dropping courses**, using automated waitlists, building a **personalized schedule**, **paying fees** and more.

<https://www.concordia.ca/students/your-sis.html>

MY COURSES MY CU ACCOUNT SERVICES & RESOURCES STUDENT LIFE ABOUT EVENTS

Concordia.ca / Students / Your SIS

The Student Centre (SIS)

Access your **Student Centre (SIS)** to complete tasks like adding or dropping courses and paying your fees.

1. Log into the [Student Hub](#)
2. Go to [My CU Account](#)
3. Select [Student Centre](#)

```
graph TD; SH[STUDENT HUB] --> MCA[My CU account]; MCA --> SCC[Student Centre (SIS)];
```

How To guides

Here you will find resources – and who to contact if you need help.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Academic advising | ▼ |
| Admissions | ▼ |
| Course registration | ▼ |
| Exams | ▼ |

These are the terms that may appear on your letter of acceptance. What do they mean?

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Please don't hesitate to contact the person who signed your Offer of Admission if you have any questions about your offer.

DEFICIENCIES: A deficiency is a course required for admission to your chosen program that you have not completed. Courses identified as "deficiencies" must be completed as early in your studies as possible. You may have two options for making up those deficiencies as indicated by the letters "A" or "B." Engineering and Computer Science students must complete any deficiencies before registering for classes.

EXEMPTIONS: Concordia grants you an exemption when you successfully complete a specific course and meet any indicated minimum grade. An exemption does not count as credit towards a degree, so it will not decrease the number of courses you need to complete your degree — but an exemption will let you skip ahead to a more advanced course. If Concordia gives you an exemption from a course, you may not take that course for credit. If you received an exemption from a required course, you must take another course in the same department, to be determined in consultation with a departmental advisor.

EXTENDED CREDIT PROGRAM (ECP): Students who have not successfully completed a two-year pre-university program may be admitted to the Extended Credit Program, which requires them to take a minimum of 30 additional credits. This ensures the time to complete a program at Concordia is the same as it would be at any other university outside Quebec, about four years of full-time study. The Undergraduate Calendar lists ECP requirements for each faculty.

MATURE ENTRY PROGRAM (MEP): Canadians and permanent residents 21 years of age and older who lack the required pre-university schooling may be considered for admission to the Mature Entry Program. The MEP requires you to complete at least 18 additional credits.

TRANSFER CREDIT: You may earn transfer credits through your studies at another post-secondary institution or in another degree program at Concordia. These credits are applied towards your degree, meaning you'll have fewer courses left to complete.

For more information regarding the university list of acronyms and vocabulary, please visit:
<http://www.concordia.ca/students/success/new/first-year-guide.html>

Explanation of Academic Terms

Core Course

A core course is a course that is required in the Honours, Specialization, Major or Minor program of your department.

Credit Loads

6-credit courses are normally taught over the Fall and Winter terms.

3-credit courses are normally taught over one term.

Full-time students normally take 12-15 credits per term.

Part-time students take 9 or less credits per term.

The maximum credit load for the summer session is 12 credits (excluding Co-op students)

24-Credit Rule

Before you are eligible to graduate, you must successfully complete a minimum of 24 credits of electives outside of your department or single discipline.

DISC

DISC, or discontinue is an academic withdrawal and has no impact in the calculation of your GPA.

Students remain financially responsible for the discontinued course(s).

DNE

DNE, or Did Not Enter, means you officially withdrew from a course within the deadline. Check your current Undergraduate Calendar or Undergraduate Class Schedule and Registration Guide for the exact list of deadlines. There is a full refund.

ECP

The ECP, or Extended Credit Program, is designed for graduates of secondary schools outside Quebec and requires completion of 30 credits in addition to the regular 90 credit program. Some of the additional 30 credits may be specified.

Elective Course

An Elective course is a course outside of your required core courses.

Equivalent Course

An Equivalent course is a course that has the identical content as another course, but with a different course number (see Section 200 of the Undergraduate Calendar).

External Credit

If you want to take a course at another university, you must apply in advance through your department. Final permission is given by Student Academic Services. Depending on where the courses are taken, normally a maximum of 12 credits is permitted. Without prior permission, no credits will be transferred.

F – FNS – F DNW

A grade of F, FNS, or FDNW means that you have failed the course (DNW = Did Not Write). A supplemental examination is only available in some circumstances to those students who receive an F. (details are available in the Undergraduate Calendar)

Do I have to maintain a certain Grade Point Average (GPA) to remain at the University or in good academic standing?

Every student must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 ("C" average) in order to remain in good academic standing at the University. Failure to maintain a 2.0 GPA could lead to academic jeopardy. A student is responsible for maintaining the GPA and will be notified by the University if it falls below 2.0. The student will either be placed in Conditional Standing or in Failed Standing, depending on the GPA.

Grade Point Average (GPA) Regulations

(See Academic Performance Regulations in the Concordia Undergraduate Calendar)

Acceptable Standing

To be in acceptable standing, you must obtain an annual GPA of at least 2.00 (C). Students in acceptable standing may continue their program of study, following the advice of their academic departments.

Conditional Standing

A student is in conditional standing when they obtain an annual GPA of less than 2.00, but at least 1.50. A student is not permitted to obtain two consecutive conditional standing assessments. Students in Conditional Standing may not write supplemental exams. If placed in Conditional Standing they must follow the conditions outlined in the e-mail letter sent to them regarding their academic standing.

Failed standing

Failed standing results from a student's GPA that has fallen to less than 1.50, or if they obtain Conditional Standing in two consecutive assessment periods.

What happens if I suspect that I will attain Failed Standing or that I do?

If a student is in failed standing for the first time, they are withdrawn from the University for a period of at least one year and must apply for readmission after that year. If they have extenuating circumstances, they may apply for immediate readmission by following the guidelines and deadlines in the instruction letter received from the Office of the Registrar and by visiting www.concordia.ca/artsci/students/readmission.html for the readmission form and explanatory details. Deadlines are firm. If a student knows that they are failing, they must tend the situation before leaving campus for the summer (assessments are completed in May each year). If a student attains failed standing for a second time they must withdraw from the University for a period of three years. Second time failed students who wish to reapply for readmission may do so after a period of three years by applying to Student Academic Services, Faculty of Arts and Science. Failed students may not write supplemental exams.

Going through a tough semester? Grades not what you want them to be?

A bad semester is like bad credit: It's hard to fix. Take action early!!

If you are experiencing difficulties during the semester:

- See your professor as soon as possible to discuss a course of action;
- Make sure to document the case for any extraneous circumstances; (medical notes)
- See an academic advisor;
- Seek support at the Counselling and Development Centre (cdev.concordia.ca);
- Reduce the number of hours at your place of employment;
- Assess if you are taking too many courses; many students take five courses in their first semester. Sometimes, it is better to take four;
- *WITHDRAW by the posted deadline so that it will NOT affect your Grade Point Average (GPA).

***You should assess your status in your course midway through the semester.** If you feel you cannot reach a satisfactory grade by the end of term **WITHDRAW from the class before the withdrawal (DISC) deadline.**

There are two WITHDRAWAL DEADLINES:

- **DNE (Did Not Enter):** receive a full refund on your tuition and not have the class reflected on your transcript. Your GPA remains unaffected.
- **DISC (Discontinue):** you will not receive a refund on your tuition and your GPA remains unaffected.

BE AWARE OF IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DEADLINES!

Retrieved from "Undergraduate Academic Calendar 2023-2024"

<http://www.concordia.ca/academics/undergraduate/calendar/current.html>

Deadline dates are published each year in the front of the Concordia Undergraduate Calendar and on the Concordia Website:

<https://www.concordia.ca/students/undergraduate/undergraduate-academic-dates.html>

Withdrawing from a course with a tuition refund (DNE)

Withdrawing from a course – no refund (DISC)

Applying to complete work for a course after the course has finished (INC)

Applying for re-evaluation of a grade

Applying for replacement and supplemental exams

Applying to graduate

Applying for a DEF/MED notation

Last day to register for courses, **and so much more...**

Please consult your Student Center for dates. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of all changes to deadlines.

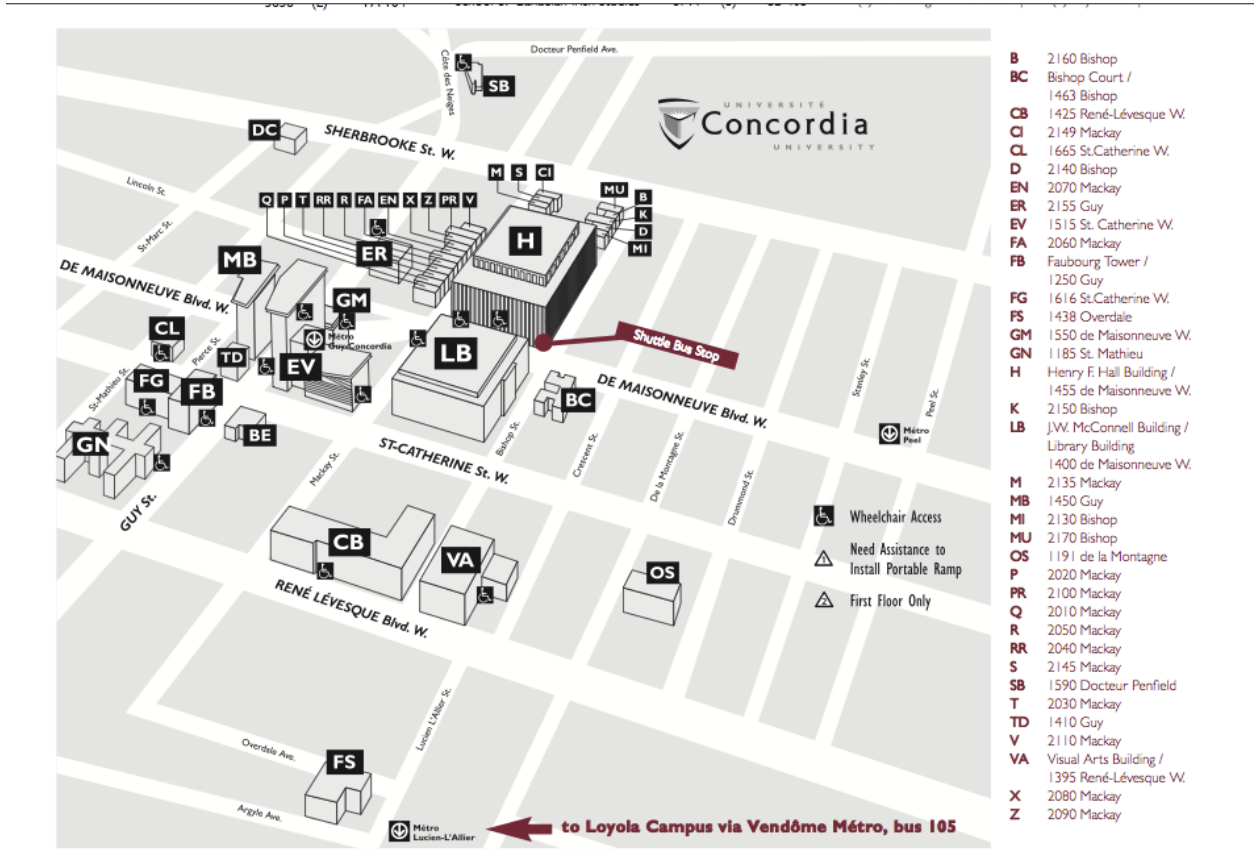
CONCORDIA SERVICES ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

The Student Success Center is your first stop. Find out more about the myriad of support services they offer at: <https://www.concordia.ca/students/success.html>

Concordia's Guide to First Year 2023-2024 can be found here:

<http://www.concordia.ca/students/success/new/first-year-guide.html>

Getting around the downtown campus – Sir George Williams Campus Map



SHUTTLE BUS (free inter-campus shuttle – Henry F. Hall building, SGW to the Loyola Campus with student ID card)

Schedule can be found at: <http://www.concordia.ca/maps/shuttle-bus.html>

KNOW THE CODE

Department of Political Science statement on Plagiarism

The Political Science Department has zero tolerance for plagiarism.

What is plagiarism? The University defines plagiarism as “The presentation of the work of another person, in whatever form, as one’s own or without proper acknowledgment.” (Concordia Undergraduate Calendar 2023-2024, pages 54-60). Plagiarism is an academic offence governed by the Academic Code of Conduct. To find out more about how to avoid plagiarism, see www.concordia.ca/students/academic-integrity.html

What are the consequences of getting caught? The Dean or an Academic Hearing Panel may impose the following sanctions on students caught plagiarizing:

a. A written reprimand; b. Direct that a piece of work be re-submitted; c. Enter a grade of "0" for the piece of work in question; d. Enter a grade reduction in the course; e. Enter a failing grade for the course; f. Enter a failing grade and ineligibility for a supplemental examination or any other evaluative exercise for the course; g. Impose the obligation to take and pass courses of up to twenty-four (24) credits in addition to the total number of credits required for the student’s program as specified by the Dean. If the student is registered as an Independent student, the sanction will be imposed only if he or she applies and is accepted into a program; h. Impose a suspension for a period not to exceed six (6) academic terms. Suspensions shall entail the withdrawal of all University privileges, including the right to enter and be upon University premises; i. Expulsion from the University. Expulsion entails the permanent termination of all University privileges (Undergraduate calendar, pages 57-59, 60).

Complete regulations can be found in Section [17.10](#) of the Undergraduate calendar.
http://mypage.concordia.ca/alcormlipson/01Plagiarism_Home.html

Guides for Students on Avoiding Plagiarism

These guides usually include information about the university code of conduct but most importantly they tell students what is considered acceptable paraphrasing and what is not, and they provide information on proper citation of documents.

Avoiding Plagiarism (Concordia University, Learning Support Services)

<http://www.concordia.ca/students/success/learning-support.html>

Student Advocacy Office:

<https://www.concordia.ca/offices/advocacy.html>

How Not to Plagiarize (University of Toronto)

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>

How to write a research paper:

<https://library.concordia.ca/help/writing/research-paper.php?guid=plagiarism>

Political Science Department Academic Assistance:

You should consult with an advisor throughout your stay at the university on questions pertaining to your degree. We are always here to help:

Undergraduate Program Director & Honours Advisor

Dr. Graham G. Dodds, PhD

Office: H 1255-05

E-mail: polisci.UPD@concordia.ca

Undergraduate Co-op Director

Dr. Nicole De Silva

Office: H 1225-65

E-mail: Polisci.co-op@concordia.ca

Undergraduate Academic Advisor

Ms. Elizabeth C. Lefèvre

Advising Office: H 1225-19

Please check the Political Science website for the latest advising hours. To book an advising appointment please go to our Website under Academic Advising, you will be redirected to our MS Bookings page: <https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/polisci/student-life/current/undergraduate.html#advising>

If you encounter any problems while making a booking, please contact polisci.assist@concordia.ca

*To find a list of **elective courses** normally available to non-program students can be found here: <https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/students/advising-registration-withdrawal/elective-courses.html>*

Where can you find more information about the department?

You can access the department website at <http://politicalscience.concordia.ca>

This guide and informative videos are accessible on the Political Science website:
<https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/polisci/student-life/current/undergraduate.html>

We wish you all the best in your academic career!