

POLITICAL SCIENCE BA, HBA

EXPERIENTIAL MAJOR MAP



FIRST YEAR

MIDDLE YEARS

FINAL YEAR

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



DEVELOP

a Course Plan and Build Academic Skills

- Check out the [Academic Support Zone](#) for free writing and tutoring support.
- Consider elective courses that interest you and areas you may want to study in the future - find out the prerequisites for those future courses. Read through the [Academic Regulations](#).
- Familiarize yourself with your [myInfo](#) account, self-help, and degree audit tools.
- Need academic accommodations? Meet with [Student Accessibility Services](#).
- Review program requirements on the [Academic Calendar](#) and if you have questions, meet with a [Student Central](#) Professional.
- Connect with the Political Science Chair who will help you review your program requirements and choose electives.
- Attend academic lectures outside of class time. Connect to a reading or study group.

- Meet with your Chair or a [Student Central](#) Professional to discuss your academic progress, and current/future courses.
- Consider [post-degree programs](#) that may require specific courses or academic requirements - create a plan and ensure you're on track.
- Check your degree audit at the beginning and end of the year. Check this anytime you add/drop courses.
- Think about your options, do you want to do a thesis?
- Speak to faculty in your department and see if they would be willing to be your supervisor!
- Join or form a peer led reading and study group.
- Increase your engagement with class readings and projects.
- Complete the Political Science core requirements.
- Attend Academic Skills Prep Sessions offered by the [Academic Support Zone](#).

- Connect with the Political Science Chair to ensure you are set to complete degree requirements in time to graduate.
- Submit your Intent to Graduate (on [myInfo](#)).
- RSVP for convocation ceremonies.
- Understand application requirements, processes and deadlines for future programs of interest.
- Consider applying for Law School or Graduate Studies.
- Work with a Political [Society](#) member on a specialized area of interest.
- If doing a Thesis, ensure that you're on track to complete on time, and see the program guidelines with regard to Honours theses. Once you finish, submit a copy to the library and your department for archives.
- Complete any required entrance testing, e.g. the LSAT.

ACADEMIC SKILLS CHECKLIST

- Keep on top of your studies, and seek [support](#) if needed.
- Visit the [Academic Support Zone](#). Attend their workshops and take advantage of free tutoring and writing services.
- Engage with the [faculty](#) and consult with your Chair.
- Know your degree requirements and plan around them.
- Extend your learning beyond the classroom by connecting to a reading or study group.
- Develop your academic skills by seeking feedback from the [Academic Support Zone](#), professors, and peers.
- Take advantage of the many experiential learning activities offered by the Political Science department.
- Reading and writing skills are extremely important; ensure that you utilize feedback from your professors.



CONNECT

and Gain Experience with the Local and Global Community

- Engage in the many Experiential Learning opportunities in POLI 1100 Introduction to Political Science, and POLI 1301 Introduction to Law.
- Join Lakehead's Political Science Student [Club](#) or Student Pre-Law Society.
- Attend the [Political Science Speaker Series](#), featuring national and international scholars and leaders.
- Look into the Department's [webinar series](#).
- Meet with your Political Science [professors](#) - get to know them, and let them get to know you!
- Join student [clubs](#) to connect with peers and gain support with your interests.
- Volunteer locally to build skills and grow your network.
- Explore internships offered by the Federal and Provincial governments..
- If you're an international student, check out Lakehead International [resources and programs](#).
- If you identify as Indigenous check out [Indigenous Initiatives](#) and the [Indigenous Student Services Centre](#).

- Connect with the Political Science Chair to discuss your academic progress and your future courses.
- Consider a [work-study job](#), which is a great opportunity to gain experience, as well as assist in the cost of your education
- Running into academic challenges? Reach out for [support](#).
- Become a leader or active member in one of the Political Science Student Clubs.
- Aim to volunteer locally, which will help you gain valuable skills and build your network.
- Engage with your professors; visit during office hours. Ask if they are looking for student workers during the year or over the summer!
- Engage with faculty research, participate in class discussions, and reach out to discuss your thoughts or questions.

- Consider working on applied research, such as a thesis project.
- Lead a reading or study group.
- Further increase and intensify your engagement with class readings and projects.
- If you have conducted research or developed academic work, consider sharing or presenting it. Ask faculty for ideas on how to get started.
- Join networking platforms such as [LinkedIn](#) and [Ten Thousand Coffees](#).
- Connect with employers through recruitment [events](#), such as career fairs and employer visits.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CHECKLIST

- Connect with local, national, and international scholars and leaders.
- Collaborate with fellow students on academic and non-academic projects.
- Present academic work to scholars and to the broader community.
- Take advantage of the many financial and academic resources offered by Lakehead. Ask [Student Central](#) if you need help.
- Consider arranging an [informational interview](#) to discover potential opportunities and connect with employers in your field.
- Consider an academic exchange through Lakehead's [Study Abroad](#) program.
- Join Toastmasters to develop valuable public-speaking skills.
- Keep track of your extra-curricular activities and add them to your Co-Curricular Record (CCR) on [mySuccess](#).



FIRST YEAR

MIDDLE YEARS

FINAL YEAR

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



PREPARE

for Postgraduation or Career

- Visit the [Career Zone](#) to find out about the career services offered.
- Check out the job bank on [mySuccess](#) to learn about summer job and on-campus opportunities in your program.
- Develop relationships with the Political Science faculty. Future references can be important!
- Interested in entrepreneurship? Check out [Ingenuity's](#) resources. Discuss post graduate options with advanced students in your program.
- Meet with an advisor at [Student Central](#) to discuss financial management, and funding resources.
- It is never too early to start getting experiential experience in the future field of your choice; start your first year.

- Start connecting with employers through on campus recruitment events, such as career fairs and employer visits.
- Join [Lakehead Connect](#) to make connections with alumni in your field.
- Continue developing relationships with Political Science faculty; future references can be important. Visit during office hours, engage with their research, and ask questions.
- Communicate interest in career-related opportunities with your professors.
- Discover the many bursary and award opportunities open to Lakehead students.

- Consider and discuss graduate school options with your faculty.
- Finish strong! In some cases, advanced degree programs only look at your last year or two of grades.
- Build career readiness skills by attending resume, job search and interview skills workshops in the [Career Zone](#).
- Attend the Career and Job Fair/Career and Summer Job Fairs to network with employers.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST

- Consider and discuss graduate school options with your faculty.
- Create a [LinkedIn](#) account.
- Consider and discuss law school options with your faculty.
- Apply for job opportunities in your field.
- Visit the [Career Zone](#). Check the [calendar](#) to attend employer information sessions and career fairs.
- Network with employers on campus.
- Boost your resume and gain valuable soft skills through [completing LinkedIn Learning modules](#).
- Explore the various [resources and tools](#) on the Career Zone website.
- Have your resume reviewed through the Career Zone. Book an appointment on [mySuccess](#).
- Keep updating your resume. Continuously note down your developing skills and experience for future cover letters/resumes.

What skills do employers want?

- Knowledge of the development, analysis, revision, and implementation of policies, procedures, standards, and guidelines
- Ability to process and organize multiple ideas and large amounts of complex information
- Qualitative and quantitative analysis
- Excellent problem-solving and judgement skills
- Superior written and verbal communication skills
- Interpersonal skills
- Ability to organize, coordinate, and work efficiently within a team
- Superior computer and researching skills
- Ability to lead and take initiative

What skills will I gain with this major?

- Analytical thinking and problem solving
- Teamwork
- Organization and time-management
- Qualitative and quantitative research
- Clear and concise academic writing
- Ability to formulate persuasive and reasoned arguments
- Ability to determine and analyze different perspectives

What double degrees can I do with this major?

- Economics
- History
- Philosophy
- Women's studies

What types of minors can I do?

- Sociology
- History
- Psychology
- Applied Ethics
- Philosophy
- Anthropology
- Socio-cultural anthropology
- Women's Studies

What can I add to my degree?

- Certificate in Education studies
- Certificate in Global Entrepreneurship
- Certificate in Indigenous Learning
- Certificate in International Languages
- Certificate of French Proficiency for Non-French Majors
- Aboriginal Language Specialist Certificate

What graduate degrees could I pursue?

- Law School (Juris Doctor)
- Master in Political Science
- Master in Public Policy
- Master in International Law
- Master of Business
- Bachelor of Education

What careers can I pursue?*

- Law
- Government
- Business
- Lobbying
- Public Relations
- Education
- Public Policy
- Diplomacy

*Your career path is not limited to this list. There could be other options to explore!

What field of work are alumni working in?

- Law
- Public Service
- Diplomacy and International Governance
- Business
- Education

What percentage of graduates are employed within 2 years after graduation?

- 98.7 of graduates from Social Sciences!

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE

THUNDER BAY (SC0008)

(807) 343-8018
ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm

ORILLIA (OR1021)

(705) 330-4010 x 2118
orillia.ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm

CAREER ZONE

THUNDER BAY (UC00)

(807) 343-8010 x 8264
careerzone.ssc@lakeheadu.ca
Monday - Friday | 10:00am - 4:30pm

SOCIAL MEDIA

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