

◀ BA Poli Sci - Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

# Code Pre-Law Concentration

Under Review | Fall 2025

# Proposal Information

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## Workflow Status

In Progress

Refresh  **Form Submission, Proposer**

collapse ▼

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

✓ Jessica Feezell | 11/12/2024 4:04 PM

## Department Chair Pre-Approval, Political Science

Approved | Department Chair

✓ Jami Nunez | 11/12/2024 4:45 PM

## Registrar Office Technical Check Approval, Registrar Technical Check

Approved | Registrar Technical Check

✓ Michael Raine | 11/13/2024 9:23 AM

— Maggie Sumruld

## College/School Dean Approval, College of Arts & Sciences: Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary

Approved | College or School approver

✓ Keith Hunley | 12/16/2024 10:03 AM

## Library Approval, Main Campus Library

Approved | Library Approval

✓ Sever Bordeianu | 12/16/2024 10:27 AM

## FSCC Member notification, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Notification Sent | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Member

☒ Antoinette Abeyta

☒ Joe Anderson

☒ Randi Archuleta

☒ Laura Belmonte

☒ Justin Bendell

☒ Isabella Goss

☒ Sara Ice

☒ Megan Jacobs

☒ Joan Lucas

☒ Justine Ponce

☒ Mary Rice

☒ John Russell

☒ Jennifer Schneider

☒ Julia So

☒ SueNoell Stone

☒ Jonathan Wheeler

## Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Approval, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Approved | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Chair

— Janet Vassilev

✓ Nicole Capehart

FSCC voted to approve

3/31/2025 10:42 PM

## Provost Approval, Main Campus Provost

Approved | Provost

✓ Pamela Cheek | 4/15/2025 1:25 PM

**Faculty Senate, Faculty Senate**

Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

Nancy Middlebrook

Theresa Sherman

**Registrar Office Final Approval/Processing, Registrar**

Approval | Registrar final approval

Michael Raine

Maggie Sumruld

**Notification, Proposer**

Notification | Proposer

Jessica Feezell

**EMRT notification, EMRT users**

Notification | EMRT user

Enrollment Mgt Reporting Team

**Lobotrax notification, LoboTrax Team**

Notification | LoboTrax Staff

Sherri DeLeve

Paula Freitag

Hannah Epstein

Allie Martinez

Glenda Johnson

## Proposal Information

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**Sponsoring faculty/staff member ⓘ**

Jessica Feezell

**Sponsoring faculty/staff email**

jfeezell@unm.edu

**College**

College of Arts & Sciences:  
Social Sciences &  
Interdisciplinary

**Department**

Political Science

**Campus**

Main Campus

## Effective Term and Year

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**Proposed Effective Term and Year**

Fall 2025

## Justification

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### Concentration Justification

The Department of Political Science previously had a pre-law concentration, which is well suited to the variety of coursework we offer in law, politics, and society. We would like to reinstate a pre-law concentration to allow our students to earn recognition for coursework completed specific to law-related topics.

## Associated Forms

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Select any associated course forms that exist

Select any associated program forms that exist

## Program Information

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### Degree Name

BA Poli Sci - Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

### Degree Type

Bachelor of Arts

### Program Type

Undergraduate

### Program Description

No Parent Selected

### Degree Hours

120

### Minimum Major Hours

36

### Degree Requirements

- Complete all of the following

#### Core Courses

- Complete all of the following
  - Complete at least 1 of the following:
    - POLS1120 - American National Government (3)
    - POLS2150 - Public Policy and Administration (3)
  - Complete at least 1 of the following:
    - POLS2110 - Comparative Politics (3)
    - POLS2120 - International Relations (3)
  - Complete at least 1 of the following:
    - POLS2130 - Political Ideas: Introduction to Political Theory (3)
    - POLS2140 - Introduction to Political Analysis (3)
  - Earn at least 3 credits from the following types of courses:  
selected an additional course from the core course above.
- Earned at least 21 credits from 300 - 499
- Earn at least 3 credits from the following types of courses:

3 additional credit hours from any level.

- Earn at least 84 credits from the following types of courses:

In addition to the program-specific requirements outlined here, all undergraduate students are required to fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements and other general undergraduate degree requirements to earn a minimum of 120 credits. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information. Students within the College of Arts and Sciences must also complete 1) a major and a minor; or 2) two majors; or 3) one of the special curricula of the College that requires no minor.

- NOTE: A grade of "C" or better is required in all political science courses counted toward the major. Only 3 credit hours of POLS 2996 is permitted toward the major. However, students may enroll in additional credit hours of POLS 2996 and count them as electives. No more than a total of 6 credit hours of Internship (2998 and/or 491) or Independent Study (499) combined can be counted toward the major.

## Grand Total Credits: 120

## Concentration Information

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### Concentration Title

Pre-Law Concentration

### Program Level

Undergraduate

### Concentration Requirements

12

Total Credits

- Complete all of the following
  - Complete the following:
    - POLS1120 - American National Government (3)
  - Complete at least 3 of the following:
    - POLS303 - Law in the Political Community (3)
    - POLS315 - Constitutional Law: Powers (3)
    - POLS316 - Constitutional Law: Liberties (3)
    - POLS317 - Constitutional Law: Rights (3)
    - POLS313 - Women and the Law (3)
    - POLS314 - Sex and the State (3)
    - POLS311 - The Legislative Process (3)
    - POLS362 - Modern Political Theory (3)
    - POLS376 - Health Policy and Politics (3)
    - POLS373 - Politics, Policy and Management in Local Government (3)
    - POLS379 - Research Seminar in Public Policy and Abortion (3)
    - POLS304 - Latinos, Native Americans and the Voting Rights Act (3)

## **Grand Total Credits: 12**

### **Concentration Description**

The Pre-Law Concentration in the Department of Political Science is designed to provide students with a comprehensive foundation in legal studies, preparing them for success in law school, legislative careers, policy analysis, political advocacy, and other law-related fields. This concentration fosters a deep understanding of the multifaceted nature of law, from its theoretical foundations to its practical applications, as well as its impact on society.

Students in this concentration will explore the structure and function of the legal system, including constitutional law, civil rights, and legal reasoning, while also engaging with the broader legislative processes that shape public policy. The curriculum delves into the social, economic, and political forces that influence the law, providing students with a political and sociological lens to examine the determinants and consequences of legal institutions in different contexts.

Through a combination of coursework in political theory, legislative behavior, and the role of law in society and government, students will develop critical thinking, analytical, and communication skills. This interdisciplinary approach enables students to understand the law not only as a set of rules but as a dynamic system influenced by and responsive to social, cultural, and political factors.