

The CSU Lower Division Transfer Project (LDTP)

Transfer Requirements for a B.A. in Political Science at San Francisco State University

The California State University (CSU), at the request of the state legislature, is attempting to provide for a seamless transition from community colleges to the campuses of the CSU. To encourage students in the community college system to think carefully and plan effectively for majors and campuses in the CSU system, priority transfer will be given to those students who complete the recommended pattern of courses at the community college for their specific major. The goal of the entire package is to have a well-prepared transfer student who is able to move right into the junior year of the major on the campus of their choice.

Representatives of the Political Science departments of all the CSU campuses met on January 22, 2005 to decide what that pattern of courses for a major in Political Science should look like. Students are permitted to transfer 60 semester units from the community college system. Here is the decision they made regarding 45 of those 60 units which would transfer to any Political Science department in the CSU system: Students should complete:

- (1) Lower division general education (GE) requirements of *either* the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) pattern (37 units)¹ *or* the CSU GE-Breadth pattern (39 units).² Most CSU-bound transfer students choose the GE-Breadth pattern. Prospective Political Science majors should strongly consider meeting their GE Mathematics requirement with a statistics course, if one is offered.**
- (2) Graduation requirements in United States History, Constitution and American Ideals (IGETC 6 units,³ GE-Breadth 0-6 units⁴). These are typically completed with one course each in American government and American history. Students seeking to major in Political Science are advised to include Introduction to American Government (CAN GOVT 2) in this section.**
- (3) *If not already completed as part of lower-division general education requirements (1) or graduation requirements on US (2) above, Introduction to American Politics (CAN GOVT 2),⁵ (0-3 units).*⁶**
- (4) *If required to achieve a sum of no fewer than 45 units: either complete a second CSU-transferable course in English composition (CAN ENGL 4);⁷ and/or complete any other courses that carry transferable credit toward the CSU baccalaureate degree. (IGETC 0-3 units, GE-Breadth 0-6 units).***

In addition, students should complete 15 units according to a pattern specified by the Political Science department on the CSU campus to which they desire to transfer. These would be added to the previous 45 units to make up the total of 60 transfer units for a Political Science major.

¹ A minimum grade of C is required in *each course*.

² A minimum grade of C is required in courses used to meet Areas A and B4.

³ IGETC does not permit double counting of courses for (1) and (2).

⁴ CSU GE-Breadth permits courses to be double counted for (1) and (2).

⁵ Must be completed with grade of C or better.

⁶ Both IGETC and GE-Breadth permit this course to be double counted for (2).

⁷ Must be completed with a grade of C or better.

The Department of Political Science at San Francisco State University will accept the following pattern of 15 units in lower division courses:

- **Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 units)⁸**
- **Introduction to Political Theory (3 units)⁹**
- **Another Political Science course (3 units), such as Understanding Politics, International Relations, Global Politics etc.¹⁰**
- ***If not completed as part of the previous 45 transfer units*; a second CSU-transferable course in English Composition (3 units, CAN ENGL 4)**
- **3-6 units in any other courses that carry transferable credit towards the CSU baccalaureate degree.**

⁸ These courses are required core courses in our major.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ This is optional in our major.