

Notes on Credit Applied Towards the Major

Study Abroad: Coursework taken at universities outside the United States will transfer into the major as 300-level courses. Before leaving for the semester/year abroad, speak with a concentration advisor and get tentative approval for the courses you are planning on taking. Keep all syllabi, papers, exams, etc. Upon your return, meet again with a concentration advisor. At that meeting, the advisor will review your materials and determine the number of credits that will be counted towards your major. Please note that the credit applied to the major may differ from the number of credits accepted by LSA towards your degree. 9 credits maximum will be counted for a semester abroad, 12 credits maximum for a year.

Directed/Independent Study: If you are interested in directed/independent study, contact a faculty member and arrange to work with him/her on a specific project. Up to 4 credits may be counted towards your major.

Transfer Credit: Up to 12 credits may be counted towards the major from coursework taken outside the classroom at the University of Michigan (this includes study abroad credits and directed/independent study). To have credit applied towards your major, make an appointment with a concentration advisor so he/she can review your syllabi and course materials and designate appropriate credit. Like study abroad, the credit applied towards the major may differ from that accepted by LSA towards your degree.

Subfield Requirements: Courses taken as prerequisites and those counted at the core may be used to satisfy the subfield distribution requirement. Remember, you are not required to complete courses in all 5 subfields. Coursework in only 4 of the 5 subfields is required.

Stats 350: Students who major in political science are not required to take stats350 as part of their major. If a student is majoring only in political science, the 4 credits of stats350 may be applied at the core and towards LSA's quantitative reasoning requirement **OR** towards LSA's natural science requirement. Regardless of where these 4 credits are applied, students majoring in political science will **always** receive credit for exposure to the methods subfield (e.g., the box on the checklist will be checked).

Double Majoring: Those double majoring in another discipline can use two courses from that discipline (at the 300- or 400-level) as cognates. In addition, one course may be counted at the core towards both majors.

Cognates: In order to enhance the study of political science, students are required to take two courses in another department that would enhance their knowledge of political science. These courses are usually from Sociology, Economics, History, Philosophy, and Cultural Anthropology. Before enrolling in a course that you hope to count as a cognate, consult a concentration advisor. With prior approval from a concentration advisor, students may take two courses in separate departments that are thematically similar and together can be used as a cognate. Some common examples are: 1) those students interested in Judaic studies may take courses in both History and HJCS; and 2) students who would like to explore crime and society have taken courses in Sociology and Psychology.

Upper Level Writing Requirement Courses: Students who take ULWR courses in the department of political science may count that course as a 400-level course, regardless of its catalog number (most ULWR courses are 300-level). Only one ULWR course may be used to fulfill the 6 credits of 400-level coursework (e.g., you can take one ULWR course and count it at the 400-level, but then the remaining 3 credits must come from a course listed at the 400-level in the catalog).

The Honors Program: Students enrolled in the honors program may have 8 credits (of the 11 required) applied towards their concentration. These will be applied at the 400-level.