

GOVERNMENT (B.S.) - POLITICS AND POLICY & PUBLIC POLICY (M.A.P.P.) - THINK TANK AND POLICY RESEARCH

Important: This degree plan is effective for those starting this degree program in fall 2024 through summer 2025. This degree plan will remain in effect for students who do not break enrollment or who do not change degree programs, concentrations, or cognates.

General Education/Foundational Skills Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Communication & Information Literacy ¹		
ENGL 101	Composition and Rhetoric	3
	Communications Elective	3
	Information Literacy Elective	3
	Information Literacy Elective	3
Technological Solutions & Quantitative Reasoning ¹		
UNIV 104	Instructional Technology for Successful Online Learning	0-3
	Math Elective MATH 114 or higher	3
Critical Thinking ¹		
RLGN 104	Christian Life and Biblical Worldview ²	4
	Critical Thinking Elective	3
Civic & Global Engagement ¹		
	Cultural Studies Elective	3
Social & Scientific Inquiry ¹		
	Natural Science Elective	3
	Social Science Elective	3
Christianity & Contexts ¹		
BIBL 104	Survey of Old and New Testament	4
THEO 104	Introduction to Theology Survey ²	4
Total Hours		39-42

¹ Refer to the list of approved general education electives before enrolling in foundational skill requirements

² Students transferring in 45 or more UG credit hours will have the requirement of RLGN 104 waived; Students transferring in 60 or more UG credit hours will also have the requirement of THEO 104 waived

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
BS in Government - Major Foundational Courses		
GEOG 200	Introduction to Geography ¹	3
GOVT 200	Constitutional Government and Free Enterprise ¹	3
GOVT 220	American Government ¹	3

Code	Title	Hours
MATH 201	Introduction to Probability and Statistics ¹	3
Total Hours		12

¹ Course may fulfill select general education requirements

Code	Title	Hours
BS in Government - Politics & Policy Major Core		
GOVT 230	Public Policy Research and Writing	3
GOVT 330	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
GOVT 350	Political Economy and Public Policy	3
GOVT 421	American Constitutional History	3
GOVT 425	American Foreign Policy	3
PPOG 503	Political Philosophy	3
Total Hours		18

Code	Title	Hours
BS in Government: Politics & Policy Concentration		
GOVT 210	Introduction to Political Science	3
GOVT 301	Ancient Political and Economic Ideas	3
GOVT 302	Modern Political and Economic Ideas	3
GOVT 320	American Executive Processes/Institutions	3
GOVT 321	American Judicial System	3
GOVT 322	American Legislative System	3
GOVT 324	Applied Ethics in Public Policy	3
GOVT 327	State and Local Government	3
GOVT 329	American Exceptionalism	3
GOVT 340	International Relations	3
GOVT 474	American Political Parties	3
GOVT 492	Senior Seminar	3
PPOG 500	Introduction to Research and Writing	3
Total Hours		39

Code	Title	Hours
BS in Government: Politics and Policy Free Electives		
	Choose 4-16 credit hours of Free Electives	4-16
Total Hours		4-16

Code	Title	Hours
MAPP - Think Tank Policy Research Core Courses		
PPOG 502	Economics and Public Policy	3
PPOG 504	Leadership, Statesmanship, and Governance	3
PPOG 506	Introduction to Geopolitics and International Diplomacy	3
PPOL 501	Foundations of American Governance: An Introduction to Public Policy	3
PPOL 505	Applied Public Policy Research Methods	3
Total Hours		15

Code	Title	Hours
MAPP - Think Tank & Policy Research Cognate		
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3

Code	Title	Hours
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
Total Hours		9

Code	Title	Hours
MAPP - Think Tank Policy Research Thesis or Elective Courses ^{1,2}		
PPOG 688	Thesis Proposal ¹	3
PPOG 689	Thesis Research ^{1,2,3}	3
PPOG 690	Thesis Defense ^{1,2}	0
Total Hours		6

- ¹ Students may take two elective courses⁴ instead of PPOG 688, PPOG 689, & PPOG 690
- ² Any student who is not ready for enrollment in PPOG 690 after completing PPOG 689 may be required, as determined by the student's thesis chair, to repeat PPOG 689 until deemed ready for enrollment in PPOG 690
- ³ While PPOG 689 may be taken more than once, only one enrollment in the course will be permitted to count toward degree requirements
- ⁴ Choose from the following courses: Any 500-600 level course offered by the Helms School of Government. Other 500-600 level courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis

All applicable prerequisites must be met

Graduation Requirements

- **150** Total hours
- **120** Credit hours must be 100-400 level courses (PPOG 502 and PPOG 503 included)
- **2.0** Overall grade point average required for undergraduate degree
- **3.0** Overall grade point average required for graduate degree
- **30** Credit hours of undergraduate courses must be upper-level courses (300-400 level)
- **Grade of 'C'** Minimum required for all upper level courses in the major (300-400 level)
- **Grade of 'C'** No more than two grades of C may be applied to Masters level courses (includes grades of C+ & C-)
- **Grade of 'D'** No grades of D may be applied to Masters level courses (includes grades of D+ & D-)
- **25%** Of the undergraduate courses in the major must be taken through Liberty University
- **50%** Of the graduate concentration must be taken through Liberty University
- **30** Credit hours of undergraduate courses must be completed through Liberty University
- **6 years** Degree must be completed within 6 years
- **Grad App** Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a student's anticipated graduation date
- **CSER** All requirements must be satisfied before a degree will be awarded

Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
BIBL 105	Old Testament Survey	2
ENGL 101	Composition and Rhetoric	3
THEO 201	Theology Survey I	2
UNIV 101	Foundational Skills	1
Information Literacy Elective (GEOG 200) ¹		3
GOVT 200	Constitutional Government and Free Enterprise	3
GOVT 230	Public Policy Research and Writing	3
Elective		1
CSER		

Hours 18

Second Semester		
BIBL 110	New Testament Survey	2
Critical Thinking Elective ¹		3
Cultural Studies Elective (GOVT 220) ¹		3
GOVT 302	Modern Political and Economic Ideas	3
GOVT 321	American Judicial System	3
GOVT 322	American Legislative System	3
CSER		

Hours 17

Third Semester		
Information Literacy Elective ¹		3
Social Science Elective ¹		3
Technology Competency ²		0-3
Elective		1

Hours 7-10

Second Year		
First Semester		
GOVT 210	Introduction to Political Science	3
GOVT 301	Ancient Political and Economic Ideas	3
GOVT 320	American Executive Processes/Institutions	3
GOVT 327	State and Local Government	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
CSER		

Hours 18

Second Semester		
EVAN 101	Evangelism and the Christian Life	2
RLGN 105	Introduction to Biblical Worldview	2
THEO 202	Theology Survey II	2
GOVT 324	Applied Ethics in Public Policy	3
GOVT 350	Political Economy and Public Policy	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
CSER		

Hours 18

Third Semester		
Communication Elective ¹		3

Course	Title	Hours
Natural Science Elective ¹		3
Hours		6
Third Year		
First Semester		
GOVT 329	American Exceptionalism	3
GOVT 330	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
GOVT 340	International Relations	3
GOVT 425	American Foreign Policy	3
GOVT 474	American Political Parties	3
Elective		3
CSER		
Hours		18
Second Semester		
MATH Elective (MATH 201) ¹		3
GOVT 421	American Constitutional History	3
GOVT 492	Senior Seminar	3
PPOG 500	Introduction to Research and Writing	3
PPOG 503	Political Philosophy	3
Elective		3
CSER		
Hours		18
Fourth Year		
First Semester		
PPOG 502	Economics and Public Policy	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOG 688	Thesis Proposal ³	3
PPOL 501	Foundations of American Governance: An Introduction to Public Policy	3
PPOL 505	Applied Public Policy Research Methods	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
PPOG 504	Leadership, Statesmanship, and Governance	3
PPOG 506	Introduction to Geopolitics and International Diplomacy	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOG 689	Thesis Research ^{3,4,5}	3
PPOG 690	Thesis Defense ^{3,4}	0
Hours		15
Total Hours		150-153

⁴ Any student who is not ready for enrollment in PPOG 690 after completing PPOG 689 may be required, as determined by the student's thesis chair, to repeat PPOG 689 until deemed ready for enrollment in PPOG 690

⁵ While PPOG 689 may be taken more than once, only one enrollment in the course will be permitted to count toward degree requirements

⁶ Choose from the following courses: Any 500-600 level course offered by the Helms School of Government. Other 500-600 level courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis

¹ Refer to the list of approved general education electives at www.liberty.edu/gened before enrolling in foundational skills requirements

² All students must pass the Computer Assessment OR complete applicable INFT course; refer to www.liberty.edu/computerassessment for more information

³ Students may take two additional elective courses⁶ instead of PPOG 688, PPOG 689, & PPOG 690