

# POLS Transfer Student Help Guide

## POLS Specific Policies for Transfer Students

The Political Science Department has its own policies for counting transferred credits towards its major and minor requirements. As a transfer student, *you are not guaranteed* to have any of your credits count toward the major or the minor. Every transfer student must read the following guidelines, and after familiarizing themselves with the policies, must apply to have credits counted toward the major/minor by **filling out the Transfer Credit Form found on our website [here](#)**.

- Transfer students must be able to provide documentation of Political Science courses taken at their previous institutions with full syllabi.
  - **The Chair has full discretion on whether these previous course(s) can be counted toward POLS credit.**
- Transfer students must formally apply via MySwarthmore portal to be a Political Science major/minor.
- Transfer students must be sure to meet the full requirements expected of a POLS major/minor, which can be found on the [Political Science Website](#).
- Political Science offers the following academic program options: (*Note the descriptions listed are not a comprehensive list of the requirements. Please see the linked pages for full requirements*)
  - [Course Major](#)
    - Complete 8.5 credits in the Department
    - Take at least one course in **all four subfields** (American Politics; Comparative Politics; International Relations; Political Theory)
      - This requirement **MUST** be fulfilled at Swarthmore. Transfer credits will not be applied for this requirement.
    - Senior Comprehensive Requirement
  - [Honors Major](#)
    - Complete 10 credits in the Department
    - Must meet all requirements for majors (see above)
      - Preferably with the honors versions of Ancient or Modern Political Theory
    - Six of these credits will be met with three (3) two-unit honors preparations, which will help prepare honors majors for outside examinations

- [Honors Minor](#)
    - Complete 5 credits in the Department
    - There must be one introductory course, one course in political theory, one other Political Science course and one of the two-unit honors preparations offered by the Department
  - [Special Major](#)
    - All special majors must have a designated faculty adviser and have approval of the Chair for the proposed program
    - Complete 8.5 credits in the Department
  - [Honors Special Major](#)
    - All special honors majors must have a designated faculty advisor and have approval of the Chair for the proposed program
    - Complete 6 credits in the Department.
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## General Swarthmore Policies for Transfer Student

For more information on Swarthmore College's general transfer policies, please refer to the following links:

[For Prospective Transfer Students](#)

[Transfer Credit Policy](#)

[Transfer Student Transfer Credit](#)