

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT, CRIMINOLOGY, AND SOCIOLOGY

“Inspiring scholarship, citizenship, advocacy and public service”

The Department offers majors in Criminology, International Studies, Paralegal Studies, Political Science, and Sociology.

The Department offers minors in Criminal Justice, Homeland Security, International Studies, Non-Profit Management, Political Science, Public Administration, Pre-Law, and Sociology.

Students are able to double-major, major and minor, or pursue two minors while at Lander University. Interested students should speak with an advisor to discuss detailed plans.

Criminology Major

The purpose of the Criminology major is to produce students who can use their knowledge for successful careers related to law, law enforcement (corrections, policing, etc.), criminology, government service, homeland security, or social service agencies. The major seeks to create critical thinkers who can analyze the subject of security from multiple perspectives and within local, state, national, and international contexts.

Goals and Objectives:

Criminology majors will:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of concepts, processes, and institutions;
2. demonstrate the ability to think critically;
3. demonstrate written and oral communication skills; and
4. demonstrate the ability to apply concepts and theories.

The Criminology curriculum creates bridges to other disciplines, such as Political Science and Sociology, in order to better prepare students for careers related to areas of law, social services, and government service. The major enables students to better understand governmental institutions, law, and social variables that shape society is imperative for future professionals. The curriculum exposes students to the relevant subjects shaping criminology such as intergovernmental relations, risk assessment, and homeland security. Upper-level core classes in the major include a research methods course, a course in criminological theory, an internship to build students' application skills and career readiness, and a final capstone course.

CRIM 101 Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice should be taken during the first semester after declaring a criminology major. POLS 101 or POLS 101R and SOCI 101 are also required foundational courses to move forward to 200-level criminology courses. The major requires that students have a certain number of political science courses (in law or public administration), or sociology courses, and a security course from a list of options. CRIM 499, the capstone experience, should be taken the semester of or just before graduation.

Criminal Justice Minor

The minor in criminal justice is designed to complement students with a major in any discipline other than Criminology in order to broaden and enhance career opportunities. This minor will provide students with knowledge and understanding of the various areas within the criminal justice system and of criminology. Students pursuing this minor may seek employment with the various federal, state, or local governmental or social service agencies, which deal with prevention programs for youth and/or at-risk youth, and/or working with populations having criminal behaviors.

Prerequisites for courses in this minor include both CRIM 101: Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice and POLS 101 or POLS 101R: American National Government. Some courses in the minor may have additional prerequisites.

One (1) course from the following:

- CRIM 210: Corrections, Probation, and Parole
- CRIM 214: Criminal Justice Systems

3

CRIM 235: Human Trafficking
CRIM 250: Community Relations and Policing

Three (3) courses from the following: 9

CRIM 328: Victimology
CRIM 345: Criminal Justice and Mental Health
CRIM 350: Ethics in Criminology and Criminal Justice
CRIM 366: Race and Ethnicity in Criminal Justice
CRIM 386: Vulnerable Populations in Criminal Justice
CRIM 390: Current Policy Issues in Criminology
CRIM 399: Criminological Theory

One (1) course from the following: 3

POLS 217: Introduction to Public Administration
POLS 318: Public Budgeting
LEG 311 or POLS 311: Constitutional Law
LEG 312 or POLS 312: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
LEG 313 or POLS 313: Judicial Process
POLS 386: State and Local Government
POLS 391: Homeland Security Policy

Total 15

To receive credit for the minor, students must have a 2.0 GPA in courses within the minor.

2025-2026 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

DEGREE: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJOR: CRIMINOLOGY

Credit Hours

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

(For approved courses, see General Education: www.lander.edu/gen-ed.)

A. Core Academic Skills	
*ENGL 101: Writing and Inquiry I	3
*ENGL 102: Writing and Inquiry II	3
*MATH 211: Statistical Methods I	3
B. Humanities and Fine Arts	
(6 hours selected from 2 difference disciplines)	6
C. Behavioral and Social Perspectives	
(6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines)	
*SOCI 101: Introduction to Sociology	3
Behavioral and Social Perspectives elective	3
<i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R; if you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i>	
D. Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning	
(7 hours selected from 2 difference disciplines, 1 lab science required)	7
E. Founding Documents of the United States	
*POLS 101R: American National Government	3
<i>If you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i>	
F. World Cultures	3
G. LINK 101	1
LINK 101 is required of all new transfer students who have earned less than 24 credit hours of college-level work and all first-time freshmen.	

TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS	35
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If all of the General Education requirements are met and/or waived, and the credit hours do not add up to at least 30, the General Education requirements are not complete. If below 30, additional General Education courses from any category must be taken until the total hours add up to at least 30 hours.

MAJOR PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS

*CRIM 101: Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice	3
*CRIM 301: Introduction to Research Methods	3
*CRIM 399: Criminological Theory	3
CRIM 499: Capstone Experience	3
*HUS 300: Program Evaluation in Human Services	
or *SOCI 398: Methods of Social Research	3

MAJOR PROGRAM ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Category #1 - Choose 6 hours from the following:	6
CRIM 210: Corrections, Probation, and Parole	
CRIM 214: American Criminal Justice System	
CRIM 221: Undergraduate Research in Criminology (1 credit hour)	
CRIM 235: Human Trafficking	
CRIM 250: Community Relations and Policing	

CRIM 271: Special Topics in Criminology and Criminal Justice
or any CRIM courses at 200-level
POLS 217: Introduction to Public Administration

Category #2 - Choose 3 hours from the following: 3

LEG 308: Law, Politics, and Society or POLS 308: Law, Politics, and Society
LEG 311: Constitutional Law or POLS 311: Constitutional Law (cross-listed)
LEG 312: Civil Right and Civil Liberties or POLS 312: Civil Right and Civil
Liberties (cross-listed)
LEG 313: Judicial Process or POLS 313: Judicial Process (cross-listed)
POLS 318: Public Budgeting
POLS 325: International Conflict and Terrorism
POLS 386: State and Local Government
POLS 391: Homeland Security Policy
POLS 445: American Foreign Policy

Category #3 - Choose 3 hours from the following: 3

SOCI 317: Social Work Intervention
SOCI 328: Sociology of Gender
SOCI 399: Sociological Theory

Category #4 –

Choose 3 hours from any CRIM courses at 200-level or above 3

Choose 6 hours from any CRIM 300-level or above 6

TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 36

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES 49

At least 9 credit hours may need to be 300-level or above.

The remaining 40 hours may be 100-level or above.

(INFO 101 is recommended during freshman year)

TOTAL FOR BS DEGREE 120

* Students must earn “C” or better.

Coursework must include at least 30 credit hours earned at 300-level or above, of which 12 credit hours must be in the major.

See 4-year major guides for recommended order in which to take courses.

<https://www.lander.edu/academics/registrars-office/major-guides.html>

International Studies Major

The BA in International Studies prepares graduates to work in government agencies, private businesses, non-profit organizations, or pursue a career with the U.S. military or diplomatic corps and have the necessary skills to succeed. The eleven-course curriculum includes five core courses in History (HIST), Political Science (POLS), and specially designated International Studies (INTL) courses. Beyond the core courses, majors will take courses in the categories of Language, Culture, and Religion; Policy and Practice; and Conflict and Cooperation to ensure that students are exposed to the actors and process of international studies in a globalized world. At least one policy course is required, and application skills are a key objective, thus academic and experiential learning about international studies is key to this program.

As a distinctive feature of the BA in International Studies, all majors must also choose at least one of the following approved pathways as part of their program of study:

- a semester studying abroad in a university-approved program
- a study tour led by a Lander faculty member
- an internship (*either HIST 490 or SOSC 490*) focusing on international studies
- 200-level foreign language fluency (excluding native speakers)

International Studies Minor

The objective of the minor in international studies is to learn about the contemporary world (i.e., post-1900) and the relationship of the United States to the world. Students will be exposed to major international issues and challenges as well as to cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary perspectives. Students pursuing the minor are encouraged to participate in Lander's approved study abroad programs, although this is not a requirement for completion of the minor.

This minor is open to all students except those completing the B.A. in International Studies. Students should consult the Catalog regarding any prerequisites for the courses in this minor.

Courses from chosen area, either A or B	9
Courses from the other two areas	<u>9</u>
TOTAL	18 credit hours

Students must concentrate their coursework in either history or political science. Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in all courses in the minor.

Area A. History

HIST 122: World Civilizations 1600-present
HIST 306: Latin America
HIST 307: Vietnam
HIST 343: Modern Britain
HIST 347: The United States and the Cold War, 1945-1991
HIST 365: Religion and Warfare
HIST 370: Modern East Asia
HIST 375: Modern China
HIST 377: Modern Korea
HIST 383: Warfare Through the Ages
HIST 391: America as a Major World Power: U.S. Foreign Relations, 1912-Present

Special topics courses (HIST 441) are also acceptable if the contemporary age (1900-present) is the primary focus of appropriate course content.

Area B. Political Science

POLS 103: Introduction to World Politics
POLS 303: International Relations
POLS 305: European Politics
POLS 325: International Conflict and Terrorism
POLS 366: International Law
POLS 390: The Politics of Globalization
POLS 445: American Foreign Policy

Special topics courses (POLS 361) and internships with an international focus (SOSC 490) are also acceptable if the contemporary age (1900-present) is the primary focus of appropriate course content.

Area C. Approved Electives and Study Abroad

Students may count a variety of electives toward the minor in international studies. This includes courses taken at Lander as well as through the Lander-approved study abroad programs.

The following Lander courses are pre-approved for the minor:

BA 390: International Business

ES 314: Cultural Perspectives of Global Climate Change

INTL 390: The Politics of Globalization (if not taken in the Political Science category)

INTL 499: Capstone Seminar

NURS 310: Cultural Perspectives in Global Health

RELI 301: Religious Cultures of the World

SOCI 377: Special Topics (if appropriate course content is covered)

Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad and may count up to nine hours of coursework taken through Lander-approved programs, such as at the University of Winchester in the United Kingdom. Faculty must approve all coursework taken in study abroad programs.

To complete the minor, students must have a 2.0 GPA in courses within the minor.

2025-2026 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

DEGREE: BACHELOR OF ARTS
MAJOR: INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Credit Hours

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

(For approved courses see General Education: www.lander.edu/gen-ed.)

A. Core Academic Skills (9 hours)	
*ENGL 101: Writing and Inquiry I	3
*ENGL 102: Writing and Inquiry II	3
MATH 211: Statistical Methods I	3
B. Humanities and Fine Arts	
(6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines)	6
C. Behavioral and Social Perspectives	
(6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines)	6
<i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R; if you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i>	
D. Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning	7
(7 hours selected from different disciplines; 1 lab science required)	
E. Founding Documents of the United States	3
HIST 111R: United States History to 1877 or	
HIST 112R: United States History since 1877 or	
POLS 101R: American National Government	
<i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R; if you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i>	
F. World Cultures	3
G. LINK 101: Leadership, Involvement, Networking and Knowledge	1
LINK 101 is required of all new transfer students who have earned less than 24 credit hours of college-level work and all first-time freshmen.	
TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS	35

If all of the General Education requirements are met and/or waived, and the credit hours do not add up to at least 30, the General Education requirements are not complete. If below 30, additional General Education courses from any category must be taken until the total hours add up to at least 30 hours.

MAJOR PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS

* HIST 121: World Civilizations to 1600	3
* HIST 122: World Civilizations 1600-present	3
* POLS 103: Introduction to World Politics	3
* INTL 390: The Politics of Globalization	3
INTL 499: Senior Seminar	3

MAJOR PROGRAM AREA REQUIREMENTS

18

Students must take one course in each of the following three categories for a total of 9 hours, and three additional courses within one category for an additional 9 hours.

Language, Culture, and Religion

[only one 100- or 200-level course can count within this category]

ARTH 320: Postwar European Art, 1940-1980

ARTH 321: Global Contemporary Art: 1980 to the Present

ARTH 372: Travel Related Art History

ENGL 214: World Literature and Experience

ENGL 220: Survey of World Literature

FREN 203: French for Global Citizens III

FREN 301: French Conversation and Composition

FREN 330: Overseas Study

FREN 340: Overseas Study: Language

FREN 355: Overseas Study: Cultural Studies

FREN 360: Overseas Study: Literature

HIST 101: Western Civilization before 1600

HIST 102: Western Civilization from 1600 to 1918

HIST 307: Vietnam

HIST 363: World Christianity from 1500

HIST 370: Modern East Asia

HIST 375: Modern China

HIST 376: Modern Japan

HIST 377: Modern Korea

HUMA 390: Topics in World Cultures

HUMA 391: Topics in a World Culture

MUSI 333: Music of the World

PHIL 312: Enduring Wisdom of Asian Thought

POLS 260: British Politics and Culture

POLS 305: European Politics

POLS 361: Topics in World Cultures

RELI 301: Religious Cultures of the World

RELI 330: The Papacy

SOCI 321: Medical Sociology

SOCI 329: Race and Ethnicity

SOCI 351: Sociology of Family

SOCI 363: Environmental Sociology

SOCI 389: Cultures of Violence

SOCI 397: Sociology of Risk

SPAN 203: Spanish for Global Citizens III

SPAN 205: Hispanic World for Heritage Speakers

SPAN 217: Hispanic World Today Abroad

SPAN 305: Spanish Advanced Language I

SPAN 320: Hispanic Cinema

SPAN 327: Hispanic Cinema in Translation

SPAN 340: Overseas Study: Language

SPAN 350: Overseas Study: Cultural Studies

SPAN 355: Topics in Cultural Studies

SPAN 357: Topics in Cultural Studies in Translation

SPAN 360: Overseas Study: Literature

SPAN 367: Topics in Reading in Translation

Policy and Practice

BA 390: International Business

CHEM 381: Technology, the Environment, and You

EDUC 309: World Cultures in Education

ES 314: Cultural Perspectives of Global Climate Change
 ES 390: Global Topics in Environmental Science
 INTL 371: Special Topics in International Studies
 NURS 310: Cultural Perspectives in Global Health
 PHIL 325: Bioethics
 POLS 303: International Relations
 POLS 325: International Conflict and Terrorism
 POLS 366: International Law
 POLS 391: Homeland Security Policy
 POLS 445: American Foreign Policy
 PUBH 310: Global Health

Conflict and Cooperation

HIST 307: Vietnam
 HIST 346: U.S. History 1920-1945: Prosperity, Depression, and War
 HIST 347: The United States and the Cold War, 1945-1991
 HIST 365: Religion and Warfare
 HIST 379: Global Authoritarianism
 HIST 383: Warfare Through the Ages
 HIST 391: America as a Major World Power: U.S. Foreign Relations, 1912-Present
 HIST 392: Spies and Lies: The U.S. Espionage Establishment, 1942-1963
 POLS 325: International Conflict and Terrorism
 POLS 366: International Law
 POLS 391: Homeland Security Policy
 POLS 445: American Foreign Policy

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

All students must choose at least one of the following pathways as part of their program of study that requires approval from the chair, Department of Government, Criminology, and Sociology

- a semester studying abroad in a university-approved program
- an overseas study tour led by a Lander faculty member
- an internship (*either HIST 490 or SOSC 490*) focusing on international studies
- “C” or better in a 200-level foreign language course

TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 33

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES 52

NOTE: Students are required to add a second major or a minor to this program of study.

Up to 15 credit hours may need to be 300-level or above.

The remaining hours may be at any level.

TOTAL FOR BA DEGREE 120

NOTES

* Students must earn “C” or better.

Students are required to add a second major or a minor to this program of study. Students majoring in International Studies cannot minor in International Studies.

Recommended courses not listed above include ECON 101, GEOG 101, and POLS 101 or POLS 101R.

Introductory courses are required to take upper-level courses in most disciplines, so students should check a course’s prerequisites before making choices in the Major Program Area Requirements.

Coursework must include at least 30 credit hours earned at 300-level or above, of which 12 credit hours must be in the major.

See 4-year major guides for recommended order in which to take courses.

<https://www.lander.edu/academics/registrars-office/major-guides.html>

Paralegal Studies Major

The BS in Paralegal Studies is an excellent option for anyone wishing for a successful career as a paralegal – in a business, law firm or government agency. The curriculum will also prepare a student for graduate education — including, but not limited to, law school. Students who major in Paralegal Studies will find professional success as a paralegal in the curriculum that develops their research, writing and critical thinking skills. The major includes seven core classes in the area of law as well as in business, accounting, ethics and a legal research capstone to the major. The electives are in various areas of legal studies and technical writing.

Given the special nature of this program, an associate's degree in Paralegal is preferred. A minimum of 12 hours of LEG coursework from an associate's degree program in Paralegal is required for admission. Of these 12 hours of LEG coursework, recommended courses are Introduction to Law and Ethics, Legal Writing, and Legal Bibliography or Research at the 100- or 200-level.

Students must earn a “C” or better for coursework to be transferred into Lander, and a maximum of 64 hours of coursework can be transferred into Lander from a regionally accredited institution that offers two-year degrees.

This major is not intended for first-time freshman students, but for undergraduates who are bringing in relevant coursework, preferably from a Paralegal or Legal Studies program at a two-year or four-year institution.

Pre-Law Minor

The pre-law minor has three groups of courses. Students must take both courses in the first group (Group A), two of the courses in the second group (Group B), and two of the courses in the third group (Group C). The first group consists of courses providing the most important skills a law student or lawyer needs. The second group consists of courses providing background knowledge helpful for law students or lawyers. The third group consists of the law courses offered at the undergraduate level.

The pre-law minor consists of 18 credit hours with the following distribution:

Group A	6
Students must take both of the following:	
PHIL 103: Introduction to Logic	
SPCH 101: Speech Fundamentals	
Group B	6
Students must choose 2 of the following:	
HIST 111 or HIST 111R: U.S. History to 1877	
HIST 112 or HIST 112R: U.S. History since 1877	
PHIL 302: Ethics	
POLS 101 or POLS 101R: American National Government	
Group C	6
Students must choose 2 of the following:	
BA 251: Legal Environment of Business	
POLS 308: Law, Politics, and Society	
POLS 311: Constitutional Law	
POLS 312: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties	
POLS 313: Judicial Process	
POLS 366: International Law	
TOTAL	18

To complete the minor, students must have a 2.0 GPA in courses within the minor.

Course Recommendations for Pre-Law

The American Bar Association “. . .does not recommend any particular group of undergraduate majors, or courses that should be taken by those wishing to prepare for legal education; developing such a list is neither possible nor desirable. The law is too multifaceted, and the human mind too adaptable, to permit such a linear approach to preparing for law school or the practice of law. Nonetheless, there are important skills and values, and significant bodies of knowledge, that can be acquired prior to law school and that will provide a sound foundation for a sophisticated legal education.”

The American Bar Association's section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar has encouraged the following skills and values as preparation for a good law school experience:

- Analytic and Problem-Solving Skills

- Critical Reading Abilities

- Writing Skills

- Oral Communication and Listening Abilities

- General Research Skills

- Task Organization and Management Skills

- The Values of Serving Others and Promoting Justice

2025-2026 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

DEGREE: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJOR: PARALEGAL STUDIES

Credit Hours

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

(For approved courses see General Education: www.lander.edu/gen-ed.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. Core Academic Skills (9 hours) | 3 |
| *ENGL 101: Writing and Inquiry I | 3 |
| *ENGL 102: Writing and Inquiry II | 3 |
| Mathematics | 3 |
| B. Humanities and Fine Arts | 3 |
| (6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines) | 3 |
| PHIL 103: Logic | 3 |
| C. Behavioral and Social Perspectives | 6 |
| (6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines) | |
| <i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R; if you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i> | |
| D. Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning | 7 |
| (7 hours selected from 2 different disciplines, 1 lab science required) | |
| E. Founding Documents of the United States | 3 |
| POLS 101R: American National Government | |
| <i>If you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i> | |
| F. World Cultures | 3 |
| G. LINK 101: Leadership, Involvement, Networking and Knowledge | 1 |
| LINK 101 is required of all new transfer students who have earned less than 24 credit hours of college-level work and all first-time freshmen. | |

TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS	35
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If all of the General Education requirements are met and/or waived, and the credit hours do not add up to at least 30, the General Education requirements are not complete. If below 30, additional General Education courses from any category must be taken until the total hours add up to at least 30 hours.

MAJOR PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| ACCT 201: Financial Accounting Principles or | |
| MGMT 201: Principles of Management | 3 |
| BA 251: Business Law | 3 |
| COM 275: Professional Communication | 3 |
| LEG 308: Law, Politics, and Society | 3 |
| LEG 499: Advanced Legal Research | 3 |
| PHIL 302: Ethics | 3 |
| POLS 386: State and Local Government | 3 |

MAJOR PROGRAM ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|---|---|
| Law (Choose 9 credit hours from the following) | 9 |
| LEG 311: Constitutional Law, | |
| LEG 312: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, | |
| LEG 313: Judicial Process | |
| LEG 366: International Law | |
| LEG 371: Special Topics in Legal Studies | |

Technical Writing (Choose 3 credit hours from the following)	3
ENGL 350: Professional Revising and Editing	
WRIT 373: Writing and Research Methods	
WRIT 450: Technical Writing	
MAJOR PROGRAM ELECTIVES	
200-level LEG electives	12
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS	45
ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES	40
Up to 6 credit hours may need to be 300-level or above.	
The remaining hours may be at any level.	
TOTAL FOR BS DEGREE	120

* Students must earn “C” or better as prerequisites for other courses.

Coursework must include at least 30 credit hours earned at 300-level or above, of which 12 credit hours must be in the major.

Admission Requirements:

A minimum of 12 hours of LEG coursework from an Associate's degree program in Paralegal Studies that includes these courses—Introduction to Law and Ethics, Legal Writing, Legal Bibliography, and one more LEG course at the 100- or 200-level is required for admission. An Associate’s degree in Paralegal Studies is preferred.

Students must earn a “C” or better for coursework to be transferred into Lander, and a maximum of 64 hours of coursework can be transferred into Lander from a regionally accredited institution that offers two-year degrees.

See 4-year major guides for recommended order in which to take courses.

<https://www.lander.edu/academics/registrars-office/major-guides.html>

Political Science Major

Political science focuses on the structure, process, and outcomes of politics and government. The major includes courses in the areas of American politics, comparative politics, international relations, political philosophy, methodology, public administration, public policy, and public law.

Goals and Objectives:

Political science majors will:

1. demonstrate knowledge in the areas of the discipline;
2. demonstrate political analysis skills; and
3. demonstrate skills essential for success in careers related to political science.

Students graduating from Lander University with a BS in political science will be equipped to undertake post-graduate professional study in political science, public administration, or related areas of study.

All students majoring in political science must successfully complete a core of nine courses. POLS 101 or POLS 101R American National Government and POLS 103 Introduction to World Politics should be taken in the first semester or two after declaring a political science major. POLS 200 Introduction to Political Science should be taken after POLS 101 (or POLS 101R) and POLS 103 and before undertaking upper-level political science courses. POLS 499 Capstone Seminar should be taken shortly before graduation.

Students majoring in political science are encouraged to take internships because they provide a real familiarity with employment in the public sector and with contacts for post-baccalaureate career development. Normally students may receive credit for no more than nine credit hours, but twelve hours of internship credit can be awarded for off-campus experiences such as a government internship in Washington, D.C. or in a state capital, or full-time activity in a political campaign. Only six hours of credit in internships may count toward fulfillment of major requirements.

Students majoring in political science may choose one of two different degree programs (see below).

BS in Political Science

Students wishing to pursue careers in government, law, public administration, research and policy analysis, politics and campaigning, or other professions where social science skills are necessary should pursue the Bachelor of Science degree. See program requirements for courses.

BS in Political Science - Public Administration Concentration

Lander offers a political science major with a public administration concentration for students interested in employment within local, state, or federal government, or non-profit employment. The concentration will also prepare students to pursue the Master's Degree in Public Administration, the professional degree for government and non-profit administration. See program requirements for courses.

Closely aligned with the B.S. in Political Science are minors in Political Science, Homeland Security, and Public Administration. Note that many Political Science majors choose to minor in Pre-Law, but this is described below the B.S. in Paralegal Studies.

Political Science Minor

The Political Science Minor is intended for students who are interested in politics or considering a career in campaigning and electoral politics, government service, governmental relations (for a private business or non-profit organization), law, or a field that connects with public service such as the diplomatic corps, homeland security, intelligence, law enforcement, military service, or public administration.

The minor provides flexibility so that students can take courses across many subfields of the discipline or focus coursework in one or more subfields of political science such as American politics, comparative politics, international relations, law and judicial politics, or public administration and policy. This minor is not open to a student majoring in political science.

The minor consists of 15 credit hours distributed as follows:

POLS 101 or POLS 101R: American National Government	3
POLS 103: Introduction to World Politics	3

Three POLS electives (200-level or above)	<u>9</u>
TOTAL	15

In order to complete the minor, students must have a 2.0 GPA in courses within the minor.

Homeland Security Minor

The Homeland Security Minor is intended for students who are considering a career working in government or nongovernmental arenas related to homeland security. Careers within the diplomatic corps; emergency management; the intelligence community; law enforcement at local, state, or national levels; military service; public administration; or private businesses focused on security are some areas with jobs related to homeland security.

The minor provides a breadth of coverage of homeland security and security studies. Beyond the required introductory course, students in the minor are provided an opportunity to take courses that add to understanding intergovernmental relations, national security history, the sociological aspects of security, and U.S. defense policy and intelligence. The minor offers coursework on contemporary topics such as cybersecurity, emergency management, and terrorism and aspects of criminology in order to build skills in policy analysis. As a whole, the minor enables students to think about how governments and non-governmental actors respond to new levels of securitization in a globalized world.

Students should consult the Catalog regarding prerequisites for the courses listed in this minor. The homeland security minor consists of 18 credit hours distributed as follows:

Core Course

POLS 250: Introduction to Homeland Security	3
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Choose 5 courses from the following: 15

CRIM 390: Current Policy Issues in Criminology (where relevant)
 CYBR 243: Fundamentals of Cybersecurity
 HIST 347: The United States and the Cold War, 1945-1991
 HIST 391: America as a Major World Power: U.S. Foreign Relations 1912-present
 HIST 392: Spies and Lies: The U.S. Espionage Establishment
 POLS 217: Introduction to Public Administration
 POLS 325: International Conflict and Terrorism
 POLS 361: Topics in World Cultures
 POLS 366: International Law
 POLS 379: Emergency Management
 POLS 391: Homeland Security Policy
 POLS 445: American Foreign Policy
 SOCI 397: Sociology of Risk

TOTAL	18
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To complete the minor, students must have a 2.0 GPA in courses within the minor.

Public Administration Minor

The public administration minor provides education in public policy or public service management for students who major in disciplines other than political science. This minor provides background for students wishing to work in government, non-profit organizations, or pursue a master's degree in public administration (M.P.A.).

After the core courses, students are given flexibility in terms of courses that address areas of budgeting, homeland security, emergency management, public policy, public relations, and non-profit organizations. Thus, courses address many contemporary topics and provide students with skills in policy analysis.

The 18 credit hours of minor requirements are:

Core Classes	9
POLS 101 or POLS 101R: American National Government	
POLS 217: Introduction to Public Administration	
POLS 386: State and Local Government	

Electives (choose 9 credit hours from the following) 9

*ECON 315: Economics of Public Policy

*MEDA 341: Introduction to Public Relations

*MEDA 342: PR Communications

POLS 250: Introduction to Homeland Security

POLS 318: Public Budgeting

POLS 366: International Law

POLS 379: Emergency Management

POLS 390: The Politics of Globalization

POLS 391: Homeland Security Policy

*SOCI 314: Social Welfare Policies and Programs

*SOCI 315: Non-Profit Organizations

TOTAL 18

**These courses have prerequisites. See the catalog or check with the instructor.*

To complete the minor, students must have a 2.0 GPA in courses within the minor.

2025-2026 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

DEGREE: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

MAJOR: POLITICAL SCIENCE

Credit Hours

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

(For approved courses, see General Education: www.lander.edu/gen-ed.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. Core Academic Skills (9 hours) | 3 |
| *ENGL 101: Writing and Inquiry I | 3 |
| *ENGL 102: Writing and Inquiry II | 3 |
| MATH 211: Statistical Methods I | 3 |
| B. Humanities and Fine Arts | 6 |
| (6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines) | |
| C. Behavioral and Social Perspectives | 6 |
| (6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines) | |
| <i>If you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R; if you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i> | |
| D. Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning | 7 |
| (7 hours selected from 2 different disciplines, 1 lab science required) | |
| E. Founding Documents of the United States | 3 |
| HIST 111R: United States History to 1877 or | |
| HIST 112R: United States History since 1877 or | |
| <i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R</i> | |
| F. World Cultures | 3 |
| G. LINK 101: Leadership, Involvement, Networking and Knowledge | 1 |
| LINK 101 is required of all new transfer students who have earned less than 24 credit hours of college-level work and all first-time freshmen. | |

TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS	35
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If all of the General Education requirements are met and/or waived, and the credit hours do not add up to at least 30, the General Education requirements are not complete. If below 30, additional General Education courses from any category must be taken until the total hours add up to at least 30 hours.

MAJOR PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| *POLS 101 or POLS 101R: American National Government | 3 |
| *POLS 103: Introduction to World Politics | 3 |
| POLS 200: Introduction to Political Science | 3 |
| POLS 318: Public Budgeting | 3 |
| POLS 386: State and Local Government | 3 |
| POLS 499: Capstone Senior Seminar | 3 |

MAJOR PROGRAM ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| American Politics (Choose 9 credit hours from the following:) | 9 |
| POLS 217: Introduction to Public Administration | |
| POLS 271: Special Topics in Political Science | |
| POLS 302: Political Behavior | |
| POLS 307: Public Opinion | |
| POLS 308: Law, Politics, and Society | |
| POLS 311: Constitutional Law | |

POLS 312: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
 POLS 313: Judicial Process
 POLS 350: Political Psychology
 POLS 360: Congress and the Presidency
 POLS 379: Emergency Management
 POLS 391: Homeland Security Policy
 SOSOC 490: Internship in Social Sciences

International Relations and Comparative Politics

(Choose 6 credit hours from the following:)

6

POLS 250: Introduction to Homeland Security
 POLS 260: British Politics and Culture
 POLS 303: International Relations
 POLS 305: European Politics
 POLS 325: International Conflict and Terrorism
 POLS 331: Political Philosophy
 POLS 361: Topics in Global Issues and Cultures
 POLS 366: International Law
 POLS 390: The Politics of Globalization
 POLS 445: American Foreign Policy
 SOSOC 490: Internship in Social Sciences

TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

33

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

52

At least 18 credit hours may need to be 300-level or above
 The remaining 37 hours may be 100-level or above
 (INFO 101 is recommended during freshman year)

TOTAL FOR BS DEGREE

120

* Students must earn "C" or better.

Coursework must include at least 30 credit hours earned at 300-level or above, of which 12 credit hours must be in the major.

See 4-year major guides for recommended order in which to take courses.

<https://www.lander.edu/academics/registrar-office/major-guides.html>

2025-2026 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

DEGREE: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJOR: POLITICAL SCIENCE
CONCENTRATION: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Credit Hours

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

(For approved courses, see General Education: www.lander.edu/gen-ed.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. Core Academic Skills (9 hours) | 3 |
| *ENGL 101: Writing and Inquiry I | 3 |
| *ENGL 102: Writing and Inquiry II | 3 |
| MATH 211: Statistical Methods I | 3 |
| B. Humanities and Fine Arts | 6 |
| (6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines) | |
| C. Behavioral and Social Perspectives | 6 |
| (6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines) | |
| <i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R; if you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i> | |
| D. Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning | 7 |
| (7 hours selected from 2 different disciplines, 1 lab science required) | |
| E. Founding Documents of the United States | 3 |
| HIST 111R: United States History to 1877 or | |
| HIST 112R: United States History since 1877 or | |
| <i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R</i> | |
| F. World Cultures | 3 |
| G. LINK 101: Leadership, Involvement, Networking and Knowledge | 1 |
| LINK 101 is required of all new transfer students who have earned less than 24 credit hours of college-level work and all first-time freshmen. | |

TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS	35
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If all of the General Education requirements are met and/or waived, and the credit hours do not add up to at least 30, the General Education requirements are not complete. If below 30, additional General Education courses from any category must be taken until the total hours add up to at least 30 hours.

MAJOR PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|---|---|
| *POLS 101 or POLS 101R : American National Government | 3 |
| *POLS 103: Introduction to World Politics | 3 |
| POLS 200: Introduction to Political Science | 3 |
| POLS 318: Public Budgeting | 3 |
| POLS 386: State and Local Government | 3 |
| POLS 499: Capstone Senior Seminar | 3 |

MAJOR PROGRAM ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|---|----|
| POLS 217: Introduction to Public Administration | 3 |
| Select 12 hours from the following: | 12 |
| HUS 201: Introduction to Human Services | |
| PHIL 302: Ethics | |
| POLS 250: Introduction to Homeland Security | |

POLS 308: Law, Politics, and Society
 POLS 313: Judicial Process
 POLS 371: Special Topics in Political Science
 POLS 379: Emergency Management
 POLS 391: Homeland Security Policy
 SOCI 314: Social Welfare Policies and Programs
 SOCI 315: Non-Profit Organizations
 SOSOC 490: Internship in Social Sciences

TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 33

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES 52

At least 15 credit hours must be 300-level or above.
 The remaining 37 hours may be 100-level or above.
 (INFO 101 recommended during freshman year)

TOTAL FOR BS DEGREE 120

* Students must earn “C” or better.

Coursework must include at least 30 credit hours earned at 300-level or above, of which 12 credit hours must be in the major

See 4-year major guides for recommended order in which to take courses.
<https://www.lander.edu/academics/registrar-office/major-guides.html>

Sociology Major

Sociology is the science of the human condition, the study of society, and the analysis of social relations. While a major in sociology is useful regardless of career choice, Lander's program also prepares students for a variety of more specialized occupational opportunities in fields such as non-profit organizations, social work, corrections, law enforcement, survey research, policy analysis, vocational guidance, counseling, human services, personnel management in industry, and public health.

The program is also designed to help the highly successful student in the pursuit of graduate work, not only in sociology but in allied fields such as anthropology, criminology, law, education, history, social work, political science, public health, journalism, communications, and public administration.

Some students decide to major in sociology as freshmen, while others switch their major to sociology in the midst of their college career. After completing SOCI 101, students will need at least two years of study to finish their major, as there are several sets of sequence courses. Students minoring in sociology will need at least *one year of study* to finish their coursework.

Undergraduate majors in sociology will:

1. demonstrate disciplinary knowledge in the field of sociology,
2. demonstrate the ability to think analytically, and
3. demonstrate the ability to apply sociological theory.

To ensure competency in the basic sociological skills, a sociology major must earn at least a "C" in SOCI 101, SOCI 202, SOCI 398, and SOCI 399, and have an average GPA of 2.0 in sociology courses taken.

Sociology Minor

Sociology is an important discipline of study regardless of career choice. Students not wishing to major in sociology might wish to make it their minor.

Students not wishing to major in sociology might wish to make it their minor. This minor is not open to a student majoring in sociology.

A minor in sociology consists of 15 credit hours distributed as follows:

SOCI 101: Introduction to Sociology	3
SOCI 202: Social Problems	3
SOCI 398: Methods of Social Research	3
SOCI 399: Sociological Theory	3
Sociology Elective (200-level or above)	3
TOTAL	15

To ensure competency in the basic sociological skills and complete the minor, a student must earn at least a "C" in all courses in this minor. Students must also pass MATH 211 with a "C" or better before enrolling in SOCI 398

Non-Profit Management Minor

The minor in non-profit management seeks to prepare students for careers with a non-profit organization or local, state, or federal governmental agency that provides social services to a specific population. Given that non-profit organizations provide similar services as some governmental agencies and seek funding through government grants, there is much interaction between governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations or non-profits, some of which are charitable institutions. The minor's curriculum seeks to make students familiar with governmental structure and regulations, the policy-making process within government and non-profits, and social welfare policies of serving populations in need.

Non-profit management has become a popular specialization within several disciplines and links to many career paths, so this minor may be valuable for students considering graduate school programs such as a master's degree in public administration (M.P.A.), master's degree in social work (M.S.W.), or a graduate degree in human services.

Prerequisites for the minor's coursework include POLS 101 (or POLS 101R) or SOCI 101.

A minor in non-profit management consists of 15 credit hours:

SOCI 315: Non-Profit Organizations 3

Four of the following courses:

POLS 217: Introduction to Public Administration 3

POLS 318: Public Budgeting 3

POLS 386: State and Local Government 3

SOCI 314: Social Welfare Policies and Programs 3

SOCI 317: Social Work Intervention 3

*SOSC 490: Internship in Social Sciences 3

**Permission of instructor is required for internships. To count for the minor, the instructor will require that the student interns with a non-profit organization.*

TOTAL 15

To complete the minor, students must have a 2.0 GPA in courses within the minor.

2025-2026 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

DEGREE: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJOR: SOCIOLOGY

Credit Hours

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

(For approved courses, see General Education: www.lander.edu/gen-ed.)

A. Core Academic Skills (9 hours)	
*ENGL 101: Writing and Inquiry I	3
*ENGL 102: Writing and Inquiry II	3
MATH 211: Statistical Methods I	3
B. Humanities and Fine Arts	6
(6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines)	
C. Behavioral and Social Perspectives	6
(6 hours selected from 2 different disciplines)	
<i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R; if you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i>	
D. Scientific and Mathematical Reasoning	7
(7 hours selected from 2 different disciplines, 1 lab science required)	
E. Founding Documents of the United States	3
HIST 111R: United States History to 1877 or	
HIST 112R: United States History since 1877 or	
POLS 101R: American National Government	
<i>If you already have credit for HIST 111, do not take HIST 111R; if you already have credit for HIST 112, do not take HIST 112R; if you already have credit for POLS 101, do not take POLS 101R.</i>	
F. World Cultures	3
G. LINK 101: Leadership, Involvement, Networking and Knowledge	1
LINK 101 is required of all new transfer students who have earned less than 24 credit hours of college-level work and all first-time freshmen.	
TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS	35

If all of the General Education requirements are met and/or waived, and the credit hours do not add up to at least 30, the General Education requirements are not complete. If below 30, additional General Education courses from any category must be taken until the total hours add up to at least 30 hours.

MAJOR PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS

*SOCI 101: Introduction to Sociology	3
*SOCI 202: Social Problems	3
*SOCI 398: Methods of Social Research	3
*SOCI 399: Sociological Theory	3
SOSC 490: Internship in Social Sciences or	
SOCI 409: Research in Sociology	3
SOCI 499: Capstone Senior Seminar	3
TOTAL CORE REQUIREMENTS	18

MAJOR PROGRAM ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Sociology elective	3
Sociology elective	3

Sociology elective	3
300-level or above Sociology elective	3
300-level or above Sociology elective	3
TOTAL ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS	15
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS	33
ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES	52
At least 12 credit hours may need to be 300-level or above.	
The remaining 40 hours may be 100-level or above.	
(INFO 101 is recommended during freshman year)	
TOTAL FOR BS DEGREE	120
* Students must earn “C” or better.	
Coursework must include at least 30 credit hours earned at 300-level or above, of which 12 credit hours must be in the major.	
See 4-year major guides for recommended order in which to take courses.	
https://www.lander.edu/academics/registrars-office/major-guides.html	