

Major Declaration Form – Bates College Department of Politics
(For Class of 2023 and Beyond)

Name _____ Class _____ Email _____

To declare a major in politics, you must fill out this form and bring it to the department chair to sign. The department chair will assign you an academic advisor within the major. After consulting with your assigned advisor and completing this form, please retain this form for your records.

Your answers to the questions on this form are not irrevocable commitments; the department recognizes that your interests may change. If you change your major concentration, you must fill out a new form.

Major Concentration: _____

Category 1: Courses in Major Concentration

(5 courses) including at least 1 300-level seminar):

(No less than 1 course must be at the 300 level; no more than 1 course may be at the 100-level)

Course Number	Course Name

Category 2: Courses Explicitly Outside Your Major-Concentration

(3 courses that must be in at least 2 different major-concentrations that are not your own)

Course Number	Course Name	Concentration I	Concentration II

Category 3: Additional courses in politics

(Any 2 additional courses regardless of their concentration or see stipulations on other side)

Course Number	Course Name

Category 4: Senior Research and Writing Experience (W3 Requirement)

Proposed semester and year of anticipated enrollment in PLTC 456, 457, or 458: _____

(Please review and complete the other side as well)

Please note the following guidelines:

- Students may count **no more than 2 100-level courses** and **no more than 2 short-term courses** toward the major. Only 1 100-level course can be applied to the major-concentration
- Students must take **at least 2 300-level seminars**, one of which ***must*** be within the student's major concentration
- An FYS course – only if it is taught by a politics professor – can count toward the major. It is considered a 100-level course (as such, if a student applies an FYS to the major, then they may only apply 1 100-level course to the major)
- Students may count no more than 2 non-Bates courses (e.g., Global Education/Study Abroad) toward the major (and they can be applied to Category 3 or, at the Chair or Associate Chair's discretion, Category 2). Within this category of up to 2 courses not taught by Bates politics faculty, students may take 1 approved non-politics Bates course. See the list at <https://www.bates.edu/politics/bates-courses-outside-politics-that-count-for-politics-credit/>
- All courses in the major-concentration must be taken in the Bates politics curriculum
- 1 course in the major can be taken credit/no credit. However, this course can only be at the 100- or 200-level

Please answer the following questions:

- 1) Do you plan to study beyond Bates, e.g., Global Education/Study Abroad? If so, where are you planning to study and when are you planning to be away from Bates?
- 2) Please provide below (in 150 words or less) a statement describing the questions that underlie your interest in politics, your academic goals while at Bates, and how your choice of major concentration, culminating in the senior thesis, reflects these questions and addresses these goals.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Chair/Assoc Chair Signature _____

Date _____

Academic Advisor's Signature _____

Date _____