



Rock Valley College Transfer Guide Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Available at:
NEIU Main Campus (Chicago, IL)

Why Choose Northeastern?

Northeastern Illinois University is committed to providing an affordable education. That's why our tuition and fees are among the most affordable of the Illinois public universities. We offer a **tuition guarantee program** that guarantees incoming students the same tuition rate for four years.

Northeastern offers more than 50 undergraduate degree and certificate programs, with classes on weekdays, evenings, weekends, and online. Small class sizes allow for students to pursue a more personal academic experience in one of the most ethnically diverse universities in the nation.

Political Science Program Description

Political Science is central to an understanding of all basic social issues; therefore, an understanding of political life is indispensable for any well-educated person. The department currently offers an undergraduate major, a minor in political science, a minor in public administration, and a graduate program leading to the Master of Arts degree.

Areas of political science in which courses are offered include American Politics and Public Affairs; International Relations and Comparative Politics; and Political Theory. Within each area, major themes are explored (e.g., public policy and administration, political values and change, elite-mass relationships, and political parties and groups.)

Contact Information

Northeastern Illinois University Transfer Center: Students who have questions about the program prior to admission may contact the Northeastern Transfer Center at (773) 442-4076 or email TransferSteps@neiu.edu.

Admission Requirements

- Students must have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher for all college or university course work attempted. Students must be in good academic standing at the last college or university attended.
- Required documents are: application for admission, \$30 nonrefundable application fee, and official transcripts from all colleges and universities.
- Additional admission and application materials, including the option to apply online can be found at www.neiu.edu/Transfer.
- Application deadlines are as follows:

Semester Applying	Deadline to Apply	International Student Deadline to Apply
Fall	August 1	June 15
Spring	December 1	October 1
Summer I	April 1	March 1
Summer II	May 1	April 1

General Education Requirements

Three options are available to students who plan to complete their General Education requirements at Rock Valley College.

- **Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree:** Students who transfer with an approved Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) Model Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree will have met Northeastern Illinois University's General Education requirements.
- **Completion of the *Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI)*:** Students who transfer after completing the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) will have met their General Education requirements.
- **Transfer Course Lists for Rock Valley College:** Students may choose to meet their General Education requirements by selecting courses from Northeastern's [Transfer Course Equivalency Guides](#). **When choosing this option, please use the following Northeastern Illinois University General Education guide:**

Northeastern Illinois University General Education Program		
The General Education Program requires a minimum of 39 credit hours of courses distributed among 6 areas.		
Northeastern Illinois University Requirement	Credits	Rock Valley College Equivalent (if any)
Math / Quantitative Reasoning – one course (3 hours)	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This requirement can be met by completing MTH 115 or higher with a grade of “C” or better.
Social / Behavioral Sciences 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PSC 150 Introduction to Political Science ● PSC 160 American National Government ● No more than two courses from the same department may be used.
Natural Sciences 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No more than two courses from the same department may be used. ● One course must have a lab component.
Fine Arts 2 courses (6 hours)	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No more than one course from the same department may be used.
Humanities 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No more than two courses from the same department may be used. ● No more than two foreign language courses may be used to fulfill this requirement.
Non-General Education University Requirements (3-6 hours)	3-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ENG 101 Composition I at Rock Valley College with a grade of “C” or better. ● Improving Human Relations requirement – can be met with PSC 160 American National Government.

Degree Plan*

D: Degree GECC: General Education Core Curriculum		Semester-by-Semester Program Plan for Full-Time Students				
<i>*All plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding additional semesters</i>						
D	GECC	Semester 1	Rock Valley Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions	
•	•	ENG 101 Composition I (3)	Communication	Writing Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with advisor to discuss academic goals and plan coursework	
•	•	PSC 150 Introduction to Political Science (3)	Social Science	General Education Major Requirement – PSCI 210		
•	•	Fine Arts Course (3)	Fine Arts	General Education		
•	•	Humanities Course (3)	Humanities	General Education		
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective		
•		STU 100 Planning for Success (1)	Degree Requirement	Elective		
16 Credit Hours					DO THIS – Visit your campus Advising Center	
D	GECC	Semester 2	Rock Valley Category	NEIU Category		
•	•	ENG 103 Composition II (3)	Communication	Elective		DO THIS – Mid-term check-in with advisor DO THIS – Apply to NEIU's Guaranteed Admission Program (GAP)
•	•	PSC 160 American National Government (3)	Social Science	General Education Human Relations Major Requirement – PSCI 216		
•	•	College Level MTH Course (3-4)	Mathematics	Math/Quantitative Reasoning		
•	•	SPH 131 Fundamentals of Communication (3)	Communication	General Education		
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective		
15-16 Credit Hours						
D	GECC	Semester 3	Rock Valley Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions	
•	•	Life Science or Physical Science Course (3-4)	Life/Physical Science	General Education	DO THIS – Mid-term check-in with advisor DO THIS – Begin seeking additional four-year funding DO THIS – Apply for admission to NEIU	
•	•	Humanities or Fine Arts Course (3)	Humanities/Fine Arts	General Education		
•	•	Social Science Course (3)	Social Science	General Education		
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective		
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective		
15-16 Credit Hours						
D	GECC	Semester 4	Rock Valley Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions	
•	•	Life Science or Physical Science Course (3-4)	Life/Physical Science	General Education	DO THIS – Petition to graduate COMPLETION of Associate of Arts Degree DO THIS – Register for NEIU orientation (once admitted)	
•	•	PSC 269 International Relations (3)	Social Science	General Education Major Requirement – PSCI 275		
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective		
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective		
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective		
15-16 Credit Hours						
MINIMUM TOTAL AA CREDIT HOURS: 64						
WRITTEN DEGREE PLAN CREDIT RANGE: 61-64						

Note:

- All Rock Valley College students must complete a Non-Western Culture course as part of their associate's degree. See your Rock Valley College advisor for course options.
- All students who earn an Associate of Arts Degree from Rock Valley College enter Northeastern with 64 hours of transfer credit, even if they earned less than 64 credit hours. See the [NEIU Transfer Policy](#) for further information.
- Students have the option of completing a minor course of study along with their major in Political Science. Minor courses of study at Northeastern are 18-21 credit hours and can be completed in place of general electives without adding additional semesters or credit hours to a student's graduation plan.

Northeastern Illinois University		
<i>All plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding additional semesters</i>		
Semester 5	NEIU Category	Next Actions
PSCI 308 Research Methods and Techniques in Political Science (3)	Major Requirement ELE-X Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with your advisor
PSCI 300 Level Main Area of Emphasis Elective (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Declare your major in Political Science
PSCI 300 Level Main Area of Emphasis Elective (3)	Major Requirement	
Any Level Elective (3)	Elective	
Any Level Elective (3)	Elective	
15 Credit Hours		
Semester 6	NEIU Category	Next Actions
PSCI 300 Level Main Area of Emphasis ELE Elective (3)	Major Requirement ELE Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with your advisor
PSCI 300 Level Secondary Area of Emphasis Elective (3)	Major Requirement	
300 Level Elective (3)	Elective/Upper Division	
300 Level Elective (3)	Elective/Upper Division	
12 Credit Hours		
Semester 7	NEIU Category	Next Actions
PSCI 300 Level Main Area of Emphasis Elective (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with your advisor
PSCI 300 Level Secondary Area of Emphasis ELE Elective (3)	Major Requirement ELE Requirement	DO THIS – Apply for graduation
300 Level Elective (3)	Elective/Upper Division	DO THIS – Meet with Career Services for career counseling
300 Level Elective (3)	Elective/Upper Division	
Any Level Elective (3)	Elective	
15 Credit Hours		
Semester 8	NEIU Category	Next Actions
PSCI 300 Level Main Area of Emphasis WIP Elective (3)	Major Requirement WIP Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with your advisor
PSCI 300 Level Third Area of Emphasis Elective (3)	Major Requirement	DO THIS – Meet with Career Services for career counseling
300 Level Elective (3)	Elective/Upper Division	
Any Level Elective (3)	Elective	COMPLETION of Bachelor of Arts Degree
Any Level Elective (2)	Elective	
14 Credit Hours		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE MINIMUM TOTAL: 120 CREDIT HOURS		

Financial Aid and Scholarships

For information about financing your education at Northeastern, including Financial Aid and Scholarship opportunities, please see our website: <http://www.neiu.edu/financial-aid/>. You may also contact our Financial Aid Office directly at (773) 442-5016 or email Financial-Aid@neiu.edu. If you are completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Northeastern's federal School code is **001693**.

Provost and Deans Merit Scholarships for TRANSFER students*:

Scholarship	Amount Awarded	Credit Hour Requirement	GPA Requirement	Residency Requirement	NEIU Enrollment Requirement
Provost Merit	\$2,000	60+ credit hours	3.50 GPA	Illinois Residency	Full-Time (12+ credit hours)
Dean's Merit	\$1,000	60+ credit hours	3.0 GPA	Illinois Residency	Full-Time (12+ credit hours)

Until all of the scholarships are awarded, students who meet these qualifications will automatically be considered for the Provost and Deans Merit Scholarships at the time of applying for admission to Northeastern. Completing an additional application is not necessary. The Office of Scholarships may be reached at (773) 442-4606 or scholarships@neiu.edu.