

SMCC AA Liberal Studies to USM BA Political Science

The following Transfer Map highlights the Pathway that leads a student from an Associates in Liberal Studies at SMCC to a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science at USM. The information is pulled from the Maine System’s transfer tool and the 2023-2024 academic course catalogs at SMCC and USM. The map will be updated each academic year if any changes are made to the course equivalencies listed here. Students following this map should monitor for updates.

The key directions:

- SMCC students should follow their Liberal Studies degree audit sheet.
- Every course on the audit sheet that is completed with a C- or better earns the same number of credits at USM—the equivalent USM courses and credits will later appear on your USM transcript.
- The SMCC Liberal Studies degree has 62 credits. Another 58 credits will be required at USM to earn the USM Psychology degree. The 58 USM credits will be a combination of Political Science major requirements and general electives.
- An SMCC student can begin satisfying USM Political Science requirements by taking the Political Sciences classes identified in **STEP 2** below as electives within the SMCC Liberal Studies major.
- An SMCC Liberal Studies degree waives the student’s academic Core requirements at USM.

STEP 1–The SMCC Coursework

Course at SMCC	SMCC Code	Course at USM	USM Code	Credits
English Composition	ENGL 100	College Writing	ENG 100	3
Introduction to Literature	ENGL 115	Reading Literature	ENG 140	3
Student Success	FIGS 100	General Elective	GEL 1XX	1
Math Elective		Every class and credit on the Liberal Studies audit sheet will transfer to USM as a USM class and credit—either as a required class for the Psychology major or as a general elective that helps achieve the required 120 credits total. These will be posted after acceptance at USM.		3
Science Elective				4
Art or Music Elective				3
Psychology/Sociology Elective				3
Economics/Political Science Elective				3
Humanities Elective				3
English Communications Elective				3
Diversity Elective				3
Ethical Reasoning Elective				3
Fine Arts or Humanities Elective				3
History Elective				3
Liberal Studies Electives				12
Free Electives				9
A student following this sequence would earn an Associates in Arts in Liberal Studies from SMCC and would have 62 transferable credits to USM.				62

STEP 2–The USM Coursework

The following chart details the Political Science and General Elective requirements that would remain at USM for a student who has completed an SMCC Liberal Studies degree.

USM CLASS	Credits	SMCC CLASS	Credits
Required Classes			
POS 101- Intro to American Government	3	POLS 105-Intro to American Government	3
POS 104- Intro to International Relations	3	POLS 110- Intro to International Relations	3
POS 203- Intro to Political Science Research	3	NA	
POS 205- Intro to Comparative Politics	3	POLS 205- Comparative Politics	3
POS 290- Intro to Political Theory	3	POLS 250- Intro to Political Theory	3
24 Credits of Department Offerings (12 of these must be 300 level Classes)			3
POS 1XX- Political Science Elective	3	POLS 115-State & Local Government	3
POS 1XX- Political Science Elective	3	POLS 120- Introduction to Public Policy	3
POS 1XX- Political Science Elective	3	POLS 175-Political Science Internship	3
POS 1XX- Political Science Elective	3	POLS 180-Gender & Politics	3
Total Political Science Credits Required by USM	39	USM Political Science Credits Possible at SMCC	24
Political Science Credits to be Earned at USM			15-39
General Elective Credits to be Earned at USM			19-33
Total Credits Required for the USM Political Science Degree			120

A student that completes at least 30 credits at SMCC, but did not earn an SMCC degree, may do a **Reverse Transfer** by sending credits earned at USM “back” to SMCC.