Government and Public Administration: Foreign Service
Career Pathway Plan of Study for ▶ Learners ▶ Parents ▶ Counselors ▶ Teachers/Faculty

This Career Pathway Plan of Study (based on the Foreign Service Pathway of the Government and Public Administration Career Cluster) can serve as a guide, along with other career planning materials, as learners continue on a career path. Courses listed within this plan are only recommended coursework and should be individualized to meet each learner’s educational and career goals. *This Plan of Study, used for learners at an educational institution, should be customized with course titles and appropriate high school graduation requirements as well as college entrance requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EDUCATION LEVELS</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>English/ Language Arts</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Social Studies/ Sciences</th>
<th>Other Required Courses and/or Degree Major Courses for Foreign Service Pathway</th>
<th>*Career and Technical Courses</th>
<th>SAMPLE Occupations Relating to This Pathway</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SECONDARY</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>English/ Language Arts I</td>
<td>Algebra I</td>
<td>Earth or Life or Physical Science</td>
<td>State History Civics</td>
<td>All plans of study should meet local and state high school graduation requirements and college entrance requirements. Certain local student organization activities are also important including public speaking, record keeping and work-based experiences.</td>
<td>• World Concepts and Themes • Geography</td>
<td>• Administrative Officer • Ambassador • Consular Officer • Development Assistance Officer • Diplomatic Courier • Economic Officer • Foreign Service Officer • Political Officer • Program Officer • Public Affairs Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>English/ Language Arts II</td>
<td>Geometry</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>U.S. History</td>
<td>Information Technology Applications</td>
<td>• American Government and Comparative Political Systems</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>English/ Language Arts III Foreign Language I</td>
<td>Algebra II</td>
<td>Chemistry or Environmental Science</td>
<td>World History Sociology or Psychology</td>
<td>Principles of Governance and Public Administration • Internship Experience Recommended</td>
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Interest Inventory Administered and Plan of Study Initiated for all Learners

College Placement Assessments-Academic/Career Advisement Provided

Articulation/Dual Credit Transcribed-Postsecondary courses may be taken/moved to the secondary level for articulation/dual credit purposes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSTSECONDARY</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>English/ Language Arts</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Social Studies/ Sciences</th>
<th>Other Electives</th>
<th>Other Required Courses</th>
<th>*Career and Technical Courses</th>
<th>SAMPLE Occupations Relating to This Pathway</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 13</td>
<td>Algebra or Calculus</td>
<td>Chemistry or Environmental Science</td>
<td>American Government Geography</td>
<td>Consular Services • Diplomatic Operations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 14</td>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>Biological Science or Botany</td>
<td>International Relations Psychology World Cultures</td>
<td>Implementation of Foreign Policy • Foreign Policy Development • Principles of Public Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 15</td>
<td>Political Science Public Diplomacy and Administration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Continue Courses in the Area of Specialization • Community Service or Foreign Experience Recommended</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 16</td>
<td>Continue courses in the area of specialization.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Complete Foreign Service Major (4-Year Degree Program)</td>
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Creating Your Institution’s Own Instructional Plan of Study

With a team of partners (secondary/postsecondary teachers and faculty, counselors, business/industry representatives, instructional leaders, and administrators), use the following steps to develop your own scope and sequence of career and technical courses as well as degree major courses for your institution’s plan of study.

1. Crosswalk the Cluster Foundation Knowledge and Skills (available at http://www.careerclusters.org/goto.cfm?id=88) to the content of your existing secondary and postsecondary programs/courses.

2. Crosswalk the Pathway Knowledge and Skills (available at http://www.careerclusters.org/goto.cfm?id=32) to the content of your existing secondary/postsecondary programs and courses.

3. Based on the crosswalks in steps 1 and 2, determine which existing programs/courses would adequately align to (cover) the knowledge and skills. These programs/courses would be revised to tighten up any alignment weaknesses and would become a part of a sequence of courses to address this pathway.

4. Based on the crosswalks in steps 1 and 2, determine what new courses need to be added to address any alignment weaknesses.

5. Sequence the content and learner outcomes of the existing programs/courses identified in step 3 and new courses identified in step 4 into a course sequence leading to preparation for all occupations within this pathway. (See list of occupations on page 1 of this document.)

6. The goal of this process would be a series of courses and their descriptions. The names of these courses would be inserted into the Career and Technical Courses column on the Plan of Study on page 1 of this document.

7. Below is a sample result of steps 1-6, and these course titles are inserted into the Plan of Study on page 1 of this document.

8. Crosswalk your state academic standards and applicable national standards (e.g., for mathematics, science, history, language arts, etc.) to the sequence of courses formulated in step 6.
Below are suggested courses that could result from steps 1-6 above. However, as an educational institution, course titles, descriptions and the sequence will be your own. This is a good model of courses for you to use as an example and to help you jump-start your process. Course content may be taught as concepts within other courses, or as modules or units of instruction.

The following courses are based on the Cluster Foundation Knowledge and Skills found at http://www.careerclusters.org/goto.cfm?id=88. These skills are reinforced through participation in student organization activities.

1. World Concepts and Themes: This semester course will provide a foundation for all other social studies courses. Fundamental concepts and themes from various political, social and economic systems will be examined using specific historical events from the mid-18th century to the present. Emphasis will be on establishing the skills to critically analyze and interpret events from various time periods and regions and on how these events help shape the modern, global world in which we live.

2. Geography: This semester course helps students develop broad geographic skills. In addition to learning the basics of world geography, students will learn how economics, culture, history, and political issues all influence geography, and how geography influences other disciplines.

The following courses are based on the Cluster Foundation Knowledge and Skills as well as the Pathway Knowledge and Skills found at http://www.careerclusters.org/goto.cfm?id=32. These skills are reinforced through participation in student organization activities.

3. Information Technology Applications: Students will use technology tools to manage personal schedules and contact information, create memos and notes, prepare simple reports and other business communications, manage computer operations and file storage; and use electronic mail, GIS and Internet applications to communicate, search for and access information.

4. American Government and Comparative Political Systems: This course is designed to give students an analytical description of government and politics in the United States and provide students with an understanding of working political systems different from that of the United States. This course involves the study of concepts used to interpret U.S. politics as well as exposure to concepts and theories used to explain comparative political phenomena. Students will be familiar with the institutions, groups, beliefs, cultures and ideas that comprise the U.S. political system.

5. Principles of Governance and Public Administration: This course stresses important principles of governance including use of appropriate communication formats to facilitate the flow of ideas and information among various levels of government and the public being served, application of democratic principles in the process of governmental and administrative policy making to achieve the public will, and implementation of plans and policies to respond to public health, safety and environmental needs. Students will also learn what it takes to lead a government or public administration agency, learn to develop an organization vision and strategic plan, learn about practices necessary to meet legal and ethical requirements to meet the public’s expectation for government and public administration, and learn how to administer human, financial, material and information resources in a manner that instills public trust. Students will develop a career plan to obtain employment and advance in government and public administration. An internship experience is recommended.

The following courses expose students to Pathway Knowledge and Skills found at http://www.careerclusters.org/goto.cfm?id=32 and should include appropriate student activities.

6. Consular Services: Students will learn how to use U.S. and host-country laws, regulations, policies and procedures to manage administrative matters. Processes presented include how to adjudicate non-U.S.-citizen applications for immigrant and non-immigrant visas, assist U.S. citizens and nationals with the resolution of problems, assess reliable sources to determine nationality, and apply regulations to supervise staff at embassy, consulate or stateside bureau of the State Department.

7. Diplomatic Operations: Students will develop knowledge of host-country laws, customs and effective administrative practices to manage the conduct of diplomatic operations. This includes learning to oversee matters relating to transportation, logistics, human resources, real estate, financial management and procurement of information and other services necessary for the conduct of diplomacy.

8. Implementation of Foreign Policy: Students will develop and apply knowledge of history, law, geography, natural resources and economics; of social, political, business, cultures and customs; and of U.S. foreign policy to advance acceptance of American positions and objectives in other countries. Students will learn how to integrate knowledge and presentational skills to represent the U.S. to host-country officials, media personnel and traveling U.S. officials.

9. Foreign Policy Development: Students will develop and apply knowledge of history, law, geography, natural resources and economics; of social, political, business, cultures and customs; and of U.S. foreign policy to recommend new or modified U.S. Foreign Service efforts. Students will learn to evaluate effectiveness of work to build support for U.S. positions and objectives and recommend development of, or changes to, plans, tactics, programs and materials.

10. Principles of Public Administration: This course will provide an overview of management responsibilities, functions and activities in government agencies within the framework of political values and organization dynamics.