

THE POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Catalog Year (2022-2023)

The Political Science major requires a minimum of 12 units of lower division work and 30 units of upper division work in the discipline.

Preparation for the Major Requirements (12 lower division units)

- ___ POLS 100 Power and Justice
- ___ POLS 120 Introduction to American Politics
- ___ *Either* POLS 150 Introduction to Comparative Politics *—OR—* ___ POLS 170 Introduction to IR
- ___ Any Lower Division Elective (e.g., POLS 130 Race & Ethnic Politics, POLS 150 Introduction to Comparative Politics, POLS 170 Introduction to IR, POLS 220 Special Topics, or POLS 291 Transfer Course)

Upper Division Requirements (30 upper division units)

A. Core Courses: 12 Upper-Division Units (4 courses)

- ___ Political Thought (choose one course from 300-307)
- ___ American Politics (choose one course from 310-323)
- ___ Research Methods (POLS 330) this is a prerequisite for POL 495: Senior Capstone
- ___ Any Upper Division International Politics Course (choose one course from POLS 326, 329, 343, 346, 348-49, 350, 352-55, 357, 358, 360-368, 370-71, 374, 376-383, 480, and 494)

B. Elective Courses: 15 Upper-Division Units (choose five from any of the POLS upper-division courses)

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| ___ POLS 300 Democratic Political Theory | ___ POLS 353 Politics and Religion |
| ___ POLS 301 Political Thought: Ancient and Modern | ___ POLS 354 Revolutionary Change |
| ___ POLS 302 Political Thought: Modern and Contemporary | ___ POLS 355 Politics in Europe |
| ___ POLS 303 Liberal Political Thought | ___ POLS 357 Politics in Latin America |
| ___ POLS 304 American Political Thought | ___ POLS 358 Politics in South Asia |
| ___ POLS 305 Black Political Thought | ___ POLS 359 Politics in the Middle East |
| ___ POLS 306 Conservative Political Thought | ___ POLS 360 Politics in Sub-Saharan Africa |
| ___ POLS 307 Feminist Political Theories | ___ POLS 361 Politics in South Africa |
| ___ POLS 308 Politics in Literature | ___ POLS 362 Politics in the United Kingdom |
| ___ POLS 309D Sex, Power, and Politics | ___ POLS 363 Politics in France |
| ___ POLS 310 The Presidency | ___ POLS 364 Politics in Germany |
| ___ POLS 312 Congress | ___ POLS 365 Politics in Russia |
| ___ POLS 313 Parties and Interest Groups | ___ POLS 366 Politics in Mexico |
| ___ POLS 314 Campaigns and Elections | ___ POLS 367 Politics in Japan |
| ___ POLS 316 State and Local Government | ___ POLS 368 Politics in China |
| ___ POLS 317D Urban Politics | ___ POLS 370 Theories of IR |
| ___ POLS 318 Black Politics | ___ POLS 371 American Foreign Policy |
| ___ POLS 319 Politics of Race and Ethnicity | ___ POLS 374 US-Latin American Relations |
| ___ POLS 320 War Powers in the American Constitutional System | ___ POLS 376 US National Security |
| ___ POLS 321 Con Law and American Government: Federalism and Separation of Powers | ___ POLS 377 Regional Security |
| ___ POLS 322D Con Law: Civil Rights and Liberties | ___ POLS 378 Transnational Crime & Terrorism |
| ___ POLS 323 Judicial Behavior | ___ POLS 379 Intl. Political Boundaries and Border Policies |
| ___ POLS 326 Comparative Law | ___ POLS 380 Theories of International Political Economy |
| ___ POLS 327 International Law | ___ POLS 382 International Human Rights |
| ___ POLS 329 Law of the Sea | ___ POLS 383 International Organizations |
| ___ POLS 330 Research Methods in Political Science | ___ POLS 400 Political Ideas & Ideologies |
| ___ POLS 340 Public Administration | ___ POLS 430 Field Seminar in CA Government (1 unit) |
| ___ POLS 342 Public Policy | ___ POLS 434 Wash, D.C.: The Press and the Presidency |
| ___ POLS 343 Education, Citizenship & Pals in South Africa | ___ POLS 435 Wash, D.C.: Directed Study in Poli Sci |
| ___ POLS 344 Politics of U.S. Citizenship and Migration | ___ POLS 436 Wash, D.C.: Internship in Poli Sci |
| ___ POLS 346 Food and Politics | ___ POLS 437 Wash, D.C.: Class in Political Science |
| ___ POLS 347 Culture & Environmental Politics | ___ POLS 444 Special Topics in Poli Sci (1-3 units) |
| ___ POLS 348 Indigenous Peoples and the Environment | (may be repeated for credit when topic changes) |
| ___ POLS 349 Politics and the Environment | ___ POLS 448 Internship in Poli Sci (3 units for major credit; 6 units max) |
| ___ POLS 350 Theories of Comparative Politics | ___ POLS 449 Independent Study in Poli Sci (1-3 units; consult catalog for prerequisites) |
| ___ POLS 352 Comparative Politics of Developing Countries | ___ POLS 480 Model United Nations (1 unit) |

_____ POLS 485 Wash, D.C.: Directed Study in IR	(may be repeated for credit when topic changes)
_____ POLS 486 Wash, D.C.: Internship in IR	_____ POLS 498 Internship in IR Science (3 units for major credit; 6 units max)
_____ POLS 487 Wash, D.C.: Class in IR	_____ POLS 499 Independent Study in IR (1-3 units; consult catalog for prerequisites)
_____ POLS 492 Special Topics in IR-Study Abroad	
_____ POLS 494 Special Topics in IR (1-3 units)	

C. Race & Ethnic Politics Course

Political Science majors are required to take at least one course emphasizing issues of race and ethnicity in politics and public policy, including: POLS 130, 305, 318-19, 344, 347, 348, 358, 360-61, 366, 368, 374, 379, and 381.

D. Political Science Senior Capstone Seminar: 3 Upper Division-Units (1 course)

POLS 495: Political Science majors are required to complete the Senior Capstone Seminar. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an opportunity to apply and integrate what they have learned as a Political Science major. Students may have the opportunity to choose from Senior Capstone Seminars that focus on completing a research project, a community project, or a simulation project. (Prerequisite: POLS 330)

SOME FURTHER INFORMATION & SUGGESTIONS

- FACULTY ADVISING:** Each student is assigned a faculty advisor when they declare a major. Students are *required* to meet with their major advisor in order to register for classes in the next academic session, and also in order to petition to graduate.
- MAJOR REQUIREMENTS & CORE CURRICULUM:** Political Science students will automatically fulfill the following Core Curriculum requirements through these courses required for the major: POLS 100, POLS 120, POLS 130, POLS 150, and POLS 170 all fulfill Social & Behavioral Inquiry (ESBI), POLS 330 for Quantitative Reasoning (CQR); and POLS 495 for Advanced Writing (CADW).
- MAJOR ELECTIVES & CORE CURRICULUM:** POLS 130 fulfills the Domestic Diversity 1 (FDD1) attribute. POLS 305, 307, 319, 346, and 381 fulfill the Domestic Diversity 2 (FDD2) attribute. POLS 343, POLS 380, and POLS 400 fulfill the Advanced Integration (CINT) attribute, and POLS 495 fulfills the Advanced Writing (CADW) attribute.
- INTERSHIPS FOR CREDIT:** Students are encouraged to complete an internship as part of their program of study. Valuable practical experience can be gained by working part-time in local congressional offices, campaign organizations, or in city, county, state, and federal government. Students may take no more than six units of internship/experiential courses for academic credit in the College of Arts and Sciences. Up to three units (POLS 436, 448, 486, and/or 498) can be applied toward the major, with the remainder counted as upper division elective units by the College. See the faculty internship coordinator for more information.
- WASHINGTON, DC JANUARY INTERSESSION PROGRAM:** Students are encouraged to enroll in a 3-unit intercession course in Washington DC. This course examines current political, social, and economic issues while living in Washington DC for two weeks in January. In the year following a presidential election, students often attend the inauguration. See the faculty internship coordinator for more information.
- WASHINGTON DC SEMESTER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM:** Students have the opportunity to enroll in semester (12 units) or summer (9 units) internship program in Washington DC. The program combines real-world work experience with academic learning. Students may apply only 3 units to the major. See the faculty internship coordinator for more information.
- STUDY ABROAD:** Students are encouraged to study abroad as part of their program of study. *No more than six units taught by non-USD faculty may be applied toward the Political Science Major.* For more information, see <http://gointernational.sandiego.edu>
- PRE-LAW ADVISING:** Majors who are considering law school should select elective courses to help them develop conceptual, analytic, and writing skills. The pre-law student can draw from a broad range of disciplines, including Philosophy, English, Sociology, Psychology, History, and Theater Arts. Students may also want to consider participating in the department's pre-law society (Pi Alpha Delta) to meet other students interested in law school. For information, see the faculty pre-law advisor.
- CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** We encourage students to participate in events sponsored by International Affairs organizations like the World Affairs Council of San Diego, the San Diego Diplomacy Council, Justice in Mexico, and the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies.
- STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS:** We encourage students to get involved in student organizations such as Model UN, USD Votes, USD Political Science Association, the National Political Science Honors Society (Pi Sigma Alpha), the USD Pre-Law Society (Pi Alpha Delta). Come to the Political Science office for more information
- CAREER DEVELOPMENT:** We encourage students to seek career guidance from the Career Development Center before senior year to help fulfill COMPASS requirements. Visit the CDC's website to make an appointment: <http://www.sandiego.edu/careers/>