

Political Science 2017-2018

Political Science as a social science is mainly concerned with the systematic analysis of governmental institutions and processes and the development of political power. It analyzes the socio-economic, political and cultural behavior of social classes within the context of society. Specific areas of specialization within the major include the international arena, comparative government, political theory, political economy, public administration, political parties and elections, constitutional law and regional political studies, depending upon one's career objectives. The value of a political science degree is recognized by business, law schools and government agencies as it involves insights and a variety of critical, analytical skills demanded by higher education institutions and the labor market.

Program Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to demonstrate critical, analytical, research and writing skills in political science and its sub-fields using basic scientific tools underlying modern social science.
- Students will be able to analyze the major theoretical formulations and concepts of political science and its sub-fields and the philosophical basis of those formulations.

Career Opportunities:

A major in political science is excellent preparation for students who plan to enter the legal profession, business, politics, government service or teaching in elementary and secondary schools. Graduate degrees are necessary for college teaching positions and helpful for selection to foreign service as a career diplomat. Courses in business principles, geography, computer science and statistics should be taken as electives to increase marketability of the graduate to potential employers.

Units required for Major: 35

Degree Requirements:

- English proficiency: ENGL 1A, 1AH, 1S & 1T, ESLL 26 or equivalent.
- Mathematics proficiency: MATH 17, 105, 108 or equivalent.

A minimum of 90 units is required* to include:

- Completion of one of the following general education patterns: Foothill General Education, CSU General Education Breadth Requirements or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)
- Core courses (18 units)
- Support courses (17 units)

*Additional elective course work may be necessary to meet the 90-unit minimum requirement for the associate degree.

NOTE: All courses pertaining to the major must be taken for a letter grade. In addition, a grade of "C" or better is required for all core and support courses used for the degree.

AA = Associate in Arts Degree.

Additional Information:

NOTE: Students having difficulty attaining an associate degree because of timing or availability of classes should consult with a counselor to submit a petition for course substitution.

Core Courses (18 units)

- POLI 1 Political Science: Introduction to American Government & Politics (5 units)
- POLI 2 Comparative Government & Politics (4 units)
- POLI 3 Introduction to Political Philosophy/Political Theory (5 units)
- POLI 15 International Relations/World Politics (4 units)

Support Courses (17 units)

Select 9 units from the following:

- ECON 1A Principles of Macroeconomics (5 units)
- HIST 17A History of the United States to 1815 (4 units)
 - **or** HIST 17B History of the United States from 1812 to 1914 (4 units)
 - **or** HIST 17C History of the United States 1914 to the Present (4 units)
- POLI 9 Political Economy (4 units)
 - **or** ECON 9 Political Economy (4 units)

And 8 units* from the following:

- ECON 25 The Global Economy (4 units)
- HIST 18 Introduction to Middle Eastern Civilization (4 units)
- HIST 20 History of Russia & The Soviet Union (4 units)

- GIST 11 Introduction to Mapping & Spatial Reasoning (4 units)
 - **or** GEOG 11 Introduction to Mapping & Spatial Reasoning (4 units)
- SOC 15 Law & Society (4 units)

* Students may also use courses listed in the first section of support courses to fulfill the requirement for the second section of support courses.