

Political Science

In the College of Arts and Letters

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Faculty

Emeritus: Andrain, Crain, Cutter, Feierabend, Gripp, Hobbs, Janssen, Johns, Kahng, Lewin, Little, Miles, Padgett, Schultze, Soule
Chair: King
Professors: Gupta, Heck, Hofstetter, King, Loveman, Strand, Terrell
Associate Professors: Alexseev, Carruthers, Fairlie, Keiser
Assistant Professors: Abdel-Nour, Adams, Graubart, Guang, Kennedy, Maher, McCall, Schreiber
Lecturers: Bergstrom, Ingram, Speckmann, Sullivan

Offered by the Department

Master of Arts degree in political science.
Major in political science with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.
Minor in political science.

The Major

Political science is the study of governments. Its concerns, however, are not limited to formal governmental institutions such as the executive and legislative branches or the justice systems. Political science is also interested in other organizations and activities which are part of the process of government, including political parties, interest groups, and the press.

Students who become political science majors will learn about who creates the rules by which people are governed, the attitude and behavior of leaders and members of the public which cause certain decisions to be made, and how these decisions affect such values as liberty, equality, welfare, and justice. Political science is concerned with contemporary public affairs, problems in other political systems and contemporary international politics, as well as with historical growth, evolution, and decline of various types of governments.

The many career opportunities which might be available to political science graduates include teaching at the secondary level; positions with the federal government in areas such as intelligence, foreign affairs, environmental protection, and budget and computer administration; positions with state and local governments, including administrative aide for a city manager, staff assistant for a county supervisor, and assistant to the registrar of voters; administrative positions on the staffs of national, state, and local legislators; claims adjuster or claims representative; statistical technician; marketing researcher; lobbyist for a business or trade organization; political reporter; and title office trainee.

Impacted Program

The political science major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the political science major, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete with a grade of C or higher: Political Science 101, 102 (or 320), 103, 201 (one of the following equivalent courses can be taken in place of Political Science 201: Biology 215, Civil Engineering 160, Economics 201, Psychology 270, Sociology 201, Statistics 119 or 250, or logic course Philosophy 120). These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC);
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.40 or higher.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser in order to declare or change the major.

Political Science Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences
(Major Code: 22071)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." A total of 40 upper division units must be taken, of which 24 must be selected as described in the major. No more than 48 units in political science courses can apply to the degree.

A minor is not required with this major.

Preparation for the Major. Political Science 101, 102, 103 and three units of either statistics or logic. (12 units)

See Political Science 201 for listing of courses in other departments that fulfill the statistics requirement.

These prerequisite courses may not be taken Cr/NC. The minimum grade in each class is C or higher.

Language Requirement. Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Graduation Writing Assessment or History 450W, Linguistics 305W, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better.

Major. A minimum of 24 upper division units to include (a) three units in Political Science 495, 497, 498, 596, or a 500-level political science course in any one of the four fields; and (b) 21 upper division units in political science, three of which can include Women's Studies 375, provided that at least three units shall be taken in each field.

Field I: Political Theory. Courses numbered 301A to 305, 406 to 410.

Field II: American Politics. Courses numbered 321 to 338, 346 to 348, 422 to 454, 530 to 535.

Field III: Comparative Politics. Courses numbered 356 to 370, 555 to 568.

Field IV: International Politics. Courses numbered 375, 393, 478 to 485, 575 and 577.

Political Science Minor

The minor in political science consists of a minimum of 18 units in political science to include Political Science 101 and either 102 or 103; 12 of the 18 units must be in upper division courses and at least nine of these units must be selected from **one** of the following subject matter areas (a or b or c):

- Political Theory (Field I)
- American Politics (Field II)
- Comparative Politics and International Politics (Fields III and IV)

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses (POL S)

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

POL S 101. Introduction to American Politics in Global Perspective (3) I, II

Basic political concepts as applied to the American political system. American political system as a constitutional democracy viewed in comparative perspective and within context of the global system. When taken with Political Science 102 will satisfy graduation requirement in American Institutions.

POL S 102. Introduction to American and California Government and Politics (3) I, II

Political processes and institutions in the United States and California. Considers a variety of public policy issues such as environmental quality, health, education, relation between government and business, taxation, and foreign affairs as reflected in the dynamics of national and state politics. When taken with Political Science 101 will satisfy graduation requirement in American Institutions. **Credit will not be allowed for both Political Science 102 and 320.**

POL S 103. Introduction to Comparative Politics (3) I, II

Analytical models and techniques for examination of problems of decision making and control in various political systems. Emphasis on patterns of political action in various cultural contexts.

POL S 201. Elementary Statistics for Political Science (3) I, II

Prerequisites: Course in intermediate algebra; Political Science 101 and 102; satisfaction of the Entry-Level Mathematics requirement.

Quantitative methods in political science. Tabular and graphic presentation, measures of central tendency, simple correlation and sampling techniques. Students with credit or concurrent registration in the following lower division statistics courses will be awarded a total of four units for the two (or more) courses: Political Science 201; Biology 215; Civil Engineering 160; Economics 201; Psychology 270; Sociology 201; Statistics 119, 250.

POL S 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

Field I: Political Theory

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Intended for Undergraduates)**

POL S 301A-301B. History of Western Political Thought (3-3)

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

Development of political ideas from the Golden Age of Greece until the French Revolution. Relevance of theory to a critical understanding of concrete political and social problems involving power, freedom, equality, justice and action. 301A emphasizes Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, and Marsilius of Padua. 301B stresses major political theorists such as Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau.

POL S 302. Modern Political Thought (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

Major writers of political thought in the last two centuries, including Burke, J.S. Mill, Freud, Marx, Weber and Sartre. The following topics may be covered: conservatism, liberalism, utilitarianism, socialism, fascism, positivism and existentialism.

POL S 305. American Political Thought (3)

The origin and development of American political ideas from colonial times to the present. Meets the graduation requirement in the United States Constitution. When taken with Political Science 320, 321 or 422, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions.

POL S 406. Democracy and Mass Society (3)

Origin and development of theories of democracy and application of democratic ideas to contemporary political life.

POL S 408. Nations and Nationalism (3)

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Development and continuing appeal of national identities. How groups construct collective memories for political purposes. Relationship of nationalism to modernity, industrialization, and colonialism.

POL S 410. Contemporary Political Thought (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 301B or 302 or 305 or 406.

Contemporary political questions and theoretical attempts to address them. Debates about justice, citizenship, and multiculturalism; as well as controversies over nature and scope of politics.

Field II: American Politics

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Intended for Undergraduates)**

POL S 321. State Politics (3)

Politics and policy making at the state and local levels, relations among national, state, and local governments. Emphasis on California problems and politics. Meets the graduation requirement in California government. When taken with Political Science 305 or 320, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions.

POL S 322. Creative Conflict Management (3)

One lecture and four hours of activity.

Facilitate interpersonal and group conflict resolution. New techniques in bargaining used to learn how to reach win-win agreement. The new paradigm taught is interest based negotiation (IBN).

POL S 334. Politics of the Environment (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

Analysis of political process as it shapes environmental policy in a world characterized by finite resources. Emphasis on expanding national and international claims made upon these resources. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 335. Public Policy (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 and 102.

Theory and practice of process of formulating public policy; roles of administrators, legislators, courts, interest groups, and political parties; public agencies and public interest; case studies in formulating public policies. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 336. Women's Issues in the American Political Process (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

American politics and public policy debates around women participating in politics, including support of and restrictions to feminism, legal strategies, and new understandings of public and private issues.

POL S 338. The Legislative Process (3)

Detailed analysis of legislatures. Special attention devoted to impact of dynamic factors on formal procedures. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 346. Law and the Political System (3)

Forces influencing the making of law; relationship between social and legal change; nature and limits of the judicial function.

POL S 347A-347B. American Constitutional Law (3-3)

Substantive principles of American constitutional law. Rights and liberties protected by the Constitution against action of federal and state governments. May include problems of judicial review, federal system, separation of powers, nature of selected congressional-presidential powers. Satisfies graduation requirement in United States Constitution. (Formerly numbered Political Science 547A-547B.)

POL S 348. The Supreme Court and Contemporary Issues (3)

Recent decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States and their relationship to contemporary political and social issues. Not open to students with credit in both Political Science 347A and 347B.

POL S 422. Urban Politics (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 102.

The processes by which social conflicts in American urban areas are represented and regulated. Urban political culture; ecology; group development and activity; power structures; and reform movements are surveyed. The character of the urban political "problem" and proposed solutions are evaluated. Meets graduation requirement in California state and local government. When taken with Political Science 305 or 320, will also satisfy all requirements in American Institutions.

POL S 425. Political Behavior (3)

Prerequisites: Political Science 102.

Social and attitudinal variables in political behavior. Quantitative research data as used in electoral studies. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 426. Political Communication (3)

Communication as a political process; the effects of political communication on individuals and groups. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 430. Immigration and Border Politics (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 301B or 302 or 305 or 406.

U.S. immigration and border politics within a global and historical perspective. Transformations of sovereignty, communities, identity, and rights within an era of mass migration and economic interdependence. Policy and popular debates about admission, border control, and the incorporation of migrants.

POL S 436. The American Presidency (3)

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102.

Analysis of principal institutions, functions and problems of the presidency and federal executive branch. Attention given to presidential leadership, staffing, executive-legislative relations and policy formation.

POL S 454. Special Problems in Public Law (3)

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102, and three upper division units within Field II.

Exploration of selected issues in the field of law.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)**

POL S 530. Political Parties (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or 320.

The political party as a part of the process of government; party organization and activities; nominating and campaign methods; theories and functions of the party system; party responsibility. The functioning of political parties in the American political system. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 531. Interest Groups and Political Movements (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 102.

Pressure group activity, lobbies, mass movements; factors which explain origins and motivations of group behavior; votes, money, information, protest as political resources; theories of pluralism, power elite and mass society; class and ethnic politics. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 535. Gender and Politics (3)

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102.

How gender matters in understanding key political science concepts including democracy, public/private participation and representation. Women involved in political institutions as elected officials, activists, and policy makers from U.S. and comparative perspectives.

Field III: Comparative Politics

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Intended for Undergraduates)**

POL S 356. Governments of Continental Europe (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

The political systems of countries of western continental Europe.

POL S 357. Politics of England (3)

The structure and functioning of the English parliamentary system with emphasis on present-day political principles and parties.

POL S 359. Government and Politics of Russia and the Commonwealth (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

Contemporary developments in Russia and states of former Soviet Union. Focus on Gorbachev era and post-Gorbachev transformations of political, economic, and social systems.

POL S 361. Governments and Politics of the Developing Areas (3)

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 or 103; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Internal political systems, governmental structures and the foreign policies of developing nations.

POL S 362. Governments and Politics of East Asia (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

The internal political structure and foreign policies of China, Japan, and Korea.

POL S 363. Governments and Politics of the Middle East (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

The governmental and political structures of representative states in the Middle East including Turkey, Israel and the Arab states.

POL S 364. Political Change in Modern Africa (3)

Dynamics of social and political change in modern Africa.

POL S 370. Political Violence (3)

Prerequisites: Political Science 101, 102 or 103; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

Underlying conditions, expressions and consequences of violence within political systems.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)**

POL S 555. Comparative Political Systems (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 103.

An examination of selected political and governmental systems for purposes of comparative study and analysis to determine similarities, differences and general patterns and universals among political systems.

POL S 560. Comparative Public Policy (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 103 or 335.

Ways that political and social factors shape policy choices, implementation strategies, and policy outcomes in selected countries, emphasis on industrialized nations. Policy areas chosen from: education, health, nutrition, crime, transportation, housing, energy, population control, poverty, unemployment, inflation.

POL S 563. Government and Politics of Asian Countries (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 103 or 362 or Asian Studies 100 or History 566 or 567.

Domestic politics and foreign policies of select Asian countries such as China, India, South Korea, and Taiwan; to include political institutions and change, development politics and external relations in these countries. May be repeated with new title and content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units.

POL S 564. Environmental Politics in Global Perspective (3)

Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.

Comparative examination of environmental politics and policy in major world regions. Considers environmental politics with related policy challenges of economic growth, equity, and social justice. Course content varies with regional focus.

POL S 566. Political Change in Latin America (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 103.

General pattern of politics and political development in Latin America with an emphasis on those features which condition domestic and foreign policy making.

POL S 567. Political Systems of Latin America (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 566.

Domestic and international politics of selected Latin American states.

POL S 568. Mexican Politics (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 103.

Principal factors in Mexican governmental decision making. Ideology, political groups, tactics of leaders and governmental structure.

Field IV: International Politics

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

POL S 375. International Relations (3)

Dynamics of conflict and cooperation among national, international and transnational actors; contributing political, economic, and social factors.

POL S 393. Institute on World Affairs (3)

Weekly lectures by visiting experts on contemporary international relations. Speakers may include scholars, diplomats, government officials, journalists, military officers and international business executives.

POL S 478. Conduct of American Foreign Relations (3)

Institutional arrangements by which American foreign policy decisions are formulated and implemented. Issues confronted by American foreign policy decision makers.

POL S 479. National Security Policy (3)

Objectives, instruments, and consequences of national security policy.

POL S 481. International Relations of the Developing Nations (3)

Prerequisite: Six units of political science.

Cooperation and conflict between the developing nations and relations of such nations with the developed countries.

POL S 482. International Relations of the Latin American States (3)

Foreign policies of Latin American states; the Organization of American States; relationships with the United Nations and the United States.

POL S 485. Politics of Globalization (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 103 or six units of political science.

Ideas and practice of globalization since end of World War II, focusing on political debate around contemporary changes in trade, production, and global social relations, and on impact of globalization on political institutions such as state, civil society, social movements, and democracy.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

POL S 575. International Relations of the Pacific Rim (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 362 or 375 or 481.

Dynamics of conflict and cooperation among nations of the Pacific Rim. Stress on political and economics factors that shape interstate relations.

POL S 577. Principles of International Law (3)

The function of law in the international community. The historical development of the ideas and rules of international law and their place in the modern diplomatic and legal structure.

Elective Courses

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

POL S 320. American Institutions (3) I, II

The principles of the Constitution of the United States of America, and a survey of the political and social institutions which have developed under the Constitution. Meets the graduation requirement in the United States Constitution and California state and local government. When taken with Political Science 305, 321 or 422, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions. **Credit will not be allowed for both Political Science 102 and 320.**

POL S 495. Internship in Local Politics (3) I, II

Prerequisites: Limited to senior political science majors; three upper division units within Field II.

Seniors in the major choose internships within San Diego County in government agencies, offices of elected officials, or others approved by instructor. Requires 80 hours of fieldwork and periodic analytical essays.

POL S 496. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

POL S 497. Investigation and Report (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Limited to senior political science majors with a cumulative 3.0 in upper division political science courses.

Senior thesis. Analysis of special topics.

POL S 498. Internship in National Politics (12) I, II

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Students will be assigned to political agencies in Washington, D.C., such as congressional staffs, interest groups, executive agencies, legal/judicial offices and political party committees. Maximum credit six units applicable to the major in political science; maximum credit three units applicable to the minor in political science.

POL S 499. Special Study (1-3) I, II

Prerequisites: Twelve upper division units in political science and consent of the instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

POL S 515. Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 201.

Conceptual analysis, measurement, and scaling. Elementary statistical analysis of behavioral data using computers and data processing using one of the major statistical packages. (Formerly numbered Political Science 515A.)

POL S 516. Statistics for Political Scientists (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 201.

Basic concepts, theories, and methods that are utilized by political and other social scientists using statistics and microcomputers. Serves as an intermediate level introduction to statistical methods in political science. (Formerly numbered Political Science 515B.)

POL S 596. Topics in Political Science (1-3)

Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.

Selected topics in political science. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596. Maximum credit of three units of 596 applicable to a master's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

GRADUATE COURSES

Refer to Bulletin of the Graduate Division.

