
Political Science

In the College of Arts and Letters

OFFICE: Nasatir Hall 127

TELEPHONE: 619-594-6244 / FAX: 619-594-7302

Faculty

Emeritus: Andrain, Crain, Cutter, Feierabend, Gripp, Hobbs, Janssen, Johns, Kahng, Keiser, Lewin, Little, Miles, Padgett, Schultze, Soule, Strand, Terrell

Chair: King

Professors: Gupta, Heck, Hofstetter, King, Loveman

Associate Professors: Abdel-Nour, Alexseev, Carruthers, Fairlie, Graubart, Guang, Kennedy, McCall, Maher

Assistant Professors: Adams, Kuru, Schreiber, Saccarelli, Varadarajan

Lecturers: Bee, Epps, Ingram, Mercurio, Speckmann, Stoddard, 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:

- a. 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: 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);
- b. Have a cumulative GPA of 2.50 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 the premajor at 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.

Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

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 27 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 (Political Science 201; Economics 201; Psychology 270; Sociology 201; Statistics 119, 250; Philosophy 120). (12 units)

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 Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above, or History 450W, or Linguistics 305W, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

International Experience. The department encourages international experience for its majors. It will facilitate the transfer of political science credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive political science credit, if approved in advance by a department adviser.

Major. A minimum of 27 upper division units to include (a) 24 upper division units in political science (students are permitted to take up to six units selected from American Indian Studies 400, 485, and Women's Studies 375), provided that at least three units are taken in each field; and (b) a three unit capstone requirement, fulfilled by Political Science 495, 497, 498, or any 500-level political science course excluding Political Science 515 and 516.

Field I: Political Theory. Courses numbered 301 to 319, 401 to 419, 501 to 510.

Field II: American Politics. Courses numbered 321 to 349, 421 to 459, 530 to 549.

Field III: Comparative Politics. Courses numbered 351 to 370, 461 to 469, 551 to 569.

Field IV: International Politics. Courses numbered 371 to 393, 471 to 493, 571 to 593.

Political Science Minor

The minor in political science consists of a minimum of 21 units in political science to include Political Science 101, 102, and 103. Twelve of the 21 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):

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

International Experience. The department encourages international experience for students in the political science minor. It will facilitate the transfer of political science credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive political science credit, if approved in advance by a department adviser.

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.



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