Are you interested in American politics, world affairs, or critical issues such as globalization, the environment, and civil rights? Theories of ideal government and how power and resources are allocated in society? If you want to study and pursue a career in these subjects, you should select political science as a major.

Political science is the study of governments, public policies, and political behavior. It uses both humanistic perspectives and scientific skills to examine the United States and all regions of the world. It prepares you to think critically and independently, appreciate differing points of view, and understand current affairs.

With your degree in Political Science, you will be able to pursue careers in law, consulting, teaching, journalism and communications, polling and campaign management, business, international organizations, community service, nongovernmental organizations, and state, local, and federal government. It will also prepare you for participating in community organizations, electoral politics, advocacy groups, and elective or administrative positions in government.

*excerpts from "Why Study Political Science?" American Political Science Association
Politics is the art of the possible, the attainable — the art of the next best
— Otto von Bismarck

Associate in Arts in Political Science for Transfer

The Associate in Arts in Political Science for Transfer Degree creates a transfer pathway for students who plan to complete a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science or similar major at a California State University (CSU). With successful completion of this degree, students will possess foundational knowledge and skills that comprise the core content of the lower division requirements of many baccalaureate programs in Political Science. Students completing the Associate in Arts in Political Science for Transfer Degree will be able to apply, analyze and evaluate the leading theories and essential concepts in American Government, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Thought. This degree program provides preparation in Political Science Research Methodology as well as historical and comparative analysis of Women in Politics. Through this foundational knowledge, students completing the Associate in Arts in Political Science for Transfer Degree will be prepared for successful completion of a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Program Requirements

REQUIREMENTS

- Completion of 60 CSU transferable semester units;
- 18 semester units in the approved Political Science courses;
- 15-17 CSU transferable elective units;
- Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education-Breadth Requirements (CSU GE);
- Achieve a grade point average of 2.0
- Earn a C or better in major area courses.

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

POL SCI 1 The Government of the United States (3)

LIST A: SELECT THREE (9 UNITS)

POL SCI 2 Modern World Governments (3)
POL SCI 5 The History of Western Political Thought (3)
POL SCI 7 Contemporary World Affairs (3)
POL SCI 50 Introduction to Research in Political Science (3)
OR MATH 227 Statistics (4)

LIST B: SELECT TWO (6 UNITS)

Any List A course not already used
OR
POL SCI 19 Women in Politics (3)
AFRO AM 4 The African-American in the History of the United States I (3)
AFRO AM 5 The African-American in the History of the United States II (3)
ASIAN 1 The Asian in America (3)
CHICANO 7 The Mexican-American in the History of the United States I (3)
CHICANO 8 The Mexican-American in the History of the United States II (3)
CHICANO 47 The Mexican-American Woman in Society (3)
CHICANO 80 Chicano Politics (3)
ECON 1 Principles of Economics I (3)
ECON 2 Principles of Economics II (3)
ECON 60 Economics and the Environment (3)
HISTORY 6 History of the Americas II (3)
HISTORY 11 Political and Social History of the United States I (3)
HISTORY 12 Political and Social History of the United States II (3)
HISTORY 52 The Role of Women in the History of the United States (3)
HISTORY 81 A History of Working People in the United States I (3)
HISTORY 82 A History of Working People in the United States II (3)
LAW 3 Civil Rights and the Law (3)
SOC 11 Race and Ethnic Relations (3)
SOC 22 Sociology of Women (3)

RECOMMENDED: Consult an ELAC College Counselor before declaring a major.