

Political Science

Degree: A.A. - Social Science
Certificate: International Studies

Area: Behavioral & Social Sciences
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The study of political science involves the examination of the structure of government and political systems, as well as the interaction of individuals and institutions within those systems. These courses offer insight into the events on the local, state, national, and international level.

Requirements for Degree Major

18 units of transfer-level work in addition to other graduation requirements.

Courses taken must be in at least four of the following areas: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology (except PSYC 335), and Sociology.

General Education Graduation Requirement

Students must also complete the general education graduation requirements for an A.A. degree. See general education requirements.

International Studies Certificate

The program is designed to benefit students that will seek careers or transfer with an international focus. The required courses will transfer as electives or lower division prerequisite for selected majors.

Requirements for Certificate: 29 units

Courses Required 29 Units

ANTH 310	3
Foreign Language *	8
Required Electives	9
SOCSC 310 or POLS 310	3
SOCSC 312 or POLS 301	3
SOCSC 314	3

9 units from the following electives:

ANTH 330; ARTH 308, 322; ENGLT 340, 341, 345; GEOG 310; HIST 300, 302, 305, 364, 365, 367, 373; HUM 300, 310, 320, 322, 330; PHIL 353, 354; POLS 301, 322

* Foreign language courses must be transferable (courses numbered 300-499).

POLS 301 Introduction to Government: United States 3 Units

Formerly: POLS 1

Prerequisite: None

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or ENGWR 103, and ENGRD 116 or ESLR 320, ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course analyzes the U.S. government's historic origins, philosophical and theoretical justification, constitutional structures and how these institutions work. It examines and describes the procedural aspects of the political system; campaigns; elections; lobbying; legislating; and execution and adjudication of law. It provides an analysis of contemporary problems and issues. It also describes California state and local governments' constitutional base, structures and functions, political process, problems and issues. (CAN GOVT 2) AA/AS area C1; CSU area D2; IGETC area 4.

POLS 302 Introduction to Government: Foreign 3 Units

Formerly: POLS 2

Prerequisite: None

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or ENGWR 103, and ENGRD 116 or ESLR 320, ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

The political institutions of selected West European and Third World nations are examined comparatively. Emphasis on the formation of political institutions; political culture; citizen and interest participation; political parties; and modern bureaucratic public policy roles. AA/AS area C2; CSU area D3; IGETC area 4.

POLS 304 Introduction to Government: California 3 Units

Formerly: POLS 4

Prerequisite: None

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

The essential organization, institutions and processes of California state and local government. Fulfills California state requirements in state and local government, but not the requirement in the U.S. Constitution.

POLS 310 International Relations 3 Units

Formerly: POLS 10

Prerequisite: None

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or ENGWR 103, and ENGRD 116 or ESLR 320, ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is a survey of the nation-state system. The focus will be on global issues in the post Cold War era, examination of third world and super power relations, their political impact upon world peace and international stability. The course analyzes issues such as the nuclear proliferation, regional and hemispheric political instability, the politics of hunger and the rise of nationalism. AA/AS area C2; CSU area D3; IGETC area 4.

POLS 322 Political Ideologies 3 Units

Formerly: POLS 15

Prerequisite: None

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or ENGWR 103, and ENGRD 116 or ESLR 320, ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is a survey of comparative, conceptual and historical analysis of competing ideological approaches to government. Emphasis upon the theories, values, and assumptions that make up a political ideology and the effect of such theories on a political system. AA/AS area C2; CSU area D3; IGETC area 4.

POLS 330 Constitutional Rights 3 Units

Formerly: POLS 5

Prerequisite: None

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or ENGWR 103, and ENGRD 116 or ESLR 320, ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

Survey of American constitutional rights. Analysis of court decisions and related materials dealing with constitutional issues such as racial, sexual, and other forms of discrimination; criminal procedures; freedoms of religion, speech, press, and association; voting; education; employment, and due process of law. AA/AS area C2; CSU area D3.

POLS 332 Law and Society (Same as Business 345) 3 Units

Formerly: POLS 16

Prerequisite: None

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or ENGWR 103, and ENGRD 116 or ESLR 320, ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the Anglo-American Common Law System with emphasis upon the nature and purpose of law. The evolution of legal concepts as a reflection of the social environment, and the basic organization and functioning of the American judicial system presented from a theoretical rather than a practical view point through analysis of selected cases and reading materials. Not to be taken in place of Business 18A (Business Law). AA/AS area C2; CSU area D3; IGETC area 4.