

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Science courses offer research into and analysis of the institutions and politics of government. Topics include the interpretation and use of constitutions, the politics of the legislative process, elections and campaigns, the impact of money and lobbying on public policy decisions, the role of political parties, interactions between national, state and local government, the role of executive leadership including the United States President, the impact of bureaucracies on public and personal life, the judicial process and the criminal justice system, comparative government, international relations and a wide range of issues that affect the lives of citizens. Development of skills in research, critical thinking, persuasive argument in debate, and analytical writing are primary goals of instruction in political science. All courses provide a stimulating foundation for the life of an educated citizen. Four political courses offer partial fulfillment of the *American Institutions requirement*. The requirements for a political science major and the great variety of career options served by a major are listed below.

For more information, contact:  
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805-986-5800, ext. 1917

## Career Opportunities

Armed Services	Attorney/Legal Assistant
Judicial Officer/Judge	High School Teacher
College Professor	Political Consultant
Police Services	Political Scientist/Researcher
Elected Public Official	Community Activist
Journalism/Book Author	Intelligence Agencies/CIA/FBI
Foreign Service/U.S. State Department	
Custom Officer/Import-Export Agent	
Public Relations/Travel Consultant	
International Civil Service/Public Institutions	
Non-Profit Organization Management	
Public Administration/Civil Service	
Human Services/Social Welfare	
Human Services/Criminal Justice System	
Human Services/Child Protective & Domestic Relations	
Human Services/Juvenile Services	

## Faculty

Full-Time	Part-Time
Carolyn Dorrance	Timothy Flynn
Gloria Guevara	Philip Grant
	Steve McHargue

## ◆ Political Science

### Associate in Arts Degree

Required Courses:	Units
POLS R100 Introduction to Politics	3
POLS R101 Government of the United States: Institutions/Politics	3
POLS R102 Government of the United States: Institutions/Laws	3
POLS R104 International Relations	3
POLS R108 Comparative Politics	3
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Required Additional Courses:	Units
Select six units from the following:	
ANTHR102 Cultural Anthropology	3
BIOL R106 The Human Environment	3

ECON R100	The Modern American Economy	3
<b>OR</b>		
ECON R101	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
GEOGR102	World Cultural Geography	3
HIST R100A	History of World Civilizations I	3
HIST R100B	History of World Civilizations II	3
HIST R107	The History of the Mexican People in the US	3
<b>OR</b>		
HIST R116	History of the Americas II	3
HIST R110	History of the Middle East	3
HIST R114	Modern Asia	3
HIST R119	Modern Africa	3
HIST R121	US Multicultural/Migration	3
IDS R101A	History of Ideas and Evolution of Culture I	3
IDS R102	Science, Technology, and Human Values	3
PHIL R111	Thinking Critically and Analytic Writing	3
PHIL/SOC R114	Social Philosophy	3
Any POLS course not used to satisfy the core requirement		
PSY R103	Beginning Statistics for Behavioral Science	3
SOC R103	Racial and Ethnic Group Relations	3
SOC R109	Futurology	3
		<hr/> 6
	<b>Total Required Units</b>	<b>21</b>

## Political Science Courses

### POLS R010—Introduction to United States

#### Government

3 units

3 hours lecture weekly

An introduction to the institutions and political processes of government in the United States. Federalism and the institutions of Congress, the Presidency and the Supreme Court are studied from the perspective of constitutional democracy and the theory of checks and balances. The roles of political parties, interest groups, public opinion and the media are discussed in a way that broadens understanding of political process and citizen participation. Special attention is given to improving student study skills including vocabulary building, research, analytical writing and articulation of political ideas. Field trips may be required. (2)

### POLS R100—Introduction to Politics

3 units

3 hours lecture weekly

Course introduces students to the ideas and institutions of politics at the local, state and Federal levels. Concepts of law, justice, democracy, social welfare and liberty will be discussed in relation to contemporary institutions of government. Includes study of California Government. Fulfills state requirements in American Institutions. Field trips may be required. (2)

Transfer credit: UC, CSU

### POLS R101—Government of the United States I: Institutions and Politics

3 units

3 hours lecture weekly

This course provides a study of the Constitutional principles, institutions and politics of American Government with special attention to the dynamics of representative government evident in voting, campaigns, political party politics, legislative process, presidential leadership and the public policy process. The California Constitution and government will be examined. This course partially fulfills graduation and Title V requirements for the study of American Institutions. Field trips may be required.

Transfer credit: UC, CSU

**POLS R102—Government of the United States  
Institutions/Laws** **3 units**

*3 hours lecture weekly*

Study of principles, institutions, and politics of American Government with special attention to judicial interpretation of constitutional principles such as separation of power, federalism and citizenship. Includes study of California Government. Fulfills state requirements in American Institutions. Field trips may be required. (2)

*Transfer credit: UC, CSU*

**POLS R104—International Relations** **3 units**

*3 hours lecture weekly*

Course explores official and unofficial connections between governments and peoples of the world and traditions, policies, and institutions which bind them together or hold them apart, with particular reference to problems of war, peace, and change. (2)

*Transfer credit: UC, CSU*

**POLS R105—Current Issues in Domestic and  
Foreign Politics** **3 units**

*3 hours lecture weekly*

Course blends elements of political theory with the world of political problems and action at individual, state, national, and international levels. Each semester the issues selected for examination will be revised. Course may be taken three times. (2)

*Transfer credit: UC, CSU*

**POLS R106—Political Aspects of Economic  
Problems** **3 units**

*3 hours lecture weekly*

Course surveys areas where the impact of economics upon political life is considerable, so that students may better understand the political world. (2)

*Transfer credit: UC, CSU*

**POLS R107—Politics and Administration of State  
and Local Government** **3 units**

*3 hours lecture weekly*

Course presents the main principles, concepts, theories, and processes of governmental institutions of the states, counties, cities, and special districts. The social, economic and political dynamics within the institutional context will be studied. Also, Federal institutions will be analyzed to understand the main characteristics, principles, structures, and processes of the American system of government and their impact on the other levels of government. The impact of federal taxation and expenditure policies on state and local government will be studied with specific examples. Fulfills state requirements in American Institutions. (2)

*Transfer credit: CSU*

**POLS R108—Comparative Politics** **3 units**

*3 hours lecture weekly*

Course examines political life and institutions of a number of foreign countries to identify both similarities and differences in people's attempts to grapple with government problems throughout the world. (2)

*Transfer credit: UC, CSU*

**POLS R189—Topics in Political Science** **½-3 units**

*Lecture and/or lab hours as required by unit formula*

Courses considering specific and current topics in Political Science which are not covered in the general Political Science offerings. Course may be taken four times. (2)

*Transfer credit: CSU*

**POLS R189A—Great Debates and Elections** **3 units**

*3 hours lecture weekly*

Course surveys history of elections and great political debates. Impact of elections on development of democracy in modern society studied. Special attention given to process of electing presidents in United States history. Course may be taken two times. (2)

*Transfer credit: UC, CSU*

**POLS R199—Directed Studies in Political  
Science** **1-3 units**

*Lecture and/or lab hours as required by unit formula*

Designed for selected students interested in furthering their knowledge of political science on an independent study basis; assigned problems will involve library, lab, and field work. Course may be taken two times. (2)

*Transfer credit: CSU*