



Political Science 2013-2014

Political Science as a social science is mainly concerned with the systematic analysis of governmental institutions and processes and the development of power. It fully analyzes the political behavior of human beings. Specific areas of specialization within the major include the international arena, comparative government, political theory, political economy, public administration, political parties and elections, constitutional law and regional political studies, depending upon one's career objectives.

The value of a political science degree is recognized by business, law schools and government agencies as it involves insights and a variety of skills demanded by higher education institutions and the labor market.

Program Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to demonstrate critical, analytical, research and writing skills in political science and its sub-fields using basic scientific tools underlying modern social science.
- Students will be able to analyze the major theoretical formulations and concepts of political science and its sub-fields and the philosophical basis of those formulations.

Career Opportunities:

A major in political science is excellent preparation for students who plan to enter the legal profession, business, politics, government service or teaching in elementary and secondary schools. Graduate degrees are necessary for college teaching positions and helpful for selection to foreign service as a career diplomat. Courses in business principles, geography, computer science and statistics should be taken as electives to increase marketability of the graduate to potential employers.

Units required for Major: 35

Associate Degree Requirements:

- English proficiency: ENGL 1A, 1AH, 1S & 1T, ESLL 26 or equivalent.
- Mathematics proficiency: MATH 57, 105, 108 or equivalent.

A minimum of 90 units is required* to include:

- All Foothill General Education requirements (30 Units)
- Core courses (18 Units)
- Support courses (17 Units)

*Additional elective course work may be necessary to meet the 90-unit minimum requirement for the associate degree.

NOTE: All courses pertaining to the major must be taken for a letter grade. In addition, a GPA of 2.0 or higher is required in all core and support courses for the degree.

Program Type:

AA = Associate in Arts Degree.

Additional Information:

NOTE: Students having difficulty attaining an associate degree because of timing or availability of classes should consult with a counselor to submit a petition for course substitution.

Core Courses: 18 Unit(s)

POLI 1 Political Science: Introduction to American Government & Politics (5 units)

POLI 2 Comparative Government & Politics (4 units)

or POLI 2H Honors Comparative Government & Politics (4 units)

POLI 3 Introduction to Political Philosophy/Political Theory (5 units)

or POLI 3H Honors Introduction to Political Philosophy/Political Theory (5 units)

POLI 15 International Relations/World Politics (4 units)

or POLI 15H Honors International Relations/World Politics (4 units)

Support Courses: 17 Unit(s)

Select 9 units from the following:

ECON 1A Principles of Macroeconomics (5 units)

HIST 9 History of Contemporary Europe (4 units)

or HIST 9H Honors History of Contemporary Europe (4 units)

HIST 17A History of the United States to 1816 (4 units)

or HIST 17B History of the United States from 1812 to 1914 (4 units)

or HIST 17C History of the United States 1900 to the Present (4 units)

POLI 9 Political Economy (4 units)

or POLI 9H Honors Political Economy (4 units)

And 8 units* from the following:

ECON 25 Introduction to the Global Economy (4 units)

HIST 8 History of Latin America (4 units)

HIST 18 Introduction to Middle Eastern Civilization (4 units)

HIST 20 History of Russia & The Soviet Union (4 units)

PHIL 2 Introduction to Social & Political Philosophy (4 units)

SOC 15 Law & Society (4 units)

* Students may also use courses listed in the first section of support courses to fulfill the requirement for the second section of support courses.