Overview:

- General Information
- Department Opportunities
- Campus Opportunities
- Careers and Graduate School
- Excellence in And Out of The Classroom
- Student Involvement and Support
- Advising Structure
How do you plan to be successful as a Political Science student at UC San Diego?

**Studying a lot!!**

I plan to keep trying my hardest, managing my time as effectively as possible and be as involved with school and club activities as I can.

After the pandemic, my main goal is to hold good communication with others in order to increase my own productivity and understanding of the environment around me.

I plan to utilize any networking opportunities to create meaningful connections within my field and to apply myself to the best of my ability inside and out of the classroom.

Committing to my classes by approaching them as applicable life skills and contributing to the Political Science community through connecting with my peers and advisors.

Devoting a good amount of time to my studies, and asking many questions to my professors- preferably during their office hours.

Participate in research and internships.

Managing my time, balancing multiple commitments, and not overwhelming myself.

Getting involved in pertinent student organizations and reaching out to my professor regarding research and internship opportunities.
Subfields in the Department

- American Politics
  (POLI 10 and POLI 100-109)
- Comparative Politics
  (POLI 11 and POLI 120-139)
- International Relations
  (POLI 12 and POLI 140-159)
- Political Theory
  (POLI 13 and POLI 110-119)
- Public Law
  (POLI 104 Series)
- Public Policy
  (POLI 160-169)
- Research Methods/Data Analytics
  (POLI 170-189)

Our website lists faculty by each subfield
# SUBFIELDS IN THE DEPARTMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subfield</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>American Politics</strong></td>
<td>National, state, and local politics in the United States – Congress, elections, race, and gender.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comparative Politics</strong></td>
<td>Politics in other countries-democracies and autocracies, elections and revolutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data Analytics</strong></td>
<td>Rigorous training in the study of probability, data collection, hypothesis testing, computation, and visual display of data as it applies to political and social science problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Relations</strong></td>
<td>The study of the nation-state and its relationships. Conflict and cooperation among countries - war and peace, global economics and climate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Political Theory</strong></td>
<td>Foundations of political thought from Plato and Aristotle to contemporary philosophers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Law</strong></td>
<td>Constitutional and statutory laws that define our rights and regulate our lives. <em>We have added several courses that enrich the student’s ability to write and argue legal briefs, and learn the basics of legal research and reasoning.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Policy</strong></td>
<td>Analysis of policy in specific areas such as the environment, health, urban renewal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Public Policy vs. Public Law:**

Policies are **objectives** that a government sets for itself to achieve in a given period of time, and laws are the **tools** that help a government achieve these objectives.
POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR OPTIONS

Nine Majors:

- General Political Science (B.A.)
- Political Science/American Politics (B.A.)
- Political Science/Data Analytics (B.S.)
- Political Science/Comparative Politics (B.A.)
- Political Science/International Relations (B.A.)
- Political Science/Political Theory (B.A.)
- Political Science/Public Law (B.A.)
- Political Science/Public Policy (B.A.)
- Political Science/Race, Ethnicity, and Politics (B.A.)

Requirements:

- 16 Political Science courses
  - 4 lower-division and 12 upper division
- Have an Area of Concentration?
  - 5 of the 12 upper division courses must be fulfilled in the concentration
- **ALL** courses for the major must be political science courses
- **ALL** courses must be taken all for a letter grade
  - This applies to transfer courses as well!
- You may change your major online with the change of major tool **once** you are enrolled in your fall courses.
Joint BA/MIA Program between the Department of Political Science and School of Global Policy and Strategy

Began in Fall 2020; first cohort applied for a Fall 2021 start into the program in Spring 2021

Must be a currently enrolled UCSD Political Science student who meets the eligibility requirements

Students would begin to take graduate level courses in their senior year at UCSD and pay undergraduate fees

Following year: Complete graduate level courses and earn both a BA and MIA degree from UC San Diego

Informational page and videos are on our Department website
The General Catalog is the official resource to verify policies and your college and major requirements: [http://www.ucsd.edu/catalog/](http://www.ucsd.edu/catalog/)

Course descriptions are in the catalog; use it to learn about courses and to choose your electives.

Refer to the 2021-2022 catalog throughout your tenure at UCSD. This is your catalog year and it will not change even if you change your major.
The Political Science Major and Minor

Political science addresses some of the fundamental problems facing human society. Questions concerning world peace, government policies aimed at achieving economic stability and growth, the management of environmental quality, control over political competition, the possibility of using law to affect social and political change, and the gap between the rich and poor in the U.S. and abroad are all on the research agenda of contemporary political scientists. The general purpose of the major is to address these and other issues systematically, and, simultaneously, to raise the broad theoretical questions which can help students relate today's political debates to those debates about politics which have kept a theoretical tradition alive for over 2,000 years.

Students may major in political science as a general program of study, or they may concentrate in one of seven areas: (1) American politics, (2) comparative politics, (3) data analytics, (4) international relations (5) political theory, (6) public law, and (7) public policy. All majors, besides the data analytics concentration, in political science must satisfy the following sixteen courses: PS 30 (Political Inquiry), three of the following four lower-division courses (Political Science 10, 11, 12 and 13) and twelve upper-division courses. Student pursuing the Political Science-Data Analytics (B.S.) major must satisfy the following sixteen courses: PS 5 (Data Analytics for the Social Sciences), PS 30 (Political Inquiry), two of the following four lower-division courses (Political Science 10, 11, 12 and 13), and twelve upper-division courses.

If a Special topic course is offered, see the department for details regarding applying this course toward an area of concentration (i.e., PS 154 is the special topic course for International Relations and, depending on the topic, may be applied to one of the International Relations area of concentration categories). Upon notification from the student that a particular course should be counted in their area of concentration (based on review/approval in the department), a form is included in the student's file reflecting this information on the transcript.
Check your Academic History on TritonLink: http://tritonlink.ucsd.edu

Are the courses you took listed?

Are the UCSD equivalent courses listed?
The Degree Audit checks your progress for degree completion. Green indicates completed requirements (T-indicates transfer course). Blue indicates in-progress for completion. Red indicates missing/incomplete requirements.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- Course Offerings for 2021-2022 can be found on our website

- The schedules posted on our website are tentative and subject to change

- To get specific information on faculty and days and times courses will be offered, visit the Schedule of Classes on TritonLink once the schedule for any given quarter goes live

Political Science Courses

The Department continuously works to offer courses aligned with students' interest; as such, we cannot guarantee all Political Science courses will be offered every quarter or every academic year. Students are recommended to check the Political Science Tentative Course Offerings below to plan courses accordingly.

**Political Science Tentative Course Offerings for 2021-2022**

The Department offers a tentative course offerings list for the academic year, which is updated frequently as courses are added or moved around. Check back frequently for any course updates. Information on our courses, including course descriptions, can be found in the corresponding pages linked below.

For information about Political Science courses planned for Summer Session, students must check the Summer Session website.

Department of Political Science

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE for 2021-2022**

This schedule is TENTATIVE and subject to change

*Last updated on June 29, 2021*

**FALL 2021 Schedule is currently live in the Schedule of Classes**

**WINTER 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10D</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Science: American Politics</td>
<td>Elgin, Samuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Ethics and Society</td>
<td>Elgin, Samuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Ethics and Society II</td>
<td>Elgin, Samuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30D</td>
<td>Political Inquiry</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100I</td>
<td>Participation and Inequality</td>
<td>Gause, LaGina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100W</td>
<td>Politics, Policy, &amp; Education Inequality</td>
<td>Paglayan, Agustina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100Z</td>
<td>Gender and American Politics</td>
<td>Ban, Pamela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102C</td>
<td>American Political Development</td>
<td>Galdieri, Peter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103D</td>
<td>Voting Rights Act 50 yrs later</td>
<td>Fletcher, Nathan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The online schedule allows you to search for courses by:

- Subject
- Department
- Course Number (code)
- Professor or Course Title

It also allows you to sort by:

- Day of the week
- Time of lecture
- Upper/Lower division only
- Classes with open seats
FALL 2021 ENROLLMENT

- The estimated date for all (or most) transcript evaluation by Admissions is **mid-August**.

- We will release seats for transfer students prior to open enrollment. Seats will be saved for lower-division courses and some upper-division courses.

- Transfer enrollment appointments begin **August 16th**.
  - You should have already notified you of your specific enrollment time (or will soon) via your UCSD email.

- First day of classes is **September 23rd**.

- Know your deadlines! Enrollment calendar: [http://blink.ucsd.edu/instructors/courses/enrollment/calendars/index.html](http://blink.ucsd.edu/instructors/courses/enrollment/calendars/index.html)
Some courses may have prerequisites or restrictions. If you are interested in taking a POLI course but do not meet the prerequisites, you can request pre-authorization using the Enrollment Authorization System (EASy).

Steps:

• Step 1: If the class you wish to enroll in has prerequisites or restrictions, access the Preauthorization System:
  • https://academicaffairs.ucsd.edu/Modules/Students/PreAuth/SubmitRequest.aspx
• Step 2: Submit the request.
• Step 3: You will receive an email notification that your request has been approved or denied.
• Step 4: If your request is approved, enroll via WebReg.
WAITLISTS AND ENROLLMENTS

- To add a class that is full, use WebReg to waitlist the course.

- **Waitlists** are automated and used by ALL departments. They run nightly until midnight on Thursday of second week.
  - The waitlist sequence is **first-come, first-served**. Departments cannot override the waitlist sequence.

- You will receive an email to your UCSD account if you have been added to the course. If you have not met the prerequisite, WebReg will drop you from the waitlist.

  *The Political Science Department does not allow late adds*

- **Enrollment Information:**
  - You must adhere to all add and drop deadlines.
  - **Incoming students:** *Before* the quarter begins, you may be enrolled in and wait-listed for a total of 19.5 units. *After* the quarter commences, you may be enrolled in and wait-listed for a total of 22 units.
  - Continuing students have a 2 Pass Enrollment system: Later, as a continuing student, you will enroll in 11.5 units during your first pass and up to 19.5 during your second pass.
MAJOR AND COURSE PLANNING

- Quarter by Quarter plans help you plan out your Political Science major and remaining courses effectively.

- Political Science Website – Major pages with requirements & fillable PDFs; students are more welcome to fill out a plan and have it verified by the Undergraduate Advisor.

- College – Also has Quarter by Quarter plans.

- Other – Can create your own via Excel, Google Sheets, etc.

- Websites: [https://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/academic-advising-information](https://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/academic-advising-information) & [http://plans.ucsd.edu/](http://plans.ucsd.edu/)
DEPARTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Exciting and Relevant Courses

- Courses that range from “Insurgency and Terrorism” to “The Voting Rights Act: 50 Years Later,” to “International Politics and Drugs” to “Bending the Curve: Climate Change” to “Democracy and its Critics.”
- The Department also brings in practitioners who channel their real-world experiences into courses like “How to Win or Lose and Election” and “Science, Technology, and the Law.”

Undergraduate Professional Development Workshops

Examples:

- Workshops on resumes, cover letters, networking, job search strategies, and Political Science career paths
- Internship Panel
- Study Abroad opportunities, programs, and scholarships + application to Political Science Major
- Graduate school opportunities, applications, and deadlines
- Future program and event planning
ALUMNI MENTOR PROGRAM

Launched in the Fall 2017 Quarter

- Two tracks in the program: Career Track and Exploratory Track
  - Career Track: Students are matched with a mentor in one of his/her top three fields
    - Connect with the mentor via: 1) a career conversation; 2) a resume critique; and 3) a possible mock interview
  - Exploratory Track: Students are matched with a mentor outside of his/her top three fields
    - Connect with the mentor via one required “career conversation”
- Successful applicants will have
  1) A minimum 3.5 major GPA; and
  2) Earned at least 90 units

Available Fields:

- Education
- Entrepreneurship
- Foreign Service
- Government (local, state, or federal)
- Healthcare
- Law
- Non-profit
- Politics
- Private Sector
- Urban Planning
- & More!
RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Research Apprenticeship Program

- Work directly with a departmental mentor for the winter and spring quarters. Each student will collaborate with a doctoral candidate on the mentor’s own research project.
- Winter and Spring Quarter: Commitment to 12 hours/week as a research assistant; earn major credit (POLI 198RA)
- Spring Quarter: Additional participation in a weekly research seminar (POLI 199); write a seminar paper of approximately 20 pages under guidance of graduate student mentor

Eligibility:

- Majors in Political Science
- Recommended major GPA of 3.0 or higher

Independent Research (POLI 199)

- Independent research project with faculty
- Elective credit can be earned for the completion of two POLI 199s with 4 units each
SENIOR HONORS PROGRAM

Two quarter senior thesis project designed for highest achieving students

- Completion of POLI 191A/B and honor’s thesis may qualify you for honors
- POLI 191A/B are allowable for major credit toward the upper-division elective category
- Eligibility: Senior standing, minimum 3.6 major GPA in order to be eligible, completed all lower division courses for your major, and completed a minimum of five UD POLI courses

A great opportunity for students, especially those interested in pursuing graduate studies in political science!

- You can view all the honors theses that have earned honors since 2012 on our website at our “Departmental Honors” page
LOCAL INTERNSHIP RESEARCH PROGRAM

Participants will earn academic credit while working at a local internship.

Internships are relevant to Political Science and have professional quality engagement.

Courses:
- Enrollment in both a Research Seminar course (POLI 194SD) and an Internship Seminar course (POLI 197SD) for 4 units each
- Completion of a 20 page paper for the Research Seminar
- The Research Seminar is allowable for the major, but the Internship Seminar is not allowable

Eligible Applicants:
- passed at least 90 units;
- a 2.5 minimum cumulative GPA overall;
- a GPA of 3.0 or higher in political science;
- taken POLI 30(D); and
- taken at least two upper-division political science courses.
CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES FOR MAJOR REQUIREMENTS
Live and Work in Washington or Sacramento for a quarter!

- Intern for one quarter in Washington, DC or Sacramento and receive UCSD course credit for an internship, major credit for a research seminar, and an optional elective course
- Gain firsthand exposure to professional environments, and develop the skills you need for your future career
- Establish and expand your professional network
- Referrals and recommendations have long been proven to have a major impact in the job search

Internships are available in all types of settings and industries, and are a great way to polish your resume
Travel almost anywhere in the world while taking Political Science courses and receiving credit for the major.
GLOBAL CONCENTRATION IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Global Concentration in Political Science capitalizes on students' study abroad experience, language skills, and UCSD Global Content Courses. This is a transcripted concentration, meaning it will reflect on your transcript, but not on your final diploma. This is not a major in Political Science, but rather a concentration that any Political Science major may formally declare once all of the requirements have been met.

Requirements:

1. Minimum of eight units earned through study abroad, of which a minimum of four units would count toward the major. This can include study, research, and internship experiences provided they are transcripted.

2. Demonstration of proficiency in a second language through the fourth quarter of university-level instruction. Contact your college with questions about this requirement.

3. Minimum of two courses with department- or program-identified global content (courses which focus on non-US cultures, countries, or policies). Political Science courses Poli 11(D), Poli 12(D), and any Poli course numbered 120-159 taken at UCSD will satisfy this requirement.
CAREERS AND GRADUATE SCHOOL
WHAT EMPLOYERS ARE SEEKING

Your major is not boxing you into a particular career

- Political Science equips you with transferrable skills that will make you valuable in a variety of settings. Use these skills to market your academic knowledge and professional attributes.

The attributes employers most seek on a candidate’s resume:

1. Leadership
2. Ability to work in a team
3. Written communication skills
4. Verbal communication skills
5. Problem solving and critical thinking skills
6. Strong work ethic

Transferable skills inside the classroom: Ability to communicate, methods and research (interpret and analyze data); analytical abilities (analyze and solve problems systemically and strategically); planning and development (conceptualize problems and demonstrate leadership); group skills (ability to work in a team).

*Source: APSA Careers and the Study of Political Science*
Undergraduate Professional Development Series (2 – 3/quarter)
- Graduate Student Panel: Pros + Cons of Pursuing Graduate School
- Library Resources for Political Science Students
- Alumni 101 Panels
- Financing Your UCDC Experience; Importance of UCDC Internships
- Transfer Triton Hub Information Session
- Capital Fellows Program
- Studying Abroad as a Political Science Major; Study Abroad Scholarships
- Information sessions for Department’s new Political Science – Race, Ethnicity, and Politics major and joint BA/MIA program with GPS

Based on input from our current majors, we plan to implement more events focused on:
- Preparing for Graduate School and Law School
- Careers and Internships for Political Science Majors
- Research Opportunities
- Student Involvement Opportunities
- Networking with Graduate Students, Faculty, and Alumni

Krinsk-Houston Law and Politics Initiative Events
- What I Wish I Knew Before Attending Law School
- Securing and Excelling in Your Legal Internships
- Law School Launch
The Initiative creates a premier pre-law experience that matches the ambitions and talents of UC San Diego's students. This experience includes student instruction, a partnership with the University of San Diego School of Law, and rich community engagement.

- Law school faculty, practicing attorneys, and judges teach classes that give students the skills necessary for success in law school and the legal profession.
- Provides students, regardless of their financial need, with support to take part in internships in Washington, D.C., Sacramento, and San Diego.
- 10+ Pre-Law, seminar-style classes.
- Internship page updated frequently.
RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

- **Political Science Alumni Mentor Program**

- **Board of Pre-law Advisors**: Attorneys currently enrolled in the doctoral program in political science at UCSD. They are available for individual appointments to discuss careers in law, selection of appropriate law schools, the application and admissions processes, and other questions.

- **APSA Careers in Political Science Handbook**

- **UCSD Career Services Center**: Excellent pre-law, career, and graduate school advising.

- **LinkedIn page**: “Department of Political Science - UC San Diego”

- **Department of Political Science Website**: See “Career and Graduate School” page under “Undergraduate Program” headline.

*For additional career advising, visit the Career Center, Political Science Department, or send an inquiry via the Virtual Advising Center.*
EXCELLENCE IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM
Tom Wong
His research focuses on the politics of immigration, citizenship, and migrant "illegality." As these issues have far-reaching implications, his work also explores the links between immigration, race and ethnicity, and the politics of identity. Last year he served as an advisor to the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI)

Molly Roberts
Her research interests lie in the intersection of political methodology and the politics of information, with a specific focus on methods of automated content analysis and the politics of censorship in China

Thad Kousser
He studies American state and national politics, government reform, direct democracy, interest group influence, and how politicians use social media

Marisa Abrajano
Her research is in the field of American politics, particularly in the areas of campaigns, mass electoral behavior, and race/ethnic politics.

https://polisci.ucsd.edu/people/faculty/faculty-directory/currently-active-faculty/index.html
STUDENT INVOLVEMENT AND SUPPORT
Office for Students with Disabilities Info

- Department OSD Liaison: Joanna Peralta
- Procedures can be found on our website; these will be updated as we “Return to Learn”
- Things to keep in mind:
  - Must meet with OSD Specialist to receive an Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) Letter
  - You do not have to wait until classes begin to start the process
  - You will be contacted, expect an email during Week 1 of the quarter
  - Set up and appointment if applicable

By the end of your appointment your questions should be answered, exams scheduled (if applicable) and any follow-ups will be scheduled.
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Political Science Student Association (PSSA)
- Organization for students majoring in any of the Political Science majors

Mock Trial

Model UN

Pi Sigma Alpha: National Political Science Honor Society
- Eligibility:
  - Completed at least seven (7) political science courses, including at least three (3) upper division courses (transfer students must have completed at least two (2) of the three upper division courses at the University of California, San Diego);
  - Maintained no less than a 3.60 GPA in all political science courses

Prospect Journal

Journal of International Affairs at UCSD

Go to: http://studentorg.ucsd.edu/ for a full list of student organizations
TRANSITIONING TO UCSD

- **Student Success Coaching Program**
  - Students are connected to a success coach from their undergraduate college who is familiar with the resources and opportunities that exist for your success. Coaches help you find high-impact practices that directly support your goals — such as research, mentorship, supplemental instruction, and more.

- **Analytical Writing Program**
  - This program is designed to help students master the critical thinking, reading, and writing skills that will enable you to succeed at the university and in your professional lives.

- **Academic Achievement Hub**
  - Content tutoring, supplemental instruction, and incorporating learning strategies

- **OASIS**
  - OASIS provides free tutoring, mentoring and counseling to UCSD undergraduates.

- **Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD)**
  - Register in person at 202 University Center (Gilman Dr. & Myers Dr.) or online

- **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**
  - CAPS provides FREE, confidential, psychological counseling and crisis services for registered UCSD students.
TRITON TRANSFER HUB

STUDY SPACES & FORUMS
HANGOUTS & SOCIAL EVENTS
PEER COACHING
ACADEMIC & CAREER CONNECTION
BLOGS, LIVESTREAMS & MORE!

TRITONTRANSFERS@UCSD.EDU  |  TRANSFERSTUDENTS.UCSD.EDU  |  @TRITONTRANSFERS
ADVISING STRUCTURE
MULTI-TIERED ADVISEMENT

Department advisors are your resource for any questions regarding your Political Science major requirements

- You should always contact us for questions concerning your major requirements
- Questions might include: major requirements for any of the seven political science majors, double majors, course planning, enrollment issues in political science courses, honors programs, academic policy, etc.
- You will consult with your College about their specific requirements, University requirements, overall unit issues, etc.

Summer Advising Availability

Monday - Friday
Answering questions via the Virtual Advising Center between 8:00 – 4:30pm
RSVP Q&A

• Is it important to choose a specific subject in my major?
  
  It is up to you!

• Can a student be recognized for studying two kinds of Political Science (i.e. Public Law and Public Policy)?
  
  No, but that is why the Elective category exists!

• What is the process for declaring a minor?
  
  Major/Minor Tool – find on TritonLink

• When and how do I switch to a different Political Science major?
  
  After you sign up for Fall classes; Major/Minor Tool

• Can I double major and graduate on time?
  
  Yes! Know both major requirements + submit petition

• Do political science classes fill up fast despite it being a non-impacted major?
  
  Depends → After Fall, Strategize 1st vs 2nd pass

• How do I make the most of my time/fit everything I want to accomplish in my last two years?
  
  Early and frequent advising...communication is key!
• How will classes be conducted this upcoming year due to COVID-19?
  Fall = Mostly in-person; Winter & Spring are unknown for now
• How will I be able to participate in activities/programs if they will be remote?
  Participate remotely ➔ Workshops, meetings, activities, etc.
  People, Departments, and Programs are all adjusting.
• How do I know I am doing all the necessary steps, because I feel as though I
  am missing things I am not aware of (documents/enrollment procedures). Is
  everything through email?
  Check Email, TritonLink, Canvas, Financial Aid, VAC, etc.
• With the recent quarter limit that replaced the unit limit for students entering
  after Fall 2019, how likely are students to get a 3rd year of undergrad?
  Case-by-case; check with your College Advisor
• What are the most effective ways for Political Science transfers to take
  advantage of UCSD's resources during their time here?
  Do your research, read websites, attend information sessions,
  explore opportunities, and think about what YOU want to do
See you in September!