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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subfield</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Politics</td>
<td>National, state, and local politics in the United States – Congress, elections, race, and gender.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Politics</td>
<td>Politics in other countries-democracies and autocracies, elections and revolutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Analytics</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>International Relations</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>Political Theory</td>
<td>Foundations of political thought from Plato and Aristotle to contemporary philosophers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Law</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>Public Policy</td>
<td>Analysis of policy in specific areas such as the environment, health, urban renewal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **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.
SCIENCE MAJOR OPTIONS

Eight 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.)

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.
Newest Political Science major, starting Fall 2018!

Only Bachelor of Science Political Science major in the UC system!

16 Political Science courses

- 4 lower-division: POLI 5(D), POLI 30(D), and two of the following: POLI 10(D), 11(D), 12(D), 13(D)

- 12 upper division:
  - Five in the area of concentration: POLI 100F, 168, 170A, 171, 172, 173, or 179
  - Seven additional courses from POLI 100 – 199

Reminder:

- ALL courses for the major must be political science courses
- ALL courses must be taken all for a letter grade (including transfer courses)
UCSD GENERAL CATALOG

- 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 2018-2019 catalog throughout your tenure at UCSD. This is your catalog year and it will not change even if you change your major.
MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Locate your major requirements on the Department page:
https://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/major-and-minor-requirements/index.html

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?
# DARS AUDIT

- The Degree Audit checks your progress for degree
- Only a reference point for students
- Blue denotes completed requirements (T-indicates transfer course).
- Red indicates missing/incomplete requirements.
- Courses that appear on the far right-hand side under “additional lower division courses” are transfer courses not applying to degree requirements.

![Degree Audit Table](image-url)
Course Offerings 2018-2019 can be found on our website at: http://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/courses/index.html

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.
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 2018 ENROLLMENT

- The estimated date for all (or most) transcript evaluation by Admissions is **August 15th**.
- We will release seats for transfer students on **August 24th**. Seats will be saved for lower-division courses and some upper-division courses.
- Transfer enrollment appointments begin on approximately **August 27th**. Your College should have already notified you of your specific enrollment time (or will soon).
- First day of classes is **September 27th**.
- 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)
Once you register, your final schedule for the quarter also becomes available.

Finals may be scheduled back-to-back-to-back

When you enroll, you also choose your final exam schedule!
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. Enrollment calendar: [http://blink.ucsd.edu/instructors/courses/enrollment/calendars/index.html](http://blink.ucsd.edu/instructors/courses/enrollment/calendars/index.html)

- **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.
DEPARTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
COURSES AND CONNECTIONS

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.”

Lunch with the Director of Undergraduate Studies

- Have lunch with Maureen Feeley! Lunch is open to all Political Science majors and is held once or twice a quarter.
- **Examples:**
  - Discussion led by Professor of Political Science and Public Policy at the University of Michigan, Dr. Edie Goldenberg, and UCSD's SOVAC
  - Workshop on resumes, cover letters, networking, job search strategies and career paths for Political Science majors
  - Study Abroad opportunities and scholarships
  - Graduate school opportunities, applications, and deadlines
  - Future program and event planning
ALUMNI MENTOR PROGRAM

The Political Science Alumni Mentor Program launched in the Fall 2017 quarter

- Two tracks in the program: Aligned Track and Exploratory Track
  - **Aligned Track**: Students are matched with a mentor in one of his/her top 3 fields
    - Connect with the mentor via: 1) a career conversation; 2) a resume critique; and 3) a mock interview
  - **Exploratory Track**: Students are matched with a mentor outside of his/her top 3 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
- The first 30 eligible students are admitted to the program. Others will be placed on a waitlist.

**Available fields:**

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


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
  - Major GPA of 3.5 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
- A great opportunity for students, especially those interested in pursuing graduate studies in political science
- Eligibility: You must have a minimum 3.6 major GPA in order to be eligible
- 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 receive advanced training in research methodologies and 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 and an Internship Seminar course 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.

**Examples of recent internships include:**
- U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein's district office
- U.S. House Representative Duncan Hunter's district office
- U.S. House Representative Scott Peters' district office
- California State Senator Joel Anderson's office
- Sarah Boot for City Council Campaign
- Allen Theweny for El Cajon Mayoral campaign
- San Diego County Taxpayers' Association
- United Nations Association of San Diego
- United States Attorney's Office--Southern California District
- San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

For more information visit our “Internships” page on our website: [https://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/internships/index.html](https://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/internships/index.html)
Live and Work in Washington or Sacramento for a quarter!

- Continue your UCSD studies while interning for 1 quarter in Washington, DC or Sacramento and receive UCSD course credit for an internship, and major credit research seminar, and an optional elective course—does not count against your transfer course limit.

- Gain firsthand exposure to professional environments, and develop the skills you need for your future career

- Internships are available in all types of settings and industries, and are a great way to polish your resume

- Establish and expand your professional network. Referrals and recommendations have long been proven to have a major impact in the job search
STUDY ABROAD IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Travel almost anywhere in the world while taking Political Science courses and receiving credit for the major.

Up to 6 courses may be transferred to the major from outside UCSD!
GLOBAL CONCENTRATION IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Requirements:

- Eight units or more earned through study abroad; at least four units must count toward the major

- Demonstration of proficiency in a second language through the fourth quarter of university-level instruction

  - Alternate demonstrations of proficiency can be discussed with your College

- A minimum of two courses with department or program-identified global content. Political Science courses POLI 11(D), POLI 12(D), and any POLI course numbered 120-159 taken at UCSD satisfies this requirement.
CAREERS AND GRADUATE SCHOOL
RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

- **Political Science Alumni Mentor Program**: Launched Fall 2017
- **Board of Pre-law Advisors**: Board members are 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. Please contact each directly to arrange an appointment. Visit: [https://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/careers-and-graduate-school/index.html](https://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/careers-and-graduate-school/index.html)
- **APSA Careers in Political Science Handbook**: Purchase on the ASPA website or check it out (up to a week) from our department
- **UCSD Career Services Center**: Excellent pre-law, career, and graduate school advising. For pre-law advising visit: [prelaw.ucsd.edu](http://prelaw.ucsd.edu)
- **Facebook page**: “UCSD Department of Political Science” – The Department lists internships and other opportunities that may be of interest to our majors. These include opportunities within and outside UCSD.
- **Department of Political Science Website**: See “Career and Graduate School” page under “Our Undergraduate Program” headline.

For additional career advising, visit the Career Center, Political Science Department, or send an inquiry via the Virtual Advising Center.
Political Science majors have a lot of options. Your major is not boxing you into a particular career path (i.e. Law school is your only option).

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*
ADDITIONAL CAREER INFORMATION

- The median annual wages of college-educated workers with political science majors (ages 25-29) is $64,000. This is higher than the median income of all social science majors ($60,000); and higher than BA holders, all majors ($61,000).
- The top 25% of political science majors earn nearly $100,000 annually.
- 55% of all political scientists work for the federal government, most of whom work in the executive branch.

Resources on UCSD’s Career Services Center website includes information on:

- Pre-Law at UC San Diego
- Public Policy
- International Affairs and Area Studies
- Government
- “What can I do with my political science major?”
- Alumni Advisor Network
- Career Readiness
- Career Options for Political Science Majors

Sources: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau; Bureau of Labor Statistics
We host numerous career and graduate school events throughout the academic year.

The events in 2017-2018 included:

- Undergraduate Lunches each quarter
- “Resumes, Cover Letters, and Career Paths” workshop with the Career Services Center
- Graduate Representative from Georgetown University
- Attorney Networking Night with UCSD Pre-Law Fraternity in February
- “What I Wish I Knew Before Attending Law School” networking event with the Law & Politics Initiative

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
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.

Director: Dr. Matthew E. Bergman

10+ Pre-Law, seminar-style classes

Internship page updated frequently.
We are so highly ranked not by following established traditions but by carving out our own paths. We bring the same passion for non-tradition into our classrooms, where we try to provide our students with courses on subjects they never knew existed, assignments that challenge them to perform professional-level work, and research tools they can use to explore their own questions.

**Cutting Edge Research – Faculty**

- **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.
TRANSITIONING TO UCSD
TRANSITION SUCCESSFULLY

- **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. Together, you and your coach will focus on the strengths and passions that you bring to UC San Diego to find high-impact practices that directly support your goals — such as research, mentorship, supplemental instruction, and more. Link: [https://students.ucsd.edu/sponsor/success/](https://students.ucsd.edu/sponsor/success/)

- **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. Link: [http://awp.ucsd.edu](http://awp.ucsd.edu)

- **OASIS**
  - OASIS provides free tutoring, mentoring and counseling to UCSD undergraduates. Link: [http://oasis.ucsd.edu/](http://oasis.ucsd.edu/)

- **Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD)**
  - Register in person at 202 University Center (Gilman Dr. & Myers Dr.); for more information visit: [http://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/osd-accommodation/index.html](http://polisci.ucsd.edu/undergrad/osd-accommodation/index.html)

- **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**
  - CAPS provides FREE, confidential, psychological counseling and crisis services for registered UCSD students. Link: [http://caps.ucsd.edu/#students](http://caps.ucsd.edu/#students)
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Political Science Student Association (PSSA)
  - Organization for students majoring in any of the Political Science majors
- Mock Trial
  - Link: https://mocktrialatucsd.github.io/index.html
- Model UN
  - Link: http://modelun.ucsd.edu/
- 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. Link: https://prospectjournal.org/

Go to: http://studentorg.ucsd.edu/ for a full list of student organizations
DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

- UCSD has a **multi-tiered advising system**
  - Department advisors are your resource for any questions regarding your Political Science major requirements
  - As your major department, 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, overall unit issues, etc.

**Academic Year Advising Hours:**

**Monday - Friday**
8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Please note the office is closed daily from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Summer Advising Hours:**

**Monday - Thursday**
8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

**Fridays**
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Please note the office is closed daily from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Have a question about your major, but don’t have time to come in for advising? Send an inquiry to the Virtual Advising Center (VAC).
• 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...the Elective category exists!
• What is the process for declaring a minor?
  Major/Minor Tool
• When and how do I switch to a different Political Science major if I'm General Political Science?
  First day of classes; Major/Minor Tool
• Can I double major?
  Yes! Submit petition between 90-135 units
• Do political science classes fill up fast despite it being a non-impacted major?
  Depends → Strategize 1st vs 2nd pass
• Are there any special programs in place for transfer students?
  Access to 90+ unit opportunities, All Campus Transfer Association