

Political Science AA-T - Active

Department: Social Sciences

Approval: April 2018

Effective Semester: Fall 2019

Political Science is the study of governments, power relations, public policies, political theories, political processes, and political behavior. The Political Science major is designed to develop knowledge, analytical skills, and critical insight into the nature of politics and political problems. Political Science subfields include American government, political theory, comparative politics, and international relations, and the major introduces each of these, as well as allowing additional coursework. The aim is to prepare students for active participation in political life, as informed citizens or residents, and to prepare students for transfer to a four-year university in the field of Political Science, and then to a range of possible careers.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Identify and explain American political principles.
- Analyze and critique current political topics and issues.
- Assess the forms and processes of political participation at the local, state, national, and/or international levels.
- Evaluate and compare the structure and function of different political systems in the world, as well as the international system itself.
- Analyze different political theories, especially liberalism and conservatism.
- Analyze the historical and philosophical foundations of the United States and California constitutions.
- Examine complex political issues by selecting and using appropriate social science methodologies and approaches, including the analysis of primary sources and the development, evaluation and testing of hypotheses using the scientific method.

Students who wish to earn the Associate in Arts in Political Science for Transfer (AA-T) must complete 60 CSU transferable units with at least a 2.0 grade point average. This must include the units required for full completion of the IGETC or CSU GE curriculum and the units for the major as specified below. Each course in the major must be completed with a grade of "C" or better. Courses used to meet the major requirement may also be used to meet IGETC or CSU GE requirements.

Assuming students start this AA-T with transfer-level math and English eligibility, the minimum time for completion is 4 semesters. Completion time will vary based on student preparation and number of units completed per semester.

Courses Required for the AA-T in Political Science

Course	Units
Required courses:	
POLS 1 - American Government	3.00
POLS 2 - Comparative Government	3.00
POLS 3 - Political Theory	3.00

POLS 5 - International Relations	3.00
Total:	12.00
Choose at least 6 units from the following elective courses:	
ECON 5 - Introductory Statistics for Economics, Business and Social Sciences	5.00
or	
PSYC 5 - Statistics for Behavioral Sciences	5.00
POLS 4 - The Politics of Globalization	3.00
POLS 12 - Ethnic Politics in the United States	3.00
POLS 18 - Government & Politics of Latin America	3.00
POLS 22 - Environmental Politics and Policy	3.00
POLS 43 - The Constitution and Individual Rights	3.00
POLS 45 - Governments and Politics of Middle East	3.00
POLS 41 - Independent Studies in Political Science	1.00
Total:	6.00 - 8.00
Total:	18.00 - 20.00

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