Political Science, BS

Go beyond a basic understanding of the American political system and develop the necessary research skills you need for analyzing complex sociopolitical issues. You will be prepared for graduate study or law school and for immediate career opportunities in public administration. This political science degree program is offered at ASU's West campus.

Program Description

The School of Social and Behavioral Sciences offers a BS in political science in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences.

Political science is the study of governmental practices, politics and theories. Coursework in the political science program covers American institutions, international relations, political theory and world affairs. This program helps students gain a basic understanding of the assumptions underlying political science and to develop the necessary research skills for analyzing complex sociopolitical issues. In addition to coursework, students learn through internships, service-learning and research opportunities.

The Bachelor of Science degree differs from the BA degree in that it requires an additional statistics course and a methods course.

This major is eligible for the Western Undergraduate Exchange program at the following location: West campus. Students from Western states who select this major and campus may be eligible for reduced nonresident tuition at a rate of 150% of Arizona resident tuition plus all applicable fees. Students should click the link for more information and eligibility requirements of the WUE program.

At a Glance

- College/School: New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
Required Courses (Major Map)

2022 - 2023 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent Program Options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

- Communication Studies, MA
- Global Management, MGM
- Interdisciplinary Studies, MA
- Social Justice and Human Rights, MA

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students are advised by their academic departments to apply.

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
First-year | Transfer | International | Readmission

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu for information about how to change a major to this program.
Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU™ to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/MyPath2ASU.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

Students can experience firsthand, through study abroad, the diverse political and social powers affecting communities around the globe. Students in political science can enhance their learning by gaining a global perspective on political theory and world affairs. With over 250 programs available, studying abroad allows students to tailor their experience to their unique interests and skill sets. Programs exist in diverse countries, such as those ruled by communist and monarchical regimes. More information is available on the Global Education website. https://goglobal.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

The political science curriculum provides a solid background for employment in a relevant profession and prepares students for graduate work in:

- political science
- professional schools
- social science disciplines
- urban planning

The program serves as a good precursor to staff, manager or policy analyst positions in local, state and federal governments. This degree is recognized as qualification for many careers in business (for-profit and nonprofit) and industry. Work may include binational, cross-border positions linking U.S. and Mexican businesses, Arizona-Sonora local governments or local community groups on both sides of the border. Many students use the degree as a gateway to law school or basis for further study in such applied fields as:

- community development
- public administration
- public policy
• urban affairs
• urban and regional planning

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Programs Specialist</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>$47,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>$141,080</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Clerk</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
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<td>Lawyer</td>
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<td>Legal Court Hearing Officer</td>
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<td>Mediator</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Politician</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Planner</td>
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</tbody>
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* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook  🌿 Green Occupation

Contact Information

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