Political Science, BA

Interested in politics and public issues in the United States and abroad? Do you see yourself heading to law school or working in political campaigns or as a diplomat? This degree is an excellent springboard for a wide variety of careers, both inside and outside of government.

Program Description

The BA program in political science offers a variety of courses and opportunities to study politics and policies at the local, national and global levels. The program aims to provide students with the tools and skills they need to link theory with real-world problems and issues.

Study how citizens interact with their governments and how governments at all levels formulate policies to serve or not serve their citizens. From U.S. elections and lobbying to international issues of terrorism, diplomacy and empowerment, students can learn about politics and explore innovative approaches to today's emerging challenges.

With coursework in several areas of political science and broad exposure to ASU's liberal arts offerings, the Bachelor of Arts degree in political science produces well-rounded learners with strong research and writing skills.

In addition to the guidelines in the Concurrent Program Options section below, students interested in pursuing concurrent or second baccalaureate degrees in The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are advised to visit The College's website for more information and requirements.

https://thecollege.asu.edu/concurrent-and-second-baccalaureate-degrees

At a Glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus or Online, ASU Local
• **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
• **Second Language Requirement:** Yes
• **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
• **Math Intensity:** General

**Required Courses (Major Map)**

- 2022 - 2023 Major Map (On-campus)
- 2022 - 2023 Major Map (Online)
- 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:

- Global Security (Cybersecurity), MA
- Global Security, MA
- Political Psychology, MA
- Political Science, MA
- Public Administration, MPA
- Public Policy, MPP

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.

[Freshman] | [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.

**Attend Online**

**ASU Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

**ASU Local**

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with ASU Local, an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support. Those interested may learn more about ASU Local here.

**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 the diverse political and social powers governing communities around the globe. With over 250 programs available, study abroad allows students to tailor their experience to their unique interests and skill sets. Students majoring in political science can enhance their learning by gaining a global perspective on political theory and world affairs in countries under regime types like communism and monarchies. https://goglobal.asu.edu/

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends the following study abroad programs for students majoring in political science: https://goglobal.asu.edu/students/major/spgs/political-science.
Career Opportunities

Graduates have skills useful for success in political or governmental careers, law school, graduate study, business or the nonprofit sector. Many program graduates have found positions in the following:

- foreign service organizations
- legislative staff organizations
- lobbying and advocacy groups
- local and national media organizations
- local, national and global nonprofit organizations
- multinational corporations
- national, state, and local government agencies
- political consulting
- research institutions
- the courts and judicial administration

In addition, some graduates have gone on to other top tier graduate and professional schools. These students have found a range of employment opportunities in the fields of:

- communication
- education
- foreign service
- journalism
- law
- political science
- public service

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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Analyst</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>$87,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intelligence Officer</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>$86,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Clerk</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>$57,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Manager</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>$142,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mediator</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>$66,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Reporter</td>
<td></td>
<td>$49,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Manager</td>
<td></td>
<td>not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paralegal</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>$52,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Analyst</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>$125,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politician</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>$33,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations Manager (PR Manager)</td>
<td></td>
<td>not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Regulatory Affairs Manager

* 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

School of Politics and Global Studies | COOR 6797
spgs-ugadvising@asu.edu | 480-965-8563