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.

Students study how citizens interact with their governments and how governments at all levels formulate policies to serve or not serve their citizens. Students can learn about politics and explore innovative approaches to today's emerging challenges, such as those seen in U.S. elections and lobbying and the international issues of terrorism, diplomacy and empowerment.

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.

At a Glance

- College/School: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Location: Tempe 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)**

2023 - 2024 Major Map (On-campus)
2023 - 2024 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 plus 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. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated masterâs during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and [how to apply](#).

**Admission Requirements**

**General University Admission Requirements:**

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

[First-year](#) | [Transfer](#) | [International](#) | [Readmission](#)

**Tuition Information**
When it comes to paying for college, everyone’s situation is different. Students can learn about ASU tuition and financial aid options to find out which will work best for them.

**Change of Major Requirements**

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

Students should visit the Change of Major form 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’s ASU Online page for program descriptions and to request more information.

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.

**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.

**Global Opportunities**

Global Experience

Students can experience firsthand the diverse political and social powers governing communities around the globe. With over 300 Global Education 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 with regimes like communism and monarchies.
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends these study abroad programs for students majoring in 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 example titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience, geographical location, and required advanced degrees or certifications may affect pay scales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Analyst</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>$95,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intelligence Officer</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>$86,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Clerk</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>$57,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Manager</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>$140,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Reporter</td>
<td></td>
<td>$55,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Growth Rate</td>
<td>Average Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paralegal</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>$59,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Analyst 🌟</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>$128,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politician</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>$48,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations Manager (PR Manager) 🌟</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>$129,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory Affairs Manager</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>$128,620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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

## Contact Information

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