# Political Science, BA

Social Sciences and Education (sse) ([https://catalog.csub.edu/general-information/csub-information/school-social-sciences-education/](https://catalog.csub.edu/general-information/csub-information/school-social-sciences-education/))  
Department of Political Science ([https://catalog.csub.edu/general-information/csub-information/school-social-sciences-education/department-political-science/](https://catalog.csub.edu/general-information/csub-information/school-social-sciences-education/department-political-science/))  
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Phone: (661) 654-2141  
Email: cochoa@csub.edu  
http://www.csub.edu/polisci ([http://www.csub.edu/polisci/](http://www.csub.edu/polisci/))  
Program Maps for Social Sciences and Education ([https://programmap.csub.edu/academics/interest-clusters/a94a03c6-bc7d-471f-b602-cfefa852c1aa/](https://programmap.csub.edu/academics/interest-clusters/a94a03c6-bc7d-471f-b602-cfefa852c1aa/))  

Political Science majors should check the Political Science Department's webpage for current and future class schedules, course syllabi, department updates and news, important deadlines, and internship/career opportunities at CSUB. You can also find The Political Science Department on Facebook: PLSI at CSUB and on Instagram: csubpoliscidept.

## Program Mission

The Department of Political Science endeavors to develop in its graduates an understanding of how political systems operate as well as with what consequences, and with what alternatives these systems contend. The primary focus is on inculcating analytical and critical habits of thinking - habits that will be beneficial to society irrespective of professional choices. The Department is oriented toward assisting students who are preparing to go to graduate school, law school or for careers in the public sector and non-profit service. In the process, we hope to create a body of students and citizens who are informed, who have the intellectual skills, and who are also cognizant of humanistic values. The Department, in line with the values of the social sciences, seeks to engender a student body that is aware of the social and political structure within which we live – thus fulfilling the University's mission and goals for the general education of our undergraduate students.

For more information on our Mission Statement and our Student Learning Outcomes, please visit our Department’s Homepage.

## Program Requirements

All majors must satisfactorily complete at least twelve courses in Political Science, of which at least nine must be at the upper division level. Required lower and upper division courses for majors must be completed with a grade of "C-" or better. Students who fail to achieve a "C-" or above may repeat the course. The Department encourages students to develop their degree plans in close consultation with their faculty advisor.

### Code | Title | Units
--- | --- | ---
**General Education Requirements**<sup>8</sup> |  |  
First-Year Seminar (FYS) |  | 2  
Lower Division Area A: Foundational Skills |  | 9-12  
Lower Division Area B: Natural Sciences |  | 6  
Lower Division Area C: Arts and Humanities |  | 6  
Lower Division Area D: Social and Behavioral Sciences |  | 3  
Lower Division Area E: Student Enrichment and Lifelong Learning (SELF) |  | 3  
Lower Division Area F: Ethnic Studies |  | 3  
American Institutions: Government and History |  | 3-6  
Junior Year Diversity & Reflection (JYDR) |  | 3  
Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) |  | 3  
Upper Division Thematic Area B and C |  | 6  
General Education Capstone |  | 0  
**General Education Subtotal**<sup>9</sup> |  | 47-53  
**General Core Requirements** |  |  
**Lower Division Required Courses** |  |  
PLSI 1018 | American Government and Politics | 3  
Select one of the following: |  | 3-6  
MATH 1009 | Modern Math and Applications |  
MATH 1040 | Precalculus I and II Combined |  
MATH 1050 | Precalculus I |  
MATH 1209 | Statistics in the Modern World |  
PSYC 2018 | Introduction to Statistical Methods in Psychological Research |  
**Upper Division Required Courses** |  |  
PLSI 3020 | Theories of Power | 3  
PLSI 3030 | Political Philosophy & Thought | 3  
PLSI 3040 | International Relations | 3  
PLSI 3428 | California Politics | 3  
PLSI 4908 | Senior Seminar and Capstone | 3  
**Methods** |  |  
PLSI 3010 | Political Inquiry | 3  
**Program Emphases** |  |  
Select two of the following: |  | 24  
**Pre-Law**<sup>3</sup> |  |  
Select four of the following: |  |  
PLSI 3140 | Judicial Power and the Constitution |  
PLSI 3150 | American Political Theory |  
PLSI 3170 | Legal Reasoning |  
PLSI 3228 | Politics & Religion in the United States |  
PLSI 3450 | Civil Rights & Civil Liberties |  
PLSI 3470 | Environmental Politics |  
PLSI 3510 | International Organizations |  
PLSI 4410 | U.S. Immigration Law and Policy |  
**Power and Justice**<sup>4</sup> |  |  
Select four of the following: |  |  
PLSI 3210 | Congress |  
PLSI 3220 | The Presidency |  
PLSI 3230 | Latinos and Blacks in U.S. Politics |  
PLSI 3248 | Women in Politics |  
PLSI 3250 | Electoral Behavior and Political Parties |  
PLSI 3260 | Small Group Dynamics |  
PLSI 3270 | Community Politics |  
PLSI 3290 | Political Sociology |  

<sup>8</sup>See the General Education Requirements for a complete list of courses and requirements.

<sup>9</sup>General Education Subtotal includes the General Core Requirements and General Education Capstone.

<sup>3</sup>Pre-Law Emphasis requires a minimum of 24 units.

<sup>4</sup>Power and Justice Emphasis requires a minimum of 24 units.
This course of study is designed to facilitate learning the basic concepts, theories, and methods of study of relations between individuals, groups, and systems that determine the social and economic opportunities and outcomes for individuals. This includes focusing on the roles played in these relations by U.S. national, regional, State, and local institutions.

This course of study is designed to facilitate learning the basic concepts, theories, and methods of study of complex relations between domestic politics in the U.S. and other nations and the interactions beyond national borders. Although the nation-state remains a primary actor in these relationships, students will also study many non-state actors, including “interest groups” such as business and industry sectors, non-governmental organizations advocating for change, and para-military terrorist and anti-state actors.

This course of study is designed to facilitate learning the basic concepts, theories, and methods of institutions and behaviors of American government and to train students in research, analytical, and communication skills that focus on the uses of American Government and policy.

Any upper division Political Science courses, whether taken at CSUB or transferred in, will count toward this requirement, except for lower division activity courses.

Range depends on double counting.

May be satisfied in major or other university requirement.

### Special Minor in Pre-Law for Political Science Majors and Special Minor in Pre-Law for Economics and Philosophy Majors

Four courses selected from the following. Two courses must be taken from Economics and two from Philosophy. Courses that qualify are those approved by the Department chairs of Economics or Philosophy respectively. Courses that satisfy the Special Minor in Pre-Law for Economics and Philosophy majors are

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSI 3150</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### American Institutions Requirement

Satisfaction of the American Institutions requirement shall be met by no less than one course in United States History and one other course in United States and California government or by examinations administered respectively by the History and Political Science Departments. For courses in the Political Science Department which satisfy the United States and California Government portions of the American Institutions Requirement, see University degree requirements.