

# Political Science

In the College of Arts and Letters

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## Faculty

Emeritus: Andrain, Fairlie, Gupta, Heck, Hobbs, Hofstetter, Keiser,  
Lewin, Little, Loveman, Miles, Schultze, Soule, Strand

Chair: Schreiber

Professors: Abdel-Nour, Adams, Alexseev, Carruthers, Graubart,

Guang, King, Kuru, McCall, Saccarelli, Schreiber, Varadarajan

Associate Professors: Kennedy, Maher

Assistant Professors: Baer, Fletcher, O'Brien, Twist

Lecturers: Bee, Gastelum, Ingram, Mercurio, Samstad, Smith

## Offered by the Department

Master of Arts degree in political science.

Major in political science with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.

Minor in political science.

Certificate in public law.

## The Major

Political science is the study of governments. Its concerns, however, are not limited to formal governmental institutions such as the executive and legislative branches or the justice systems. Political science is also interested in other organizations and activities which are part of the process of government, including political parties, interest groups, and the press.

Students who become political science majors will learn about who creates the rules by which people are governed, the attitude and behavior of leaders and members of the public which cause certain decisions to be made, and how these decisions affect such values as liberty, equality, welfare, and justice. Political science is concerned with contemporary public affairs, problems in other political systems and contemporary international politics, as well as with historical growth, evolution, and decline of various types of governments.

The many career opportunities which might be available to political science graduates include teaching at the secondary level; positions with the federal government in areas such as intelligence, foreign affairs, environmental protection, civil rights and civil liberties, and budget and computer administration; positions with state and local governments, including administrative aide for a city manager, staff assistant for a county supervisor, and assistant to the registrar of voters; administrative positions on the staffs of national, state, and local legislators; statistical technician; marketing researcher; lobbyist for a business, non-profit or trade organization; community organizer and/or service provider and political reporter.

## Impacted Program

The political science major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the political science major, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete with a grade of C (2.0) or better: Political Science 101, 102, either 103 or 104, and three units of either statistics or logic (Political Science 201; Economics 201; Psychology 280; Sociology 201; Statistics 119, 250; Philosophy 120). These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC);
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.40 or better.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

## Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser in order to declare or change the major.

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs website was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Political Science Major

**With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences  
(Major Code: 22071) (SIMS Code: 115501)**

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." A total of 40 upper division units must be taken, of which 27 must be selected as described in the major. No more than 48 units in political science courses can apply to the degree.

A minor is not required with this major.

**Preparation for the Major.** Political Science 101, 102, either 103 or 104, and three units of either statistics or logic (Political Science 201; Economics 201; Psychology 280; Sociology 201; Statistics 119, 250; Philosophy 120). (12 units)

These prerequisite courses may not be taken Cr/NC. The minimum grade in each class is C (2.0) or better.

**Language Requirement.** Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 10 or completing Political Science 390W or another approved upper division writing course (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**International Experience.** The department encourages international experience for its majors. It will facilitate the transfer of political science credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive political science credit, if approved in advance by a department adviser.

**Major.** A minimum of 27 upper division units to include 24 upper division units in political science (excluding Political Science 390W). Students may take up to six units selected from Africana Studies 321, 322, American Indian Studies 485, and Women's Studies 375, provided that at least three units are taken in each field; and a three unit capstone requirement, fulfilled by Political Science 495, 497B, 498, or any 500-level political science course excluding Political Science 516.

**Field I. Political Theory:** Political Science 301A-301B, 302, 305, 406, 507, 510.

**Field II. American Politics:** Political Science 320, 321, 322, 331 [or American Indian Studies 331], 333, 334 [or Sustainability 334], 335, 336, 338, 346, 347A-347B, 348, 422, 425, 426, 428, 430 [or Latin American Studies 430], 435, 436, 440 [or Geography 440], 530, 531, 533, 535, 541.

**Field III. Comparative Politics:** Political Science 356, 359, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366 [or Latin American Studies 366], 370, 555, 560, 562, 564, 565, 566, 568.

**Field IV. International Politics:** Political Science 375, 380, 393, 478, 479, 482, 485, 575, 577.

## Political Science Minor

(SIMS Code: 115501)

The minor in political science consists of a minimum of 21 units in political science to include Political Science 101, 102, and either 103 or 104. Twelve of the 21 units must be in upper division courses (excluding Political Science 390W) and at least nine of these units must be selected from one of the following subject matter areas (a or b or c) as listed in the major.

- Political Theory (Field I)
- American Politics (Field II)
- Comparative Politics and International Politics (Fields III and IV)

**International Experience.** The department encourages international experience for students in the political science minor. It will facilitate the transfer of political science credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive political science credit, if approved in advance by a department adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

## Public Law Certificate

(SIMS Code: 115526)

The Certificate in Public Law offers courses in the College of Arts and Letters with law content. Students specialize in public law to obtain multiple perspectives on the use of law to regulate social problems; to strengthen critical thinking skills; and to learn to form and defend arguments.

The certificate requires 15 units to include Political Science 346 and 12 units selected from Africana Studies 380, American Indian Studies 485, Philosophy 341, 342, 510, Political Science 347A, 347B, 348, 541, 577, Sociology 443, 543, Women's Studies 370. Students must obtain a grade of C (2.0) or better in each of the certificate courses. Up to nine units in the certificate may count towards the political science major but may not count towards the political science minor. Students may obtain the Certificate in Public Law without majoring in political science or another major in the College of Arts and Letters. Contact the Department of Political Science to enroll in the certificate program or for additional information.

## Courses (POL S)

Refer to *Courses and Curricula* and *University Policies* sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

### LOWER DIVISION COURSES

#### POL S 101. Introduction to American Politics in Global Perspective (3) [AI]

Politics and basic political concepts as applied to the American political system. American political system as a constitutional democracy viewed in historical and comparative perspectives and within context of the global system. When taken with Political Science 102 will satisfy graduation requirement in American Institutions.

#### POL S 102. Introduction to American and California Government and Politics (3) [AI]

Political processes and institutions in the United States and California. Considers a variety of public policy issues such as environmental quality, health, education, relation between government and business, taxation, and foreign affairs as reflected in the dynamics of national and state politics. When taken with Political Science 101 will satisfy graduation requirement in American Institutions.

#### POL S 103. Introduction to Comparative Politics (3) [GE]

Analytical models and techniques for examination of problems of decision making and control in various political systems. Emphasis on patterns of political action in various cultural contexts.

#### POL S 104. Global Politics (3) [GE]

Basic concepts, terms, and institutions of global politics. Explores power and inequality in the global system in a variety of issue areas, such as war and diplomacy, human rights, migration, the global economy, development, and the environment.

#### POL S 201. Elementary Statistics for Political Science (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Satisfaction of the Entry-Level Mathematics requirement; course in intermediate algebra; Political Science 101 and 102.

Quantitative methods in political science. Tabular and graphic presentation, measures of central tendency, simple correlation and sampling techniques. Students with credit or concurrent registration in the following lower division statistics courses will be awarded a total of four units for the two (or more) courses: Political Science 201; Administration, Rehabilitation and Postsecondary Education 201; Biology 215; Civil Engineering 160; Economics 201; Psychology 280; Sociology 201; Statistics 119, 250.

#### POL S 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

### Field I: Political Theory UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

#### POL S 301A-301B. History of Western Political Thought (3-3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Development of political ideas from the Golden Age of Greece until the French Revolution. Relevance of theory to a critical understanding of concrete political and social problems involving power, freedom, equality, justice and action. Political Science 301A emphasizes Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, and Marsilius of Padua. Political Science 301B stresses major political theorists such as Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau.

#### POL S 302. Modern Political Thought (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Major writers of political thought in the last two centuries, including Burke, J.S. Mill, Freud, Marx, Weber and Sartre. The following topics may be covered: conservatism, liberalism, utilitarianism, socialism, fascism, positivism and existentialism.

#### POL S 305. American Political Thought (3) [AI]

Origin and development of American political ideas from colonial times to the present. Meets the graduation requirement in the United States Constitution. When taken with Political Science 320, 321 or 422, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions.

#### POL S 406. Democracy and Mass Society (3)

Origins and development of democracy as an idea and political reality. Historical and ongoing struggles for mass democracy to include the English Civil War, the Haitian and Russian Revolutions, and the Spanish Civil War.

### UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Senior and Graduate Students) (Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

#### POL S 507. Marx and Marxism (3)

Prerequisite: Three units in political theory. Marxism examined as an important tradition of political thought and as a political movement. Theoretical and political debates in the development of Marxism, including works by Marx, Engels, Luxemburg, Lenin, and Trotsky. Contemporary significance of Marxism.

#### POL S 510. Contemporary Political Thought (3)

Prerequisite: Political Science 301B or 302 or 305 or 406. Contemporary political questions and theoretical attempts to address them. Debates about justice, citizenship, and multiculturalism; as well as controversies over nature and scope of politics.

**Field II: American Politics**

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES  
(Intended for Undergraduates)**

**POL S 320. The U.S. Constitution (3) [AI]**

Principles inherent to the constitutional framework in the United States, the controversies accompanying those principles, and the political institutions that have developed under them. Meets the graduation requirement in the United States Constitution and California state and local government. When taken with Political Science 305, 321 or 422, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions.

**POL S 321. State Politics (3) [AI]**

Politics and policy making at the state and local levels, relations among national, state, and local governments. Emphasis on California problems and politics. Meets the graduation requirement in California government. When taken with Political Science 305 or 320, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions.

**POL S 322. Politics and Conflict (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.

Nature of interpersonal, group, and societal conflict and mechanisms that can facilitate conflict resolution and bargained agreement.

**POL S 331. American Indian Political Experience (3)**

(Same course as American Indian Studies 331)

Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or American Indian Studies 110.

Social and political responses to dominant group policies by American Indian as compared to other minority groups.

**POL S 333. Politics of Race and Ethnicity (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.

Complexity of identity politics, addressing issues as discrimination, integration, immigration, and fair political representation.

**POL S 334. Politics of the Environment (3) [GE]**

(Same course as Sustainability 334)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Environmental politics and policy in historical and comparative non-dominant perspective. Alternative environmental world views, cases/materials on sustainability, climate change, social and racial justice, globalization and developing nations.

**POL S 335. Public Policy (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.

Principles and practice of American policy making, to include analysis of social problems and the policies developed to address them.

**POL S 336. Women's Issues in the American Political Process (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

American politics and public policy debates around women participating in politics, including support of and restrictions to feminism, legal strategies, and new understandings of public and private issues.

**POL S 338. The Legislative Process (3)**

Detailed analysis of legislatures. Special attention devoted to impact of dynamic factors on formal procedures. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 346. Law and the Political System (3)**

Courts as political institutions and judges as political actors. Dynamics of civil and criminal litigation. Law and politics, judicial selection, and impact of political factors on judicial decisions.

**POL S 347A. American Constitutional Law: Institutional Powers and Constraints (3) [AI]**

Substantive principles of American constitutional law. Constitutionally provided powers of and constraints on government action as defined by the United States Supreme Court. May include study of judicial review, commerce clause, federalism, and separation of powers. Satisfies graduation requirement in United States Constitution.

**POL S 347B. American Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (3) [AI]**

Substantive principles of American constitutional law. Civil rights and liberties protected by the Constitution against government action. May include discussion of freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, as well as defendants' rights and protection from discrimination. Satisfies graduation requirement in United States Constitution.

**POL S 348. The Supreme Court and Contemporary Issues (3)**

Recent decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States and their relationship to contemporary political and social issues. Not open to students with credit in both Political Science 347A and 347B.

**POL S 422. Urban Politics (3) [AI]**

Politics and policy issues in urban areas to include central cities and suburbs. Urban sprawl, suburbanization, local/state/federal relations, regional governance, and local electoral dynamics. Urban policy issues to include public safety, housing, and transportation. Meets graduation requirement in California state and local government. Will satisfy all requirements in American Institutions when taken with Political Science 102, 305, or 320.

**POL S 425. Political Behavior (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.

Social and attitudinal variables in political behavior. Quantitative research data as used in electoral studies. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 426. Political Communication (3)**

Communication as a political process; the effects of political communication on individuals and groups. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 428. Campaigns and Elections (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.

Campaigns and elections are essential to proper functioning of democracy. Theories concerning decision-making processes of individual voters, actors who seek to influence electoral outcomes, and the strategies used by organized political campaigns in attempt to affect voting behavior.

**POL S 430. Immigration and Border Politics (3) [GE]**

(Same course as Latin American Studies 430)

Prerequisites: Completion of the American Institutions requirement and the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

U.S. immigration and border politics within a global and historical perspective. Transformations of sovereignty, communities, identity, and rights within an era of mass migration and economic interdependence. Policy and popular debates about admission, border control, and the incorporation of migrants.

**POL S 435. Power and Poverty in the United States (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Impact of government upon income inequality and poverty in the United States. Examines programs of U.S. welfare state in comparative perspective and their successes and failures. Minimum standards for distributional justice and inquiries into obligations we have toward our fellow citizens.

**POL S 436. The American Presidency (3)**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102.

Analysis of principal institutions, functions and problems of the presidency and federal executive branch. Attention given to presidential leadership, staffing, executive-legislative relations and policy formation.

**POL S 440. Food Justice (3)**

(Same course as Geography 440)

Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or Geography 102.

Food justice from perspectives of theory, institutions, markets, law, ethics, social mobilization, politics, and ecology. Political strategies, capabilities of food justice organizations; movements aimed at creating fair, healthy, sustainable food systems locally and globally.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES**  
(Intended for Senior and Graduate Students)  
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

**POL S 530. Political Parties (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or 320.

The political party as a part of the process of government; party organization and activities; nominating and campaign methods; theories and functions of the party system; party responsibility. The functioning of political parties in the American political system. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 531. Interest Groups and Political Movements (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 102.

Pressure group activity, lobbies, mass movements; factors which explain origins and motivations of group behavior; votes, money, information, protest as political resources; theories of pluralism, power elite and mass society; class and ethnic politics. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 533. Democracy in America (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or 320.

Quality and quantity of democratic experience in contemporary America. Construction of American regime, arrangement of power within that regime, expansion and contraction of citizen participation, and principles that Americans generally espouse.

**POL S 535. Gender and Politics (3)**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102.

How gender matters in understanding key political science concepts including democracy, public/private participation and representation. Women involved in political institutions as elected officials, activists, and policy makers from U.S. and comparative perspectives.

**POL S 541. Special Problems in Public Law (3)**

Prerequisite: Three units selected from Political Science 346, 347A, 347B, or 348.

Issues of contemporary relevance in field of public law, examining legal, moral, and political implications.

**Field III: Comparative Politics**

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES**  
(Intended for Undergraduates)

**POL S 356. Politics of Europe (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

The politics and government systems of Europe, addressing differences and similarities across the advanced industrial countries of the region and the evolving role of the European Union.

**POL S 359. Government and Politics of Russia and the Commonwealth (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Contemporary developments in Russia and states of former Soviet Union. Focus on Gorbachev era and post-Gorbachev transformations of political, economic, and social systems.

**POL S 361. Governments and Politics of the Developing Areas (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 or 103; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Internal political systems, governmental structures and the foreign policies of developing nations.

**POL S 362. Governments and Politics of East Asia (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

The internal political structure and foreign policies of China, Japan, and Korea.

**POL S 363. Governments and Politics of the Middle East (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

The governmental and political structures of representative states in the Middle East including Turkey, Israel, and the Arab states.

**POL S 364. Political Change in Modern Africa (3)**

Dynamics of social and political change in modern Africa.

**POL S 365. Chinese Politics (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Government and political changes in China and Taiwan since 1949; state-society relations and economic development in China and Taiwan; relationship between mainland China, Taiwan, and world powers.

**POL S 366. Latin American Politics (3)**

(Same course as Latin American Studies 366)

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Introduction to Latin American politics. Knowledge of political change and political systems in Latin America, viewed historically and comparatively, using concepts and theories applicable to more general political analysis.

**POL S 370. Political Violence (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101, 102 or 103; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Underlying conditions, expressions, and consequences of violence within political systems.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES**  
(Intended for Senior and Graduate Students)  
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

**POL S 555. Comparative Political Systems (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 103.

An examination of selected political and governmental systems for purposes of comparative study and analysis to determine similarities, differences and general patterns and universals among political systems.

**POL S 560. Comparative Public Policy (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 103 or 335.

How political, social, and economic forces shape public policy in selected countries. Focus on policies related to minority and immigrant populations, environment, or poverty.

**POL S 562. Religion and Politics in Comparative Perspective (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 103.

Various types of relationships between contemporary states and religious institutions. Concepts and theories on religion and politics. Cases of state-religion interaction.

**POL S 564. Political Ecology of Latin America (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.

Ecology and politics of Latin America and the Caribbean. Environmental politics with related policy challenges of economic growth, equity, and social justice.

**POL S 565. Nations and Nationalism (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.

Debates surrounding origins, meaning and future of nationalism, and its most common embodiment, the nation-state form. Theoretical analyses of phenomenon and empirical case studies.

**POL S 566. Political Change in Latin America (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 103.

General pattern of politics and political development in Latin America with an emphasis on those features which condition domestic and foreign policy making.

**POL S 568. Mexican Politics (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 103.

Principal factors in Mexican governmental decision making. Ideology, political groups, tactics of leaders and governmental structure.

**Field IV: International Politics**

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES  
(Intended for Undergraduates)**

**POL S 375. International Relations: Theory and Practice (3)**

Prevailing and critical theories of international relations and application to historical developments and contemporary issues in global affairs.

**POL S 380. Human Rights in a Global Perspective (3)**

Historical development of international human rights standards and global, political, moral, and legal debates concerning when and how to implement human rights standards.

**POL S 393. Hostler Institute on World Affairs (3)**

Exploration of a particular theme in global politics, such as global justice. Selected weeks of guest lectures from prominent scholars, diplomats, and activists.

**POL S 478. Conduct of American Foreign Relations (3)**

Institutional arrangements by which American foreign policy decisions are formulated and implemented. Issues confronted by American foreign policy decision makers.

**POL S 479. National Security Policy (3)**

Objectives, instruments, and consequences of national security policy.

**POL S 482. United States-Latin American Relations (3)**

Diplomatic, military, and political relations between the United States and Latin America. Cold War and its legacies, colonialism and dependency, counter-insurgency, counter-narcotics, and counter-terrorism; economic relations, human rights, military intervention, popular movements, and revolutions.

**POL S 485. Politics of Globalization (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 103 or six units of political science. Ideas and practice of globalization since end of World War II, focusing on political debate around contemporary changes in trade, production, and global social relations, and on impact of globalization on political institutions such as state, civil society, social movements, and democracy.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES  
(Intended for Senior and Graduate Students)  
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)**

**POL S 575. International Relations of the Pacific Rim (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 362 or 375. Dynamics of conflict and cooperation among nations of the Pacific Rim. Stress on political and economics factors that shape interstate relations.

**POL S 577. Politics of International Law (3)**

Relationship of international law to politics. Fundamental principles of international law and normative theories of international law and politics. Historical and contemporary issues.

**Elective Courses**

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES  
(Intended for Undergraduates)**

**POL S 390W. Writing About Politics (3)**

Prerequisites: Satisfies Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement for students who have completed 60 units; completed Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 8 or higher (or earned a grade of C (2.0) or better in Rhetoric and Writing Studies 280, 281 [or Linguistics 281] if score on WPA was 6 or lower); and completed General Education requirements in Composition and Critical Thinking. **Proof of completion of prerequisites required:** Test scores or verification of exemption; copy of transcript.

Writing in various political contexts and settings. Citing sources appropriately, critiquing opposing viewpoints, developing coherent political arguments, providing evidence to support conclusions, and revising. This course may not be used toward the major or minor in political science.

**POL S 450. Study Abroad in Political Science (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing. See Class Schedule for additional prerequisites.

Selected topics in political science. Course taught abroad through a program approved by political science department to include SDSU faculty-led courses abroad. International internships may receive political science credit. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content and geographic location. Maximum credit six units.

**POL S 495. Internship in Local Politics (3)**

Prerequisites: Limited to senior political science majors; three upper division units within Field II.

Seniors in the major choose internships within San Diego County in government agencies, offices of elected officials, or others approved by instructor. Requires 80 hours of fieldwork and periodic analytical essays.

**POL S 496. Experimental Topics (1-4)**

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content and used for field-specific credits for the major as approved by the department. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

**POL S 497A. Senior Thesis Preparation (3)**

Prerequisites: Upper division standing and consent of department thesis adviser. Limited to political science majors with a cumulative 3.0 GPA in upper division political science courses.

Preparation for written thesis to include full literature review and formal research proposal. To be taken prior to Political Science 497B. Not open to students with credit in Political Science 497B.

**POL S 497B. Senior Thesis (3)**

Prerequisites: Political Science 497A and consent of department thesis adviser. Limited to senior political science majors with a cumulative 3.0 GPA in upper division political science courses.

Completion of written thesis. Satisfies capstone requirement for political science majors. Can only be taken following successful completion of Political Science 497A.

**POL S 498. Internship in National Politics (6-12)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Students will be assigned to political agencies in Washington, D.C., such as congressional staffs, interest groups, executive agencies, legal/judicial offices and political party committees. For information on internship opportunities, especially state politics, refer to the internship section on the department website. Maximum credit six units applicable to the major in political science; maximum credit three units applicable to the minor in political science.

**POL S 499. Special Study (1-3)**

Prerequisites: Twelve upper division units in political science and consent of the instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES  
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)**

**POL S 516. Statistics for Political Scientists (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 201.

Does not fulfill undergraduate capstone major requirement. Basic concepts, theories, and methods that are utilized by political and other social scientists using statistics and microcomputers. Intermediate level introduction to statistical methods in political science.

**POL S 596. Topics in Political Science (1-3)**

Prerequisites: Upper division or graduate standing.

Selected topics in political science. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master's degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

**GRADUATE COURSES  
Refer to the *Graduate Bulletin*.**

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