BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Much more than how a bill becomes a law! Explore a variety of topics, including: local, national and international state-society relations; the many faces of power; critical approaches to settler-colonialism; democracy at the polls and in the streets; why gender matters in politics; and theories of citizenship, rights and justice.

OFFERS COURSES IN...
- Canada, China, U.S., Middle East, Europe
- Indigenous politics
- International relations
- Social justice
- Environment and energy
- Populism
- Gender
- Media
- Ethnicity and nationalism
- Global governance

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A POLI SCI DEGREE?

I COULD BE A... policy advisor, politician, lawyer, reporter, social media co-ordinator, foreign service officer, political strategist.

OR WORK IN... government, party politics, business, international development, media, Indigenous policy, education, human rights.

TOP 5 REASONS TO STUDY POLI SCI

1. Apply political ideas, ideals, and information to real-life events. You’ll get ready to offer solutions to crucial local, national, and global issues!
3. Work with a professor on a major research project — it could even be funded! Submit a paper to the Political Science Undergraduate Review.
4. Do an internship in Washington, D.C, or study in historic Cortona, Italy, two of the many opportunities to go abroad.
5. Gain professional experience, network, and consider career options in a full-time paid Arts Work Experience.

ENHANCE YOUR DEGREE

ADD A CERTIFICATE IN:
- Globalization and Governance
- Peace and Post-Conflict Studies
- Engaged Leadership and Citizenship in Arts & Science
- European Studies
- International Learning, Applied Social Science Research.

CONNECT TO EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING:
- Arts Work Experience
- Study Abroad
- Undergraduate Research Initiative
- Internships
- Community Service-Learning.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

These are services that enable you to pursue academic and personal success.

- Academic advising
- Student Ombuds
- Indigenous Student supports
- Academic support
- Health & Wellness
- Campus Food Bank
- Libraries
- International Student supports
- Accessibility Resources
- Financial Aid & Awards
- Professional & Career Development
- Mental Health Supports

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE

The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

BA POLI SCI (MAJOR)

- Required Poli Sci Courses (Major)
- BA Basic Requirements
- Second Major, Minor(s), Certificates, Electives

60% Create your own path. That’s right — 60% of your degree is totally up to you!

Consider adding a double major to your degree!

12.5%

27.5%

DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFO:

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WEBSITE: ualberta.ca/political-science

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BLOG: medium.com/ualberta-arts-insider
YOUTUBE: Ualberta Political Science
FACEBOOK: University of Alberta Political Science
TWITTER: @uabpols

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR MAJOR

Complete your major requirements and test out different classes. Design your academic plan — you’re in control!

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Note: POL S 101 is the prerequisite for most 200-level POL S courses
- POL S 211 - Introduction to History of Political Theory
- POL S 212 - Introduction to Contemporary Political Theory
- POL S 224 - Canadian Government
- POL S 225 - Canadian Politics
- Two of:
  - POL S 235 - Introduction to Comparative Politics
  - POL S 250 - The Politics of Gender
  - POL S 261 - International Relations
- Two POL S courses at the 300- or 400-level
- Two POL S courses at the 400-level.

To verify your Major and BA Common Requirements, check the University Calendar and speak to an advisor.
Gain valuable resources with a part-time or summer job. Check the SU Volunteer Registry for opportunities to contribute to the community.

Make a difference by participating in student government at any level — Political Science, Arts, the Students’ Union. You can run for office or be a campaign manager!

Study abroad in Cortona, Italy, or in an e3 program for guaranteed credit. You can apply for funding.

Improve your French in Quebec or France. Do an U of A-supported internship in Washington, D.C.

Check out the films and talks offered during International Week, or attend a China Institute event.

Learn more about Indigenous peoples, perspectives, and worldviews.

Apply to Arts Work Experience, or International Student Work Experience for paid, professional experience and stronger transferrable skills.

Take courses with Indigenous content to have a critical understanding of politics.

Ask two or three professors to give you references. Use their advice about careers and graduate studies!

Let the Career Centre help you craft a targeted resume and make effective use of social media to prepare for your next steps.

From 400+ student clubs, groups, and teams, pick one that fits your interests, talents, values, goals, or identities.

Use academic resources, such as Financial Aid, Academic Success Centre, Accessibility Resources, U of A International, or the First Peoples’ House.

Submit a paper to a student journal or conference. Each year, Political Science awards support superior work.

Your University experience is about what happens inside and outside of the classroom. This map is a tool to help you complement your academics with hands-on learning outside of the classroom and take advantage of student activities. Each new step will help you explore your options, take measured risks, and inform your next step. Being informed and engaged leads to a richer journey throughout your degree and beyond!