

# Political Science

## The Curriculum

The political science curriculum includes both required and elective courses appropriate for a general liberal arts education and for the major in political science. The core course, American Government, meets the general education requirement in American Institutions and lays a broad analytical framework that may be employed in examining political issues. Other courses in the curriculum meet general education requirements in the social sciences. In addition, courses may be taken to satisfy the requirements for the Associate in Arts degree with a major in political science.

## The Associate Degree Major

Most social, economic, and moral issues have political implications; and governmental policy affects most aspects of daily life. Students who pursue the Associate in Arts degree in Political Science investigate the forms, functions, and problems of local, national, and international governments. Thus the major is appropriate for those considering careers in law, government service, business, communications, and public service. And since exposure to other political systems and ideas is vital in this increasingly interdependent world, students of all interests and backgrounds will find political science courses relevant and of value.

## If you intend to transfer:

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree at Irvine Valley College may not be the same as those required for completing the major at a transfer institution offering a baccalaureate degree. If you plan to transfer to a four-year college or university, you should (1) refer to the transfer section of this catalog, (2) consult the catalog of your prospective transfer institution (see the IVC Transfer Center for assistance), and (3) schedule an appointment with an IVC counselor to develop a plan of study before you begin your program. In addition, it may be helpful to meet with the appropriate department faculty at IVC.

## If you plan to complete an associate degree:

You must complete the following set of courses to fulfill the major requirement and, in addition, meet the general education requirements listed on page 21 for the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree. Refer to page 16 for additional options for fulfilling the major requirement.

## POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR

### (A.A. Degree)

		<i>Units</i>
PS 1	American Government	3
PS 3	California Government and Politics	3
PS 4	Introduction to Political Science	3
PS 5	Politics and Society of the Former Soviet Union	(3)
<i>or</i>	<i>or</i>	
PS 6	Politics and Government of the Middle East	(3)
<i>or</i>	<i>or</i>	
PS 17	Latin American Politics and Government	(3)
<i>or</i>	<i>or</i>	
PS 45†	Survey of Africa	(3)
PS 12	Modern Government	3
PS 14	International Relations	<u>3</u>
	<b>Total units:</b>	<b>18</b>

Recommended electives: *CWE 168; ECON 1, 2, 20; HIST 10, 11, 12, 13, 20, 21, 22; MATH 10; PHIL 2; PS 89, 99, 189, 199, 201, 299.*

†PS 45 is also listed as HIST 45.

## Cooperative Work Experience

**CWE 168** 1-4 units

### **COOPERATIVE WORK EXPERIENCE: POLITICAL SCIENCE**

*Prereq:* Students must have taken or must be currently taking a course in college-level political science. *Limitation:* Students must be concurrently enrolled in seven units, including CWE. They must also complete an application and have it approved by the CWE coordinator.

This course provides students an opportunity for supervised work experience. Students extend their classroom-based learning by working at a job related to their major and to their occupational goal. Student, instructor, and employer will cooperatively develop a minimum of three learning objectives. One unit of credit will be awarded for each 75 hours of paid or 60 hours of volunteer employment for successful completion of learning objectives, and for attendance at scheduled seminar sessions. A maximum of four units may be applied toward political science major requirements. R-I-3

## Political Science Courses

**PS 1** 3 units

### **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**

This course provides a survey of the principles, personalities, problems, and issues of government. Emphasis is on developing trends of the U.S. government. The course may be offered by a mediated mode of instruction. (CAN GOVT 2) NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 3** 3 units

### **CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

This course examines the structure of California state and local governments from a national comparative perspective. Major issues facing the state will be critically examined, such as the economy, immigration, environmental protection, crime, and education. NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 4** 3 units

### **INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE**

This course is an introduction to the study of politics. The course is designed to familiarize the student with the basic systems, ideologies, and models of political analysis. NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 5** 3 units

### **POLITICS AND SOCIETY OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION**

This course surveys the major forces which have shaped the political, economic, and social systems of the former Soviet states. Not only will the formal and informal institutional structures and ideological and historical foundations be covered, but also topics such as *glasnost*, *perestroika*, nationalities, and relations with the West will be of major focus. NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 6** 3 units

### **POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT OF THE MIDDLE EAST**

This course introduces students to the historical, ideological, and social foundations of the governments and politics of the major Middle Eastern states, including Iran, Turkey, Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. Issues of regional and international importance will be explored, including human rights and democratization, economic development, Islamic fundamentalism, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the politics of oil. NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 12** 3 units

### **MODERN GOVERNMENT**

This course includes an introductory examination of the nature of government, its legitimate functions and various forms, and a particular examination of democracy and dictatorship. Examples of modern governments from Western Europe, the Communist world, and the Third World are studied. NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 14** 3 units

### **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

This course studies the international system from a dual perspective, focusing on the central concepts of power politics and political economy. The causes of global political and economic conflicts will be examined, including the North-South gap, war, and nuclear proliferation. Techniques for international cooperation will be critically evaluated, including diplomacy, bargaining, alliances, and the United Nations system. NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 17** 3 units

### **LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT**

This course provides a contemporary analysis of selected Latin American governments, comparing and contrasting the types of politics emerging with our neighbors to the south. Focus will be on Mexico, Cuba, Chile, Brazil, and Argentina. NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 45** 3 units

### **SURVEY OF AFRICA**

This course presents a survey of Africa, particularly as it interrelates with Europe. The course focuses on developments in Africa from the 18th century to the present time. This course is also listed as History 45; credit will be given in either area, not both. NR  
*Lecture hours:* 3

**PS 201** 1.5 units

### **MODEL UNITED NATIONS**

This course introduces students to the theory and practice of international diplomacy through participation in Model United Nations simulations. The course focuses on the history, structure, and functions of the United Nations; international bargaining and diplomacy; conflict resolution; researching and writing position papers and resolutions and public speaking. Students are required to attend a Model United Nations conference. R-E-3  
*Lecture hours:* 1.5

**PS 89** 0.5-5 units

### **SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

This transfer-level course provides an opportunity to explore a topical concept, issue, or event in the field of political science. The course content is thematic in nature, and each version differs from other offerings in the same course. Granting of UC credit for courses of this kind is contingent upon a review of the course outline by a UC campus. R-E  
*Lecture hours:* 0.5-5 *Lab hours:* 0.5-5

**PS 99** 0.5-5 units

### **SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

This transfer-level course explores a particular subject in the field of political science which is likely to become a part of the college curriculum. The course content is thematic in nature, and each version differs from other offerings in the same course. Granting of UC credit for courses of this kind is contingent upon a review of the course outline by a UC campus. R-E  
*Lecture hours:* 0.5-5 *Lab hours:* 0.5-5

**PS 189** 0.5-5 units

### **SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

This course provides an opportunity to explore a topical concept, issue, or event in the field of political science. The course is thematic in nature, and each version differs from other offerings in the same course. R-E  
*Lecture hours:* 0.5-5 *Lab hours:* 0.5-5

**PS 199**

**0.5-5 units**

**SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

This course explores a particular subject in the field of political science which is likely to become a part of the college curriculum. The course content is thematic in nature, and each version differs from other offerings in the same course. R-E

*Lecture hours: 0.5-5    Lab hours: 0.5-5*

**PS 289**

**0.5-5 units**

**SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

This nontransferable course provides an opportunity to explore a topical concept, issue, or event in the field of political science. The course content is thematic in nature, and each version differs from other offerings in the same course. R-E

*Lecture hours: 0.5-5    Lab hours: 0.5-5*

**PS 299**

**0.5-5 units**

**SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

This nontransferable course explores a particular subject in the field of political science which is likely to become a part of the college curriculum. The course content is thematic in nature, and each version differs from other offerings in the same course. R-E

*Lecture hours: 0.5-5    Lab hours: 0.5-5*