

POLITICAL SCIENCE (BA)

CIP: 45.1001

Program Description

The Political Science major at NYU Abu Dhabi attracts students who are interested in the many important political questions—conceptual, empirical, policy-oriented—that societies everywhere face today. How do different political systems affect policy-making? What are the intrinsic and instrumental virtues of democracy?

How could its functioning improve? Why do dictatorships survive in many countries, but evolve into democracies in others? Why do countries go to war? What are the connections between internal conflicts (such as civil war) and political or economic development? What are the main characteristics and causes of economic underdevelopment? Why are prosperity and stagnation distributed so unequally, both across countries and within them?

The student with a passion for questions such as these finds the Political Science major most rewarding. The philosophy underlying the courses has several distinctive features. First, the major has a strong analytical focus, with two required courses that introduce students to statistics and models of political behavior and institutions. These courses provide an introduction to the kinds of tools used by social scientists to conduct a deep analysis of these questions and to test the analysis using quantitative data. Second, the major offers many substantive courses, wherein these analytical tools are applied to important policy questions of considerable current interest. Third, the courses in the major include discussions of classic texts that illuminate both the intellectual history and the broader dimensions of these policy questions. Finally, the major offers several courses jointly with programs in Economics, Psychology, and Philosophy, providing students with exciting interdisciplinary opportunities.

Study Away

The study away pathway for the Political Science major can be found on the NYUAD Student Portal at students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways (<http://students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways/>). Students with questions should contact the Office of Global Education.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see [How to Apply](https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html) (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

Program Requirements

Majors in Political Science take four required Foundations of Social Science courses (Introduction to Political Thinking; Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences; Global Economic, Political, and Social Development since 1500; Social, Political, and Economic Thought), two introductory electives, two methods electives, one breadth elective, and two electives from any of the following areas: Political Theory and Institutions; Comparative Politics; and International Politics. During their senior year, every student majoring in Political Science takes a two-course sequence of seminars, culminating in the production of a Capstone in Political Science. During the first semester, students in Capstone Seminar 1 develop a research question, construct a research

design that allow them to test potential answers to that question, and collect relevant data. During the second semester, in Capstone Seminar 2, students implement their proposed research designs, analyze the results, and write their senior theses.

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
Colloquia		4
First-Year Seminar		4
Arts, Design, and Technology		4
Cultural Exploration Analysis		4
Data and Discovery		4
Structures of Thought and Society		4
J-Term Field Colloquia (2 courses)		6
Required Courses		
SOCSC-UH 1010Q	Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
SOCSC-UH 1011	Global Economic, Political and Social Development (GEPS)	4
SOCSC-UH 1112	Introduction to Political Thinking	4
Select one Social, Political, and Economic Thought (SPET) course		4
Major Electives		
Select 2 Introductory electives		8
Select 2 Methods electives		8
Select 2 Area electives		8
Select 1 Breadth elective		4
Capstone		
POLSC-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
POLSC-UH 4001	Capstone Project	4
Other Electives		
Other Elective Credits		46
Total Credits		128

Electives

Introductory Electives

Code	Title	Credits
CSTS-UH 1095J	Space and the Future of Humankind	4
POLSC-UH 1111	Introduction to Comparative Politics	4
POLSC-UH 1112	Introduction to International Politics	4

Methods Electives

Code	Title	Credits
BUSOR-UH 2004	Data Analytics: Business	4
CS-UH 2219E	Computational Social Science	4
ECON-UH 1410EJ	Research Design, Fieldwork, and Data Analysis for Development Economics	4
ECON-UH 2020	Data Analysis: Economics	4
ECON-UH 3210	Quantitative Methods and Program Evaluation	4
ECON-UH 3912	Economics of Networks	4
POLSC-UH 2211	Data Analysis	4
POLSC-UH 3212	Qualitative Methods in Middle East Politics	4
POLSC-UH 3312JQ	Social Media and Politics	3
SOCSC-UH 2211	Survey Research	4

SOCSC-UH 2212	Research Design & Causality in Social Science	4
SOCSC-UH 2213	Textual Analysis for the Social Sciences	4
SOCSC-UH 2214	Applied Data Science	4
SOCSC-UH 3210	Advanced Game Theory	4
SOCSC-UH 3221EJ	Experimental Research in the Social Sciences	4
SRPP-UH 3214	Social Networks	4

Area Electives

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 1610X	Feminism and Islamism in the Middle East and North Africa	4
BUSOR-UH 1011	Foundations of Leadership	4
CCOL-UH 2013J	Debt and Society	3
CCOL-UH 2031J	Strategies for Civic Inclusion	3
CCOL-UH 2032J	Tropical Forests and the Climate Crisis	3
CDAD-UH 1060EJ	Researching Peace	3
CSTS-UH 1015	Legitimacy	4
CSTS-UH 1021EQ	Boundaries	4
CSTS-UH 1024J	Sovereignty	4
CSTS-UH 1055J	Does Liberal Democracy Have A Future?	3
CSTS-UH 1094	Space Diplomacy	4
CSTS-UH 1109J	International Peacebuilding and the Role of Education	3
CSTS-UH 1131	Gender & Governance	4
HIST-UH 1131	Southeast Asia in the World	4
HIST-UH 2121	Genocide in a Global Perspective	4
LAW-UH 2011	Constitutional and Administrative Law	4
LAW-UH 2124	Human Rights Law	4
LAW-UH 2129	Mooting	4
LAW-UH 2132	Vis Moot Topics	2
LAW-UH 3503	European Union Law	4
PEACE-UH 1117J	Nation-Building in the Shadow of Empire	4
POLSC-UH 1113J	Power in the 21st Century	4
POLSC-UH 1114	War on Terrorism	4
POLSC-UH 2310	Political Psychology	4
POLSC-UH 2311	Political Economy of Institutions	4
POLSC-UH 2312	Political Economy of Development	4
POLSC-UH 2317	Identity and Culture in Politics	4
POLSC-UH 2320J	Diversity and Society	4
POLSC-UH 2323J	Suffering and Politics	4
POLSC-UH 2324J	Politics of Belonging: Membership, Communities, Nations, and Boundaries	4
POLSC-UH 2325J	Revolution	4
POLSC-UH 2327	Political Parties	4
POLSC-UH 2410X	Comparative Politics of the Middle East	4
POLSC-UH 2411	Politics, Social Change & Development in South Asia	4
POLSC-UH 2412	Power and Politics in America	4
POLSC-UH 2414	African Politics	4
POLSC-UH 2420J	From Abraham the Patriarch to the Abraham Accord	3
POLSC-UH 2421X	Political Economy of the Middle East	4

POLSC-UH 2422X	North African Politics	4
POLSC-UH 2423	Media and Politics	4
POLSC-UH 2425J	The Age of New Nationalisms	3
POLSC-UH 2426	Comparative Politics of Industrialized Democracies	4
POLSC-UH 2427J	Practicing Politics in the Age of Disruption	4
POLSC-UH 2428J	Democracy In Britain: Crisis and Change in the United Kingdom	3
POLSC-UH 2429	Latin American Politics	4
POLSC-UH 2511	International Organizations	4
POLSC-UH 2517Q	Modeling Politics and International Relations	4
POLSC-UH 2519	Nuclear Politics	4
POLSC-UH 2525J	Power Relations Theory	4
POLSC-UH 2528	International Diplomacy in Theory and Practice	4
POLSC-UH 2529J	Moving Towards Net Zero While Delivering the Sustainable Development Goals	4
POLSC-UH 2910	Business, Politics, and Society	4
POLSC-UH 3313	Making and Breaking Elections	4
POLSC-UH 3412	Making Sense of US Politics Today	4
POLSC-UH 3413	Foreign Policy Analysis	4
POLSC-UH 3510	Money in Global Politics: Politics of global trade, finance, and development.	4
POLSC-UH 3512	Civil Wars and International Intervention	4
POLSC-UH 3516J	Surviving the 21st Century: Power and Statecraft in the Digital Age	4
PSYCH-UH 3619EQ	Lab in Psychology of Economic Inequality	4
SOCSC-UH 3220	Econometrics	4
SRPP-UH 2417	Global Stratification	4
SRPP-UH 2612X	State Formation: The Case of the United Arab Emirates	4

Breadth Electives

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 2614X	Colonization of Palestine	4
CCOL-UH 2013J	Debt and Society	3
CCOL-UH 2031J	Strategies for Civic Inclusion	3
CCOL-UH 2032J	Tropical Forests and the Climate Crisis	3
CSTS-UH 1086J	Nation and Empire	4
CSTS-UH 1096J	Climate/Change	4
CSTS-UH 1109J	International Peacebuilding and the Role of Education	3
ECON-UH 1701	Economics of Gender	4
ECON-UH 2320E	Experimental Economics	4
ECON-UH 2410	Development Economics	4
ECON-UH 4000	Economic Policy	4
HIST-UH 2121	Genocide in a Global Perspective	4
HIST-UH 3319	African American Freedom Struggle	4
LAW-UH 2011	Constitutional and Administrative Law	4
LAW-UH 2124	Human Rights Law	4
LAW-UH 2129	Mooting	4
LAW-UH 2132	Vis Moot Topics	2
LAW-UH 2133	Vis Moot Part II: International Arbitration Competition	2

LAW-UH 3503	European Union Law	4
PEACE-UH 1011	Foundations of Peace: Economic and Political Perspectives	4
PEACE-UH 1117J	Nation-Building in the Shadow of Empire	4
POLSC-UH 2310	Political Psychology	4
POLSC-UH 2420J	From Abraham the Patriarch to the Abraham Accord	3
POLSC-UH 2529J	Moving Towards Net Zero While Delivering the Sustainable Development Goals	4
POLSC-UH 2910	Business, Politics, and Society	4
POLSC-UH 2911	Environmental Politics	4
POLSC-UH 2912	Politics of Natural Resources	4
POLSC-UH 2914J	Anglo/American Politics, Policy and Public Opinion	4
PSYCH-UH 3619EQ	Lab in Psychology of Economic Inequality	4
SRPP-UH 1618J	Political Abdications	4
SRPP-UH 1818	Gender, Policy and Politics	4
SRPP-UH 1819J	Sports and the Political	4
SRPP-UH 2213JQ	Sports and Society	4
SRPP-UH 2412X	Islamist Social Movements in the Middle East	4
SRPP-UH 2417	Global Stratification	4
SRPP-UH 2418	Politics and Society	4
SRPP-UH 2611	Social Policy	4
SRPP-UH 2614X	Women and Work in the Gulf	4
SRPP-UH 2619	Leadership and Diplomacy	4

Social, Political, and Economic Thought (SPET)

Code	Title	Credits
HERST-UH 1301J	Cultural Heritage and Mass Atrocities	4
HIST-UH 3321J	Atlantic Moments in the Making of the American Republic	4
PHIL-UH 2614	Political Philosophy	4
SOCSC-UH 1310	Foundations of Modern Social Thought	4
SOCSC-UH 1311	Introduction to Political Theory	4
SOCSC-UH 1312	Modern Social Theory in Comparative Perspective	4
SOCSC-UH 1313	Perspectives on Democracy	4

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
Colloquia		4
First-Year Seminar		4
Core Course		4
Core Course		4
Physical Education		0
Credits		16
2nd Semester/Term		
J-Term Field Colloquia		3
Credits		3
3rd Semester/Term		
SOCSC-UH 1010Q	Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
Major Elective		4
Physical Education		0
Core Course		4
Core Course		4
Credits		16

4th Semester/Term		
SOCSC-UH 1011	Global Economic, Political and Social Development	4
Major Elective		4
Major Elective		4
Elective Course		4
Credits		16
5th Semester/Term		
J-Term Field Colloquia		3
Credits		3
6th Semester/Term		
SOCSC-UH 1112	Introduction to Political Thinking	4
Social, Political, and Economic Thought (SPET) course		4
Major Elective		4
Major Elective		4
Credits		16
7th Semester/Term		
Major Elective		4
Major Elective		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Credits		16
8th Semester/Term		
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Credits		16
9th Semester/Term		
POLSC-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		2
Credits		14
10th Semester/Term		
POLSC-UH 4001	Capstone Project	4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Credits		12
Total Credits		128

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the NYU Abu Dhabi Political Science degree, all graduates are expected to be able to demonstrate:

1. Capacity to engage the professional literature and acquire familiarity with analytical concepts and principles that are essential for political thinking and understanding of political phenomena.
2. Ability to compare and analyze political systems, the structure of political institutions, and the role of political actors in shaping political life.
3. Ability to use the central concepts and methods to analyze international relations and patterns of conflict and cooperation in international affairs as well as ability to describe strategic interactions of states, international organizations, and non-state actors across a variety of substantive domains, including war, terrorism, trade, finance, environment, and human rights.
4. Distinguish systematic normative inquiry from other kinds of inquiry within the discipline of political science and ability to apply abstract theory to concrete problems by using the ideas of political theorists

to address contemporary social issues such as affirmative action and capital punishment.

5. Information technology skills to collect data, present, and document empirical regularities in a wide range of social phenomena, with a particular emphasis on politics.
6. Ability to analyze data and employ qualitative and quantitative methods including research design to conduct rigorous investigation and analysis of a wide range of social phenomena, with a particular emphasis on politics.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

NYU Abu Dhabi Policies

A full list of relevant policies can be found on NYU Abu Dhabi's undergraduate academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/abu-dhabi/academic-policies/>).