

# 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.

## Foundations of Social Science

Foundations of Social Science (FSS) has four components that focus on (1) intellectual traditions in the social sciences (Social, Political, and Economic Theory: SPET), (2) global development in historical perspective (Social, Political, and Economic History: SPEH), (3) quantitative reasoning and numeracy, and (4) gateway courses into the majors.

Students come to NYUAD with a great diversity of backgrounds in terms of their grasp of societal and economic development and globalization, with a vision that is often narrowed by regional foci of high school curricula. FSS is designed to broaden and amplify students' understandings of the world and global processes. Required and elective courses in each of the majors will be able to build on this foundation, thereby fostering intellectual growth.

Beyond their role in the programs, Foundations of Social Science courses are open to all students and will deliver high value to any student curious about the development of societies and social thought; the substance and skills students learn in these courses will be applicable across the liberal arts spectrum. They are designed to foster informed world citizenship.

## Study Away

The study away pathway can be found on the NYUAD Student Portal at [students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways](http://students.nyuad.nyu.edu/pathways)

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

Course	Title	Credits
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
Physical Education (2 courses)		
Quantitative Reasoning (1 course)		
Experimental Inquiry (1 course)		
Islamic Studies (1 course)		
First-Year Writing Seminar	4	
Colloquia	4	
Field Colloquia (2 J-Term courses)	6	
<b>Core Competencies</b>		
Arts, Design, and Technology	4	
Cultural Exploration Analysis	4	
Data and Discovery	4	
Structures of Thought and Society	4	
<b>Major Required Courses</b>		
SOCSC-UH 1010Q	Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
SOCSC-UH 1112	Introduction to Political Thinking	4
Complete 1 Social, Political, and Economic Theory (SPET) course (see list below)		4
Complete 1 Social, Political, and Economic History (SPEH) course (see list below)		4
<b>Major Electives (see lists below)</b>		
Complete 2 Introductory electives		8
Complete 2 Methods electives		8
Complete 2 Area electives		8
Complete 1 Breadth elective		4
<b>Capstone</b>		
POLSC-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
POLSC-UH 4001	Capstone Project	4
<b>Other Electives</b>		
Complete enough courses to reach the minimum overall required credits	128	46
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>128</b>
<b>Social, Political, and Economic Thought (SPET)</b>		
Code	Title	Credits
CSTS-UH 1015	Legitimacy	4
CSTS-UH 1097	Justice	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	POLSC-UH 2311	Political Economy of Institutions	4
SOCSC-UH 1314	Sociological Theory	4	POLSC-UH 2312	Political Economy of Development	4

## Social, Political, and Economic History (SPEH) courses

Course	Title	Credits			
CSTS-UH 1012	Wealth of Nations	4	POLSC-UH 2410X	Comparative Politics of the Middle East	4
CSTS-UH 1021EQ	Boundaries	4	POLSC-UH 2411	Politics, Social Change & Development in South Asia	4
CSTS-UH 1043	Great Divergence	4	POLSC-UH 2412	Power and Politics in America	4
CSTS-UH 1125X	Law and Empire	4	POLSC-UH 2414	African Politics	4
ECON-UH 1112	Introduction to Macroeconomics	4	POLSC-UH 2421X	Political Economy of the Middle East	4
HIST-UH 2010	History and Globalization	4	POLSC-UH 2422X	North African Politics	4
SOCSC-UH 1011	Global Economic, Political and Social Development	4	POLSC-UH 2423	Media and Politics	4
Electives			POLSC-UH 2426	Comparative Politics of Industrialized Democracies	4
			POLSC-UH 2429	Latin American Politics	4

## Introductory Electives

Code	Title	Credits			
POLSC-UH 1111	Introduction to Comparative Politics	4	POLSC-UH 2511	International Organizations	4
POLSC-UH 1112	Introduction to International Politics	4	POLSC-UH 2517Q	Modeling Politics and International Relations	4

## Methods Electives

Code	Title	Credits			
BUSOR-UH 2004	Data Analytics: Business	4	POLSC-UH 3413	Foreign Policy Analysis	4
CDAD-UH 1078EQ	Inclusive Data Literacy	4	POLSC-UH 3510	Money in Global Politics: Politics of global trade, finance, and development.	4
CS-UH 2219E	Computational Social Science	4	POLSC-UH 3512	Civil Wars and International Intervention	4
ECON-UH 2020	Data Analysis: Economics	4	PSYCH-UH 3619EQ	Lab in Psychology of Economic Inequality	4
ECON-UH 3210	Quantitative Methods and Program Evaluation	4	SOCSC-UH 3220	Econometrics	4
ECON-UH 3912	Economics of Networks	4	SRPP-UH 2612X	State Formation: The Case of the United Arab Emirates	4
POLSC-UH 2211	Data Analysis	4			
POLSC-UH 3212	Qualitative Methods in Middle East Politics	4			
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			
SRPP-UH 2214	Interview Methods	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	ACS-UH 2614X	Colonization of Palestine	4
BUSOR-UH 1011	Foundations of Leadership	4	ECON-UH 1701	Economics of Gender	4
CSTS-UH 1015	Legitimacy	4	ECON-UH 2320E	Experimental Economics	4
CSTS-UH 1094	Space Diplomacy	4	ECON-UH 2410	Development Economics	4
CSTS-UH 1129	Environment & Politics	4	ECON-UH 4000	Economic Policy	4
CSTS-UH 1131	Gender & Governance	4	HIST-UH 1105	Africa in the World	4
HIST-UH 1131	Southeast Asia in the World	4	HIST-UH 1110	Colonial Latin America and the Atlantic World	4
HIST-UH 2121	Genocide in a Global Perspective	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 2114	Climate Change Law and Policy	4	LAW-UH 2129	Mooting	4
LAW-UH 3503	European Union Law	4	LAW-UH 2132	Vis Moot Topics	2
POLSC-UH 1114	War on Terrorism	4	LAW-UH 2133	Vis Moot Part II: International Arbitration Competition	2
POLSC-UH 2310	Political Psychology	4	LAW-UH 3503	European Union Law	4

SRPP-UH 1818	Gender, Policy and Politics	4
SRPP-UH 2412X	Islamist Social Movements in the Middle East	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

<b>10th Semester/Term</b>	
POLSC-UH 4001	Capstone Project
General Elective	4
General Elective	4
	<b>Credits</b>
	<b>Total Credits</b>
	<b>128</b>

## Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
<b>1st Semester/Term</b>		
First-Year Writing Seminar		4
Core Competency		4
Core Competency		4
General Elective		4
Physical Education		
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>2nd Semester/Term</b>		
Field Colloquia (J-Term)		3
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3rd Semester/Term</b>		
SOCSC-UH 1010Q	Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
Major Elective		4
Core Competency		4
Core Competency		4
Physical Education		
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4th Semester/Term</b>		
Social, Political, and Economic History (SPEH) course		4
Major Elective		4
Major Elective		4
Colloquia		4
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>5th Semester/Term</b>		
Field Colloquia (J-Term)		3
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>6th Semester/Term</b>		
SOCSC-UH 1112	Introduction to Political Thinking	4
Social, Political, and Economic Theory (SPET) course		4
Major Elective		4
Major Elective		4
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>7th Semester/Term</b>		
Major Elective		4
Major Elective		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>8th Semester/Term</b>		
General Elective		4
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9th Semester/Term</b>		
POLSC-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		2
	<b>Credits</b>	<b>14</b>

## 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/>).