Bachelor of Arts

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The Political Economy major studies the relationship between government, society, and the economy in a holistic manner from a multi-disciplinary perspective. Political Economy majors investigate how real-world market systems are embedded in both politics and society. Students graduate with a mastery of a broad range of contemporary analyses as well as a deep understanding of classic works of political economy.

The major’s unique characteristic is the concentration; each student selects a series of four courses that directly addresses a question that they would like to investigate. The program has both pre-designed concentrations as well as the possibility for a self-designed one.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Study and intern in Washington D.C. with UCDC or Cal in the Capital.
- Engage with political economy issues firsthand through study abroad.
- Complete a major paper or capstone project as part of an optional Senior Thesis.
- Apply to the year-long Honors Program.

To impact today’s world that’s undergoing rapid and tectonic shifts, the Political Economy degree provides exactly what’s needed: a deep and nuanced understanding of the multidimensional relationship between theory and practice, as well as ideology and impact.

- Toby Frankenstein, Class of 2006

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit vcue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.
**FIRST YEAR**

- Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plan.
- Complete the Online Major Declaration Workshop for an overview of the PE major. Consult the Political Economy Handbook to learn about major requirements and policies.
- Enroll in ECON 1 or 2 and GLOBAL 45.
- Get started on the foreign language requirement.

**SECOND YEAR**

- Enroll in GLOBAL 45 if you did not take the course in your first year.
- Complete lower division prerequisites and declare the major.
- Continue with the foreign language requirement.
- Discuss potential concentrations with your major advisor and review major guidelines for study abroad.

**THIRD YEAR**

- Declare the Political Economy major.
- Focus on upper division requirements such as POLECON 100 and 101.
- Review your Academic Progress Report in CalCentral to stay on track to graduate.
- Ask your major advisor about the optional Honors Program or the optional Senior Thesis.

**FOURTH YEAR**

- Review your Academic Progress Report in CalCentral to ensure you are on track to graduate.
- Complete any "bucket list" courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.

**Explore your major**

- Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plan.
- Complete the Online Major Declaration Workshop for an overview of the PE major. Consult the Political Economy Handbook to learn about major requirements and policies.
- Enroll in ECON 1 or 2 and GLOBAL 45.
- Get started on the foreign language requirement.

**Connect and build community**

- Get involved with Berkeley Connect and L&S Mentors Program.
- Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center.
- Enroll in UGIS 98: College Success in L&S.
- Stay updated with News and Notes, the departmental newsletter.

**Discover your passions**

- Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar such as Political Economy 24, L&S 5, or a student-run DeCal course.
- Attend the Undergraduate Research and Scholarships Fair in October.
- Explore related minors such as Global Studies, Global Poverty & Practice, and Public Policy.

**Engage locally and globally**

- Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.
- Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
- Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.

**Reflect and plan your future**

- Visit the Career Center and Career Counseling Library.
- Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail.
- Explore career fields through the Career Connections Networking Series or a winter externship.
- Check out career resources on the Political Economy website.

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?**

Political Economy students graduate with a broad-based liberal arts background as well as the intellectual skills appropriate for careers in the public or private sector or for graduate study.

**Jobs and Employers**

- Analyst, Dropbox
- Blockchain Ecosystem Manager, BASF
- Consultant Analyst, Accenture
- Digital Strategy Analyst, Adobe
- Fellow, California State Assembly
- Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley
- Founder, Blue Mercury
- Management Analyst, City of Richmond
- Paralegal, Hawkins Delafield & Wood
- Policy Specialist, Google
- Public Sector Strategy Analyst, Deloitte
- Tax Associate, ACC CPA
- Teacher, Public and Private Schools

**Graduate Programs**

- Anthropology, PhD
- Environmental Studies, PhD
- Information Technology, Masters
- International Relations and Global Studies, MS/PhD
- Law, JD
- Management Information Systems, Masters
- Political Science, PhD
- Public Policy, MA
- Sociology, PhD

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.