



Photo credit: Elena Zhukova

## CONNECT WITH US

### Cal Day

Come to UC Berkeley's annual **Open House** in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

### Golden Bear Orientation

Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley **orientation** program for all new students.

### Events

Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit [polisci.berkeley.edu](http://polisci.berkeley.edu) for news and updates.

## ADVISING

Students can contact the advising office to schedule an appointment or ask questions at [psadvise@berkeley.edu](mailto:psadvise@berkeley.edu).

### Advising Drop-In Hours

Monday - Friday, 9am-12pm, 1:30-4pm

## 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 [ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps](http://ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps) for the latest version of this major map.

**Berkeley**

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# POLITICAL SCIENCE

Bachelor of Arts

**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

## INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The **Political Science** major is concerned with the exercise of power in its myriad forms and consequences. Students explore central issues such as the ethical problems attendant to the exercise of power; the history of important political ideas; the impact of different forces on the operation of politics; the features of the US political system; and international interactions and the causes of war and peace.

The major is offered by the Charles and Louise Travers Department of Political Science in the College of Letters and Science.



Photo credit: Peg Skorpinski

**“Poli Sci develops analytical capacities to critically think about how to address social issues and articulate how to implement ideas about state-society relations.”**

– Political Science Major

## THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The undergraduate program is designed for a diverse population of students, including those with a broad but as yet unfocused interest in politics, those aiming to attend law school or business school, and those intending to pursue an advanced graduate degree in political science. Students receive a common substantive and analytical foundation in political science, and are able to pursue diverse interests at the upper division level, most notably through the specialization requirement. Finally, the most ambitious and high-achieving students have the opportunity to undertake advanced research under the close guidance of a faculty member through the junior seminars and senior honors program.

## AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Get involved with the **Undergraduate Political Science Association**.
- Pursue a **research opportunity**.
- Enroll in a junior seminar (PS 191), small, faculty-led seminars designed to develop research and writing skills.
- Attend the **Travers Conference on Ethics and Accountability in Government**.
- Participate in talks offered by the **Institute of Governmental Studies**.

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

Bachelor of Arts

## DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY

	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR	FOURTH YEAR	WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?
<b>Explore</b> your major	<p>Meet with your <b>major</b> and <b>college advisor</b> to discuss your academic plans.</p> <p>Familiarize yourself with <b>major</b> and <b>college requirements</b>.</p> <p>Explore <b>subfields</b> within the major and start taking Political Science <b>major requirements</b>.</p>	<p>Complete the <b>introductory course requirement</b> (two of the following: PS 1, PS 2, PS 4, PS 5) no later than the first semester of your sophomore year and <b>declare the major</b>.</p> <p>Complete breadth and American Cultures requirements, and lower division electives.</p> <p>Review <b>major guidelines for study abroad</b> and look into <b>Political Science programs</b>.</p>	<p>Focus on upper division requirements and electives. Complete the <b>distribution and subfield requirements</b> by the end of your junior year.</p> <p>Review your degree progress with your major and college advisors.</p> <p>Ask your advisor about Junior Seminars and the <b>Honors Program in Political Science</b>.</p>	<p>Do a <b>degree check</b> to ensure you are on track to graduate.</p> <p>Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and <b>campus requirements</b>.</p> <p>Participate in the <b>Political Science Commencement Ceremony</b> with your peers.</p>	<p><b>Jobs and Employers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auditor Evaluator, California State Auditor</li> <li>Case Manager, Kerosky Purves &amp; Bogue</li> <li>Consultant, PwC</li> <li>Data Analyst, Bluelabs</li> <li>Legal Assistant, Google</li> <li>Paralegal, US Dept. of Justice</li> <li>Research Analyst, National Research Group</li> <li>Staff Analyst, Ernst and Young LLP</li> <li>Staff Assistant, House of Representatives</li> <li>Teacher, Fort Bend ISD</li> </ul> <p><b>Graduate Programs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education, MA</li> <li>International Relations &amp; Affairs, MA</li> <li>Journalism, MA</li> <li>Law, JD</li> <li>Philosophy, MA</li> <li>Political Science, PhD</li> <li>Public Policy Analysis, MA</li> <li>Public Administration, MA</li> </ul> <p>Examples gathered from the <b>First Destination Survey</b> of recent Berkeley graduates.</p>
<b>Connect</b> and build community	<p>Get 1:1 mentoring with <b>Berkeley Connect</b> and <b>L&amp;S Mentors Program</b>.</p> <p>Find study groups and support at the <b>Student Learning Center</b> and <b>SLC Social Science Program</b>.</p> <p>Check out the <b>Basic Needs Center</b> and the <b>Recalibrate</b> website.</p>	<p>Join a <b>student organization</b> such as the <b>Undergraduate Political Science Association</b>.</p> <p>Sign up for the Political Science <b>email list</b> and start attending department <b>events</b>.</p> <p>Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.</p>	<p>Attend department-sponsored <b>lecture series, seminars, and colloquia</b>.</p> <p>Pre-Law? Check out the Pre-Law student organizations on campus through <b>CaLink</b>.</p> <p>Explore <b>centers and institutes</b> affiliated with the department.</p>	<p>Join a professional association such as the <b>American Political Science Association</b>.</p> <p>Connect with <b>alumni groups</b> and build your <b>network</b> as you prepare to graduate.</p>	
<b>Discover</b> your passions	<p>Explore the interdisciplinary <b>Big Ideas</b> courses.</p> <p>Attend the Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Fair in October.</p> <p>Learn about <b>research opportunities</b> for Political Science majors.</p>	<p>Assist in faculty research through <b>URAP</b>.</p> <p>Explore new interests with a <b>certificate, course thread, or summer minor</b>.</p> <p>Interested in public policy? Check out the <b>minor</b> and <b>summer institute</b> at the Goldman School of Public Policy.</p>	<p>Find research and funding opportunities in the <b>OURS database</b>.</p> <p>Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the <b>Haas Scholars Program</b> or <b>SURF</b>.</p> <p>Connect with faculty members who share your research interests.</p>	<p>Teach your own <b>DeCal course</b>.</p> <p>Undertake an optional honors thesis or <b>independent study</b> and submit your work to the <b>Berkeley Undergraduate Journal</b>.</p> <p>Keep pursuing your interests through a <b>fellowship</b> or gap year after graduation.</p>	
<b>Engage</b> locally and globally	<p>Attend the <b>Calapalooza</b> fair and get involved with a student organization.</p> <p>Find service opportunities at the <b>Public Service Center</b>.</p> <p>Explore opportunities abroad with <b>Berkeley Study Abroad</b>.</p> <p>Check out events at the <b>Commonwealth Club</b>.</p>	<p>Look for opportunities to volunteer on campus and in the Berkeley community.</p> <p>Get involved in student government to represent your fellow students and develop leadership skills.</p> <p>Discuss future study abroad plans with your major advisors.</p> <p>Attend the <b>Travers Conference on Ethics and Accountability in Government</b>.</p>	<p>Study and intern in Washington D.C. with <b>UCDC</b> or <b>Cal in the Capital</b> or in Sacramento with <b>Cal in Sacramento</b>.</p> <p>Consider applying for the <b>Travers Family Undergraduate Fellowship</b>.</p> <p>Look into the <b>Alternative Breaks</b> program and/or summer internship opportunities.</p>	<p>Hone your leadership skills with the <b>Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program</b>.</p> <p>Interested in a public service career? Apply for the <b>John Gardner Fellowship</b>.</p> <p>Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as <b>Peace Corps, Teach for America, Americorps</b> or <b>U.S. Department of State</b>.</p>	
<b>Reflect</b> and plan your future	<p>Visit <b>Berkeley Career Engagement</b> and the <b>Career Counseling Library</b>.</p> <p><b>Develop a plan</b> for getting career ready.</p> <p>Sign up for <b>Handshake</b> and <b>CareerMail</b>.</p> <p>Explore <b>career fields</b> in the <b>Career Connections Networking Series</b> or a winter <b>externship</b>.</p>	<p>Reflect on your education so far and continue to set goals for yourself.</p> <p>Discuss career options and goals with a <b>Career Educator</b>.</p> <p>Think about doing an <b>internship</b> and attend an <b>internship fair</b>.</p> <p>Learn about <b>graduate and professional school</b>. See <b>Step-by-Step</b> for planning help.</p>	<p>Update your resume and <b>LinkedIn</b> profile.</p> <p>Discuss post-graduate options with advisors and professors.</p> <p>Attend <b>career and graduate school fairs</b>.</p>	<p>Utilize <b>job board tools</b> in your job search.</p> <p>Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters.</p> <p>Meet employers at <b>Employer Info Sessions</b> and <b>On-Campus Recruiting</b>.</p> <p>Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.</p>	