

# POLITICAL SCIENCE, ASSOCIATE IN ARTS DEGREE

**Banner Code:** 2\_AA\_POLS

**Financial Aid Eligible**

Political science, the systematic and rigorous study of government, public policy and of the political behavior of individuals, groups, and institutions, is becoming increasingly crucial in a complex and controversial world. Most social, economic and moral issues have political implications; and governmental policy affects most aspects of daily life. The goal of the Associate of Arts Degree in Political Science is to provide students with an understanding of the American political system and other political systems within the context of global forces, international conflicts, ideological systems and diversity. Courses in this major are designed to introduce students to the field of political science and the primary subfields of political science and to equip students with specialized research and analytical skills necessary to examine political issues. This analytical framework will familiarize students with more generalized communication and problem solving skills sufficient to allow them to make valuable contributions to any vocation or enterprise they pursue. Students will be prepared for a baccalaureate degree in Political Science. The successful student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of important findings, theories, and changing issues relevant to political science; demonstrate critical thinking about political issues and evaluate theories' and arguments' major assertions, background assumptions, the evidence used to support assertions, and their explanatory value; utilize appropriate investigative methods and appropriate technologies to access relevant research; manage information and prepare and present their work effectively.

## Program Level Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of important findings, theories, and changing issues relevant to political science.
2. Demonstrate critical thinking about political issues by evaluating the major assertions, background assumptions and the evidence used to support assertions, as well as their explanatory value.
3. Utilize appropriate investigative methods and appropriate technologies to access relevant research.
4. Manage information and prepare and present their work effectively.

Review Graduation Requirements (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/golden-west/graduation-requirements/associate-degree/>) and General Education (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/golden-west/general-education/>).

Course	Title	Units
<b>Required Courses</b>		
<i>Select three of the following:</i>		9
PSCI G180	American Government	3
PSCI G110	International Relations	3
PSCI G185	Comparative Politics	3
PSCI G150	Political Theory	3
<b>List A</b>		
<i>Select one of the following:</i>		3-4
MATH G160	Introduction To Statistics	4

Course	Title	Units
PSYC G140	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	4
ECON G160	Statistics for Business and Economics	3
<b>List B</b>		
<i>Select two from the following:</i>		6
GLST G101	Introduction to Global Studies	3
GLST G102	Global Issues	3
PSCI G101	Survey Of Current Issues	3
PSCI G100	Introduction To Political Science	3
PSCI G130	Law In American Society	3
HIST G180	Western Civilization 1	3
HIST G185	Western Civilization 2	3
HIST G161	World History 1	3
HIST G162	World History 2	3
ECON G170	Principles of Microeconomics	3
ECON G175	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
ECON G130	Environmental Economics and Policy	3
<b>Major Total</b>		<b>18-19</b>
<b>GE Pattern (Local, CSU GE-Breadth, or IGETC)</b>		<b>18-39</b>
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>60</b>

## Recommended Program Sequence

These sequences are general course maps for students to finish all major and general education requirements for two-year completion of degrees, completion of short-term certificates, and/or fulfillment of transfer requirements. However, this may not be an appropriate path for all students. The two-year sequence is based on English and Math placement and meeting other course prerequisites. **Students are advised to meet with a GWC Counselor to review course selections and sequences to ensure that completion of this program will meet a student's transfer and career goals.**

**Students are advised to use the IGETC pattern of general education when pursuing this AA degree. Students are advised to speak with a GWC Counselor to identify specific requirements for transfer.**

### Year 1:

Course	Title	Units
<b>Semester 1</b>		
CMST G110	Public Speaking	3
or CMST G100	Interpersonal Communication	
ENGL G100	Freshman Composition <sup>^</sup>	4
Area 3A: Arts course		3
or Area 3B: Humanities course (HIST G161, HIST G162, HIST G180, or HIST G185) recommended		
UC Transferable elective coursework for a total of 3 units		3
<i>Select one of the following:</i>		3
PSCI G180	American Government (recommended)	3
PSCI G110	International Relations	3
PSCI G185	Comparative Politics	3
<b>Units</b>		<b>16</b>

Course	Title	Units
<b>Semester 2</b>		
MATH G160	Introduction To Statistics	3-4
or PSYC G140	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	

Course	Title	Units
or ECON G160	Statistics for Business and Economics	
PHIL G125	Critical Reasoning and Writing (or Area 1B: Critical Thinking course)	3-4
UC Transferable elective coursework for a total of 6 units		6
<i>Select one of the following NOT already taken:</i>		3
PSCI G110	International Relations	3
PSCI G180	American Government	3
PSCI G185	Comparative Politics	3
<i>Units</i>		15-17

**Year 2:**

Course	Title	Units
<b>Semester 3</b>		
Area 5A: Physical Science course (with or without lab) *		3-4
Area 3: Arts & Humanities course		3
UC Transferable elective coursework for a total of 3 units		3
<i>Select one of the following NOT already taken:</i>		3
PSCI G110	International Relations	3
PSCI G150	Political Theory	3
or PHIL G150	Political Theory	
PSCI G185	Comparative Politics	3
<i>Select one of the following NOT already taken:</i>		3
GLST G101	Introduction to Global Studies	3
GLST G102	Global Issues	3
PSCI G101	Survey Of Current Issues	3
PSCI G100	Introduction To Political Science	3
PSCI G130	Law In American Society	3
HIST G180	Western Civilization 1	3
HIST G185	Western Civilization 2	3
HIST G161	World History 1	3
HIST G162	World History 2	3
ECON G170	Principles of Microeconomics	3
ECON G175	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
ECON G130	Environmental Economics and Policy	3
<i>Units</i>		15-16

Course	Title	Units
<b>Semester 4</b>		
Area 5B: Life Science course (with or without lab) *		3-4
Area 4: Social & Behavioral Sciences course (other than PSCI, if not already satisfied with Major course)		3
Area 6: Ethnic Studies course		3
UC Transferable elective coursework to reach a minimum of 60 units		
<i>Select one of the following NOT already taken:</i>		3
GLST G101	Introduction to Global Studies	3
GLST G102	Global Issues	3
PSCI G100	Introduction To Political Science	3
PSCI G101	Survey Of Current Issues	3
PSCI G110	International Relations	3
PSCI G130	Law In American Society	3
PSCI G150	Political Theory	3

Course	Title	Units
HIST G161	World History 1	3
HIST G162	World History 2	3
HIST G180	Western Civilization 1	3
HIST G185	Western Civilization 2	3
ECON G170	Principles of Microeconomics	3
ECON G175	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
ECON G130	Environmental Economics and Policy	3
<i>Units</i>		12-14
<b>Total minimum units required</b>		<b>60</b>

<sup>^</sup> Program sequence may not be recommended for students who self-place into ENGL G100S. Students should see a Counselor for appropriate advisement.