

What is Political Science?

Are you interested in American politics? International affairs? Critical issues such as health, the environment, and civil rights? If so, you should consider studying political science. Political Science is the study of governments, public policies and political processes. Political Science uses both humanistic and social scientific perspectives to examine the ideal forms of government, and how power and resources are allocated in societies throughout the world.

Contemporary issues in Political Science: Democracy and Human Rights, Elections and Political Campaigns, Power, Violence and War, Social Movements and Justice, Government Institutions, Legitimacy and Authority, Political Culture, Political Parties and Interest Groups, Public Policy, and Globalization.

Where does my path start?

You will complete an Associate of Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA) at Shoreline.

Use the AA -DTA **Degree Planning Guide** to understand the requirements for graduation.

Once you complete your Shoreline degree, you can transfer to a four-year school to earn a baccalaureate degree in Political Science.

Political Science is also an excellent major for graduate studies in Public Administration, Public Policy, Law, Business and Education.

Where can I go for help?

Political Science Faculty Advisors

Larry Fuell 206-533-6750
lfuell@shoreline.edu Rm 5383

Terry Taylor 206-546-4589
ttaylor@shoreline.edu Rm 5343

Career Planning
www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/

General Academic Advising

FOSS (5000) Building, Rm. 5229
206-546-4559

advising@shoreline.edu
www.shoreline.edu/advising

International Student Academic Advising

9000 Building, Rm. 9302
206-546-4697

leadvisors@shoreline.edu
www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/

Where can I transfer?

Students can transfer to a number of public and private colleges and universities in the U.S., but the Direct Transfer Agreement applies only within Washington. The following colleges in Washington offer a bachelor’s degree in Political Science, which may require specific courses for admission. Contact the Political Science department at your chosen four-year school(s) for more information.

[Central Washington University](#)
[Eastern Washington University](#)
[Gonzaga University](#)
[Northwest University](#)
[Pacific Lutheran University](#)
[Saint Martin’s University](#)

[Seattle Pacific University](#)
[Seattle University](#)
[The Evergreen State College](#)
[University of Puget Sound](#)
[University of Washington – Seattle](#)
[University of Washington – Bothell*](#)

[University of Washington – Tacoma*](#)
[Washington State University](#)
[Western Washington University](#)
[Whitman College](#)
[Whitworth University](#)
**Interdisciplinary*

What can I do with a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science?

Students who major in Political Science gain the knowledge and skills that can be applied to a wide range of careers. For example, political scientists become lawyers, elected officials, city managers, lobbyists, public policy analysts, researchers, professors, mediators, policy planners, public relations specialists and journalists.

Potential employers include: Local, State and Federal Government, Political Parties and Campaigns, Political Action Committees, Law Firms, Law Enforcement Agencies, Colleges and Universities, Business and Industry, Foreign Service, International Organizations, Public Advocacy Groups, Non-Profit Organizations, Foundations, Newspapers, Radio and TV Stations. For more, please visit <http://www.shoreline.edu/counseling-services/career-counseling.aspx>

What courses should I take?*

Below are recommendations for fulfilling the AA-DTA requirements if you are planning to pursue a four-year degree in Political Science.

Strongly Recommended

These are commonly **required** for admission. Check with your chosen four-year program(s) to confirm.

Other Recommendations

These courses are well-matched with this major, but are not commonly required for admission.

I. GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Quant. and Symb. Reasoning	--	MATH &146
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II. DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

Humanities	--	CMST &220; World Language if required for university admission or graduation.
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Natural Sciences	--	PHIL &120
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Social Sciences	POLS &101, &202	ECON &201, 202, INTST 200, 201
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III. GENERAL ELECTIVES

POLS &203	POLS 221, 276, CJ &101; World Language if required for university admission or graduation.
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What does your chosen four-year school require?

Before choosing classes, become familiar with the four-year program where you want to apply: visit the website, email the department, and/or speak with a Shoreline advisor. Below are examples from Washington schools with different admissions and graduation requirements. Check with the school for world language requirements. (Non-native speakers of English are often exempt from this requirement.).

School	Degrees	Requirements	SCC Courses
Central Washington University	B.A in Political Science		POLS &101, &202, &203, 276
Seattle University	B.A. in Political Science with specialization in Legal Studies		POLS &202, &203, 221, 276, INTST 200, ECON &201, &202
University of Washington – Seattle	B.A. in Political Science with option in Political Economy	Program offers four major areas of study: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations and Political Theory. Admission requirements – three Political Science courses with a minimum 2.0 grade in each course	POLS &101, &202, &203
Washington State University – Pullman	B.A. in Political Science	Program offers three major options: General Political Science, Global Politics, or Pre-Law. Pre Law requirements: CJ &101, PHIL &106, ECON &201 and CMST &220.	POLS &202, &203
Western Washington University	B.A. in Political Science	Program offers majors in Political Science, Political Science/Economies, Politics/Philosophy/Economies, and Political Science/Social Studies. Admission requirements – three Political Science courses with a 2.7 grade in each course.	POLS &101, &202, &203

**** This unofficial guide is intended to support you as you prepare for your major. Please consult with an advisor and your chosen four-year school(s), as program and admissions requirements vary and may change without notice.**