The Political Science major is designed to enhance students’ knowledge of politics, policy, governance, and government ranging from a global to a local perspective. It will help them become knowledgeable citizens capable of reasoned judgments on political issues and ideas.

Political Science examines the role of law and the courts in the functioning of government. Students compare processes and concepts of different political systems and also study major theories and explanations of interactions between nations. The major explores concepts of justice, roles and organization of governments, as well as the relationship between government and citizens.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN ABOUT IN THIS MAJOR?

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IN THIS MAJOR YOU WILL

A. **Form** and express cogent arguments as you engage in intellectually grounded debate.

B. **Communicate** reasoned judgments on political issues and ideas.

C. **Initiate, develop, and present** independent research.

D. **Demonstrate** familiarity with the major theories and ideas of the following Political Science subfields:
   1. Law & Courts
   2. Comparative Politics
   3. International Relations
   4. Political Theory & Philosophy
   5. Urban Politics & Policy
   6. American Politics & Government

FIRST COURSES IN THE MAJOR

**POL 101** is the required prerequisite for the major - an introduction to the essentials of American politics and government.

Take one course from each of these five areas:
Law, Courts & Politics, Political Theory, Urban Politics & Public Policy, International/Comparative, American Politics

See further major requirements at:
http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academics/644.php

“*The human is by nature a political animal.*”
— Aristotle, Politics
WHAT CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS WILL YOU DEVELOP IN THIS MAJOR?

- Social and political analysis
- Legal reasoning
- Persuasive writing
- Data interpretation and evaluation

DEPENDING ON YOUR INTERESTS, WHAT MINOR MIGHT BE A GOOD COMPLEMENT TO THIS MAJOR?

- English
- History
- Philosophy
- Human Rights

For more information about minors, go to: http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academics/662.php

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES WILL THIS MAJOR OFFER YOU?

Public Affairs Internships

- **POL 406**: a 6-credit internship for a full semester in New York City with an elected official, city agency, or relevant non-profit organization, 12-16 hours each week, along with a weekly senior seminar at John Jay

- **POL 407**: a 12-credit residency internship in the Albany New York State Assembly for a full 16 week Spring term, 35 hours per week

- **POL 408**: a 6-credit competitive scholarship internship in Washington, D.C. for 6-week Summer term, 35 hours per week, along with weekly academic assignments

Research Assistantships

- Participate in faculty research

THIS MAJOR CAN BE A GREAT FOUNDATION FOR A WIDE RANGE OF JOBS, BUT SOME POSSIBILITIES TO CONSIDER ARE:

- Administrator (corporate, govt , nonprofit)
- Attorney
- CIA Analyst or Agent
- City Planner
- Corporate Advisor for Govt Relations
- International Research Specialist
- Journalist
- Legislative Analyst/Coordinator
- Policy Analyst
- Public Affairs Research Analyst
- Political Commentator
- Research Analyst
- State Legislator
- Teacher
- University Administrator
- Urban Policy Planner
- Web Content Editor

For more detailed information on these career ideas and for additional ones, contact:

**Center for Career & Professional Development**
(L.72.00 New Building)
Phone: 212.237.8754
Email: careers@jjay.cuny.edu
http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/1614.php