**MAJOR**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**
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**CO-COORDINATORS**
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See all major requirements at: [www.jjay.cuny.edu/political-science-major-resources](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/political-science-major-resources)

**WHAT WILL YOU LEARN IN THIS MAJOR?**

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 includes a number of subfields. Topics of study include the role of law and courts in the functioning of government; comparative examinations of different political systems; and theories of interactions between nations. The major also exposes students to concepts of justice, citizenship, and participation, among others.

**IN THIS MAJOR YOU WILL**

- **Form** and express cogent arguments as you engage in intellectually grounded debate.
- **Communicate** reasoned judgments on political issues and ideas.
- **Initiate**, develop, and present independent research.
- **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**

**Political Science (POL) 101**: American Government and Politics provides an essential foundation for all other courses in this major.

Students in the POL major are able to choose courses from five areas: Law, Courts & Politics, Political Theory, Urban Politics & Public Policy, International/Comparative, American Politics. They can focus more on one area if they like, or pick from a variety of areas, depending on their interests.

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“The human is by nature a political animal.”

— Aristotle, Politics
WHAT CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS WILL YOU DEVELOP IN THIS MAJOR?
- Social and political analysis
- Logical reasoning
- Persuasive writing
- Data interpretation and evaluation

WHAT MINOR MIGHT BE A GOOD COMPLEMENT TO THIS MAJOR?
- English
- History
- Philosophy
- Human Rights

For more information about minors, go to: www.jjay.cuny.edu/minors

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 (POL 385 & POL 386)

THIS MAJOR CAN BE A GREAT FOUNDATION FOR A WIDE RANGE OF JOBS, BUT SOME POSSIBILITIES TO CONSIDER ARE:
- Foreign Services Officer
- Financial Consultant
- City Planner
- Government Relations Specialist
- International Research Specialist
- Journalist
- Legislative Analyst/Lobbyist
- Policy Analyst
- Public Affairs Research Analyst
- Polling/Survey Analyst
- University Professor
- Urban Policy Planner
- State Legislator
- Teacher
- Attorney

Since 2014, nearly 30% of all law school-bound John Jay graduates majored in Political Science or Law and Society, according to National Student Clearinghouse data. Both majors provide an excellent foundation for graduate study in law.

“My Political Science classes led me to pay attention to what is going on in the larger world of politics, where the great questions of justice and the common good are argued and decided.”
— Political Science Major

For more detailed information about careers, contact:
Center for Career & Professional Development (New Building, L.72.00)
| 212-237-8754 |
careers@jjay.cuny.edu
www.jjay.cuny.edu/center-career-professional-development