The political science degree program offered at ASU's West campus goes beyond a basic understanding of the American political system, helping you develop the necessary research skills needed to analyze complex sociopolitical issues. With these skills, you will be prepared for graduate study or law school as well as immediate career opportunities in public administration.

**Program Description**

The School of Social and Behavioral Sciences offers a BS in political science in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at ASU's West campus.

Political science is the study of governmental practices, politics and theories. Coursework in the political science program covers American institutions, international relations, political theory and world affairs. The program helps students gain a basic understanding of the assumptions underlying political science and develop the necessary research skills for analyzing complex sociopolitical issues. In addition to coursework, students learn through internships, service-learning and research opportunities. The Bachelor of Science degree differs from the Bachelor of Arts degree in that it requires an additional statistics course and a methods course.

Graduates of this program are prepared for work as analysts or aides in local, state or national legislative offices, among other roles. Many graduates go on to law school or graduate programs in political science, social science, urban planning or public administration.

This major is eligible for the Western Undergraduate Exchange program at the following location: West campus. Students from Western states who select this major and campus may be eligible for reduced nonresident tuition at a rate of 150% of Arizona resident tuition plus all applicable fees. Students should click the link for more information and eligibility requirements of [the WUE program](#).

**At a Glance**

- **College/School:** [New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences](#)
Required Courses (Major Map)

2020 - 2021 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

- Communication Studies, MA
- Global Management, MGM
- Interdisciplinary Studies, MA
- Social Justice and Human Rights, MA

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students will be advised by their academic departments to apply.

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
Freshman | Transfer | International | Readmission

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options
ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU™ to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience
Students can experience firsthand the diverse political and social powers affecting communities around the globe through study abroad. Students in political science can enhance their learning by gaining a global perspective on political theory and world affairs. With over 250 programs available, studying abroad allows students to tailor their experience to their unique interests and skillsets. Programs exist in a diverse range of countries, from those ruled by communism to monarchical regimes. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

The political science curriculum provides a solid background for employment in a relevant profession and prepares students for graduate work in:

- political science
- professional schools
- social science disciplines
- urban planning

The program serves as a good precursor to staff, manager or policy analyst positions in local, state and federal governments. This degree is recognized as qualification for many careers in business (for-profit and nonprofit) and industry. Work may include binational, cross-border positions linking U.S. and Mexican businesses, Arizona-Sonora local governments or local community groups on both sides of the border. Many students use the degree as a gateway to law school or basis for further study in such applied fields as:

- community development
- public administration
- public policy
- urban affairs
- urban and regional planning
Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Planner</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>$46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Programs Specialist</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>$44,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>$133,840</td>
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<td>Law Clerk</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
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<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal Court Hearing Officer</td>
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<td>Mediator</td>
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<td>Political Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Politician</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Planner</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

🌟 Bright Outlook  🌿 Green Occupation

**Contact Information**

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