

Political Science: Bachelor of Arts Major and Minor

Faculty of Arts	kpu.ca/arts
Political Science	kpu.ca/arts/political-science
Implementation Date	01-Jan-2014
Start Date(s)	January May
Admission Type	Selective entry
Enrolment Type	Open enrolment
Program Type	Undergraduate
Credential Granted	Baccalaureate Degree
Offered At	Langley Richmond Surrey
Format	Full-time Part-time
How to Apply	www.kpu.ca/admission

DESCRIPTION

Political Science is the study of *power* in all its forms. Since power relationships suffuse all of social life – from the workplace to the family, from the news media to popular culture – practically everything is grist for political analysis; as Aristotle said, we are indeed political animals! Most often, however, political scientists focus upon power as exercised through governments and states, and, in the international arena, *between* governments and states. Thus, Political Science explores the forces that shape our lives through **public rule**.

Students in the Political Science major or minor begin their study of power with three introductory courses that provide a base of knowledge in a number of areas within the discipline. Early in their studies, students will take a course in research methods to enhance their skills in that area. Additional credits from the 1000 and 2000 level will enrich students' knowledge in a number of comparative and thematic areas. At the 3000 level, students will pursue a detailed examination of various political factors, contexts and phenomena. At the 4000 level, students will explore, in a seminar format, areas of enduring importance in the discipline on a thematic basis. Students in the major program are additionally asked to take at least one "experiential" course enriching their practical skills in oratory and public debating, diplomacy, and policy work, as well as one of three courses designed to deepen their appreciation of the tensions and affinities between the national, trans-national, and global identities and power-structures that define our world.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Political Science instills a range of transferable skills that are highly desirable in many fields of professional life. Specifically, graduates with a B.A. in Political Science often find careers in the public sector (government departments and semi-independent agencies), partisan politics, the foreign service, international agencies and non-governmental organizations, law, independent research organizations and think tanks, and advocacy groups, as well as journalism, labour unions, education, and business. The breadth of the discipline also leaves students extremely well-

positioned for graduate study, whether in Political Science, law, or related fields.

Famous Political Science graduates include:

- U.S. President Barack Obama;
- Former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton;
- Former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney
- Donald Fehr, Executive Director of the NHL Players' Association;
- Christine Lagarde, Managing Director, International Monetary Fund
- Kevin Newman, news anchor, *Global National*;
- Jeffrey Simpson, *Globe and Mail* National Affairs Columnist;
- Paul Wells, *Maclean's* magazine Senior Columnist;
- Mark Parker, CEO of Nike Inc;
- Steve Case, co-founder and former CEO of AOL;

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to KPU's General university admission requirements, including the undergraduate-level English Proficiency Requirement, the following program admission requirements apply:

Year One Admission:

- English 12 with a 'B' (or equivalent)
- Mathematics:
 - Minimum grade of 'C' in Pre-Calculus 11, Principles of Mathematics 11, or Applications of Mathematics 12 (or equivalent); or
 - Minimum grade of 'C+' in Foundations of Mathematics 11 (or equivalent); or
 - Minimum grade of 'C-' in Pre-Calculus 12 or Foundations of Mathematics 12 (or equivalent)

Year Three Admission:

- 60 credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 (including all 1100- and 2000-level major/minor program requirements).
- Grade of 'C' in all required 1000- and 2000-level courses, including the English writing requirement (ENGL 1100 and one of either ENGL 1202 or 1204, or equivalent).
- Two Quantitative courses (total of six or more credits).
- 12 credits of breadth courses
- Mathematics:
 - Minimum grade of 'C' in Pre-Calculus 11, Principles of Mathematics 11, or Applications of Mathematics 12 (or equivalent); or
 - Minimum grade of 'C+' in Foundations of Mathematics 11 (or equivalent); or
 - Minimum grade of 'C-' in Pre-Calculus 12 or Foundations of Mathematics 12 (or equivalent); or
 - Minimum grade of 'C+' in the above Two Quantitative courses (three credits of which must be from the Faculty of Science & Horticulture)
- Second language at the Grade 11 level or 6 credits of post-secondary language courses in the same language. Note: Students need only achieve a passing grade to fulfill this requirement. Beginner's or Introductory Language 11 courses are ineligible to meet this requirement. Students who

can demonstrate competency in a second language may request an assessment to have this requirement waived.

Qualifying Year

Students who do not qualify upon initial application to KPU may be eligible for entry to the Qualifying Year. Students who possess at least a 'C' in English 12 (or equivalent) and a passing grade in either Pre-Calculus 11, Principles of Math 11, Foundations of Mathematics 11, Applications of Math 12 (or equivalents) will be able to apply for entry to the BA Qualifying Year. Students will be admitted to the BA program in the second year provided they have successfully completed appropriate qualifying courses. Other applicants who do not qualify are encouraged to consult an Educational Advisor for the appropriate qualifying courses that satisfy the application criteria.

CONTINUANCE REQUIREMENTS

Current BA students must meet the following requirements to continue into their 3rd year of study. Registration access to third or fourth year courses is first awarded to students who have completed the following:

- 60 credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 (including all 1100- and 2000-level major/minor program requirements).
- Grade of 'C' in all required 1000- and 2000-level courses, including the English writing requirement (ENGL 1100 and one of either ENGL 1202 or 1204, or equivalent).
- Two Quantitative courses (total of six or more credits).
- 12 credits of breadth courses
- Second language at the Grade 11 level or 6 credits of post-secondary language courses in the same language. Note: Students need only achieve a passing grade to fulfill this requirement. Beginner's or Introductory Language 11 courses are ineligible to meet this requirement. Students who can demonstrate competency in a second language may request an assessment to have this requirement waived.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree must complete all requirements in the Bachelor of Arts framework in addition to their major or minor program requirements.

Political Science Major

Students must complete a total of 45 credits from political science courses as detailed below.

1100- AND 2000-LEVEL

At least 15 credits must be at the 1100- or 2000-level and include:

At least 9 credits chosen from:

POLI 1110	Ideology and Politics	3 credits
POLI 1120	Canadian Government and Politics	3 credits
POLI 1125	Introduction to Political Science	3 credits
POLI 1145	Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics	3 credits
POLI 1150	Introduction to International Relations	3 credits

And at least 6 credits chosen from:

POLI 2100	Sustainability and Government	3 credits
POLI 2121	Law and Politics: The Charter of Rights and Freedoms	3 credits
POLI 2140	Comparative Politics of Asia	3 credits
POLI 2150	States, Markets, Globalization: International Political Economy	3 credits
POLI 2155	War, Crime, and Violence: Contemporary Political Conflict	3 credits
POLI 2200	Classic Thinkers: History of Political Thought	3 credits
POLI 2235	British Columbia Government and Politics	3 credits

And:

SOCI 2260	Research Methods in Sociology	3 credits
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3000- AND 4000-LEVEL

Students are required to complete 30 credits of POLI courses at the 3000# and 4000#level, of which at least 9 must be at the 4000#level. Students completing the Political Science Cooperative Education option require 28 credits of POLI courses at the 3000# and 4000#level, of which at least 9 must be at the 4000#level.

At least 3 credits chosen from:

POLI 3131	The Politics of Continental Integration	3 credits
POLI 3160	International Organization	3 credits
POLI 4225	Nationhood, Nationalism and Beyond (under development)	3 credits

And 3 credits chosen from*:

POLI 3500	Public Debates in Politics	3 credits
POLI 4510	Practicum in Political Science (under development)†	3 credits

And at least 9 credits:

POLI courses number 4000 or higher	9 credits
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* Students completing the Political Science Cooperative Education option are not required to complete this requirement.

† Students may also request course substitution for POLI 4110 or POST 4110.

STREAMS

Students can choose to focus their studies within Political Science in different ways. There are courses that fit into the International Studies "stream" and the North American Studies "stream." These streams are not separate credentials or noted on your official transcript, but can indicate to possible graduate programs or employers your area of interest.

International Studies stream North American Studies stream

- POLI 1150
- POLI 1120

- POLI 2150
- POLI 2155
- POLI 3131
- POLI 3160
- POLI 3147
- POLI 3199
- POLI 4145
- POLI 4330
- POLI 4340
- POLI 4500
- POLI 1123
- POLI 2100
- POLI 2235
- POLI 3100
- POLI 3122
- POLI 3125
- POLI 3150
- POLI 3190
- POLI 4125

Political Science Minor

YEARS 1 AND 2

Students are required to complete all of the following courses:

POLI 1120	Canadian Government and Politics	3 credits
POLI 1125	Introduction to Political Science	3 credits
POLI 1150	Introduction to International Relations	3 credits
SOCI 2260	Research Methods in Sociology	3 credits

In addition, students are required to complete at least one of the following:

POLI 1110	Ideology and Politics	3 credits
POLI 1123	Politics in the City	3 credits
POLI 1145	Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics	3 credits
POLI 2120	Government & Politics of the Prairie Provinces	3 credits
POLI 2121	Law and Politics: The Charter of Rights and Freedoms	3 credits
POLI 2130	International Relations Theory	3 credits
POLI 2131	European Integration	3 credits
POLI 2140	Comparative Politics of Asia	3 credits
POLI 2150	States, Markets, Globalization: International Political Economy	3 credits
POLI 2155	War, Crime, and Violence: Contemporary Political Conflict	3 credits
POLI 2200	Classic Thinkers: History of Political Thought	3 credits
POLI 2235	British Columbia Government and Politics	3 credits

YEARS THREE AND FOUR

Students are required to complete at least five from the following, with at least two each from the 3000 and the 4000 level:

POLI 3100	American Government and Politics	3 credits
POLI 3122	Introduction to Canadian Foreign Policy	3 credits
POLI 3125	Nation and Identity in Canadian Politics	3 credits
POLI 3131	The Politics of Continental Integration	3 credits
POLI 3146	Government and Politics of India	3 credits
POLI 3147	Foreign Policies of the Major Powers	3 credits
POLI 3150	American Foreign Policy	3 credits
POLI 3160	International Organization	3 credits
POLI 3170	International Peacekeeping	3 credits
POLI 3199	Selected Topics in International Politics	3 credits
POLI 3240	Chinese Government and Politics	3 credits
POLI 3500	Public Debates in Politics	3 credits
POLI 4110	Advanced Applied Policy Seminar	3 credits
POLI 4125	The Politics of Multiculturalism in Canada	3 credits
POLI 4145	Border Regions and Trans-Border Politics	3 credits
POLI 4210	Democracy: Classic and Contemporary Debates	3 credits
POLI 4330	International Human Rights	3 credits
POLI 4340	Public International Law	3 credits
POLI 4420	Issues in Public Policy and Administration	3 credits
POLI 4500	Model United Nations	3 credits

CREDENTIAL AWARDED

Upon successful completion of the major program students are eligible to receive a **Bachelor of Arts**. Transcripts will indicate a **Major in Political Science**.

Upon successful completion of the minor as part of a Bachelor of Arts program, transcripts will indicate a **Minor in Political Science**.