

Political Science Undergraduate Student Handbook  
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Why Study Political Science? The Discipline.....3....



## Why Study Political Science



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BA/MA and BA/MPA programs

You might be able to get your BA and a



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- 1) completed at least three political science courses, one of which must be at the 100-level or above;
- 2) achieved a minimum GPA of 3.3 overall, and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in political science courses;
- 3) rank in the top one-quarter of the relevant class.

One-time membership dues are used to fund chapter activities and the national office, and to provide each member with a distinctive certificate attesting to his or her membership in the society. The faculty adviser to Pi Sigma Alpha is Dr. Ian M. Hartshorn.

For more information, see Pi Sigma Alpha's national website at: [www.pisigmaalpha.org/](http://www.pisigmaalpha.org/)

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Interested in international politics and affairs? Have you ever wondered how countries negotiate in formal settings? How do they persuade other countries to go along with their proposals? How much informal politicking goes on behind the formal presentations and votes? How effective are they at ameliorating critical problems such as famines and civil war? Find out and learn by participating in the Model United Nations, and by taking our IAFF 300 Model United Nations

course. Students in the Model UN course have the option of participating in the regional Model UN conference that takes place annually in late spring in San Francisco. Thanks to the generosity of the Judy Nowland & Harry M. Chase, Jr. Scholarship Endowment, the Department of Political Science has adequate funding to pay students' travel expenditures.

For more information, please contact Dr. Nicholas Seltzer, [nseltzer@unr.edu](mailto:nseltzer@unr.edu).

## Scholarships

The generosity of alumni and other donors allows the Department of Political Science to offer several scholarships to political science and international affairs students. The Adam Gr(p)-0.78423.2 (l8.001 Tw 5.165 ( a)-3.3 (n)

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## New Student Scholarships

Your application to the University of Nevada, Reno is also your scholarship application. No further applications are required. Applications received by February 1 are given priority consideration.

## Continuing Student Scholarships

If you are a continuing student, to be considered for scholarships and awards, you must complete the Graduate & Undergraduate Scholarship (GUS) Application in your MyNEVADA account between October 1 and February 1 annually by going to Student Center, Supplemental Forms, Scholarship Application. The GUS application is available until May 31 but scholarship application preference is given to those who complete by February 1. The GUS application is required to be eligible for scholarships/awards offered by OISS and many other University departments.

## Career Opportunities

Like all the disciplines in the liberal arts, a degree in political science is not a vocational or professional degree that is intended to provide training for one specific career. Nevertheless, an undergraduate major in political science is appropriate and valuable preparation for a wide variety of careers. Any professional whose work involves the public domain would benefit from the knowledge gained and the critical skills developed as a political science major.

Political science majors follow varied paths after graduation. Majoring in political science can qualify you for many different careers in private, for-profit, and nonprofit organizations, as well as the public sector. Graduates can pursue careers in a variety of fields, including but not limited to:

- law
- consulting
- research
- business and finance
- state, local, and federal government
- elected office and campaign management
- journalism, media, and communications
- community service
- advocacy
- non-governmental and non-profit organizations
- teaching
- medicine

Don't forget UNR's Career Studio for helpful resources on job searches, internships, resume writing, interview coaching, and other things that can help you with your career planning and job search. Faculty in the department are always glad to talk to students about career options—including post-graduate

programs—as well. For those of you interested in Law or Medicine, please talk to one of our advisers early on in your time at UNR, and also get in touch with the [Exploratory and Pre-Professional Advising Center](#) at UNR [www.unr.edu/academicadvising/center](http://www.unr.edu/academicadvising/center).

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- e. ~~SS 4~~ 53 Identity Politics in the United States
  - f. ~~SS 4~~ 53 Issues and Women
  - g
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## 5. Comparative Politics

- a. PSC 214 Comparative Government and Politics
  - b. PSC 404D Comparative Public Administration\*
  - c. PSC 405E Foreign Policies of Major Powers
  - d. PSC 407A Political Systems of Western Europe
  - e. PSC 407B Political Systems of East Asia
  - f. PSC 407C Political Systems of Russia and Central Europe
  - g. PSC 407D Political Systems of the Middle East and North Africa
  - h. PSC 407E Political Systems of Latin America
  - i. PSC 407F Political Systems of China
  - j. PSC 407H Politics and Problems in Developing Areas
  - k. PSC 407I Politics and Problems in Developing Areas
  - l. PSC 407J Nationalism
  - m. PSC 407L Basque Diaspora Studies
  - n. PSC 407P The Middle East and World Affairs\*
  - o. PSC 407T Middle East and World Affairs\*
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Minor Interest Subject (Public Administration and Public Policy) 21 credits

1. PSC 101 American Politics: Process and Behavior
2. PSC 210 American Public Policy
3. PSC 341 Elements of Public Administration
4. 12 additional credits selected from the following but not limited to:
  - x PSC 354 - Politics and Women
  - x PSC 401A Urban Politics
  - x PSC 401M Intergovernmental Relations
  - x PSC 403B Energy Politics and Policy
  - x PSC 403C Environmental Policy
  - x PSC 403E Environmental Law
  - x PSC 403G Land and Water Resource Policy
  - x PSC 403H The Supreme Court and Public Policy
  - x PSC 403J Ethics and Corruption
  - x PSC 403K Problems in American Public Policy
  - x PSC 403M Climate Change
  - x PSC 404B Public Personnel Administration
  - x PSC 404E Theories of Public Administration
  - x PSC 404F Administrative Law
  - x PSC 405P International Political Economy
  - x PSC 490F Public Service Internship (16 credits)

Minor Interest Subject (American Government) 21 credits

1. PSC 101 American Politics: Process and Behavior
  2. PSC 304 The Legislative Process
  3. PSC 305 The American Presidency
  4. PSC 332 The Judicial Process
  5. 9 additional credits selected from the following but not limited to:
    - x PSC 208 Survey of State and Local Government
    - x PSC 353 Identity Politics in the United States
    - x PSC 354 Politics and Women
    - x PSC 401A Urban Politics
    - x PSC 401F Public Opinion and Political Behavior
    - x PSC 401H American Political Parties and Electoral Behavior
    - x PSC 401L Citizen Participation, Pressure Groups, and Political Movements
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