

Advanced Certificates for additional specialization

The Advanced Certificate in Global

Politics provides students with a theoretical and practical foundation in politics within and across regions. Students take core courses introducing them to major traditions in comparative and global politics and to research methods appropriate to their interests. Students also take electives that provide an in-depth look at world regions or issue areas. Our faculty has particular strengths in international law and human rights, imperialism, human migration, transnational activism, development, religion and politics, and ethnic conflict. This advanced certificate is intended for students who wish to pursue careers related to comparative and/or global politics in public or private sectors. (15 units)

The Advanced Certificate in Public Policy

prepares students for professional careers in organizations within or outside of government that engage or analyze public policies. Students take core courses introducing them to major theoretical traditions in Public Policy and Public Administration, research methods. Students also take electives that either provide an indepth look at a policy area (such as immigration, environment, or education) or develop skills through an internship or a thesis project. (15 units)

Top 10 Reasons to Apply:

- 1. Scholarships available for 1st year of study
- 2. Mentorship by accessible, supportive faculty
- 3. Individualized, flexible plans of study to fit your career path
- 4. Certificate programs available for specializations in Comparative and Global Politics, or in Public Policy
- 5. Teaching and research assistantship opportunities
- 6. Courses offered after 4pm for students with daytime commitments
- 7. A politically engaged department committed to local and global social justice
- 8. Diverse, international student body
- 9. Location in a cosmopolitan, culturally rich border region
- 10. Strong record of post-degree placements in jobs and PhD programs.

Contact us

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Graduate Advisor's email address psgrad@mail.sdsu.edu





Department of Political Science Master's Program







Interested in a Master's Degree in Political Science?

The Political Science Department at San Diego State University has a high-quality, flexible master's program designed to meet the needs of a wide range of students:

Those who would like to obtain a PhD.

Our MA proram is an excellent place to begin advanced training in Political Science theory and research methods, to develop a specialized area of expertise, and to try on academic work by carrying out original research in the form of a thesis. Many also gain valuable experience as Teaching Assistants. Our graduates have hit the ground running in top PhD programs around the country.

Those who would like additional training and credentials for a career in government, nonprofit organizations, public interest groups, research organizations or teaching.

Some of our students already have local employment and enroll part-time in order to blend advanced education with their current jobs. Others enroll full-time and use the degree as a tool for entry into their desired field. Our public policy certificate is designed to enhance job placement through an internship in an organization relevant to a student's interests.

Those who enjoy politics and the intellectual stimulation of an academic environment.

Some of our students enter our program without a clear agenda for how they will use the degree, but with a strong interest in politics and a desire to learn and develop intellectually beyond their undergraduate studies.



"My acceptance into the program was a step towards the career I have always strived to obtain, but one that was just beyond my reach.The results of my work were published and presented at the university's research

symposium as well as to city council. The political science department funded my research overseas, and my thesis findings have gained recognition in San Diego and abroad." – Katherine, United States

"My experience at SDSU introduced me to wonderful people, provided me with enormous knowledge, changed my understanding of the world and let me believe in a better future. I think there exists no other program with such amazing, committed and helpful professors, truly unique classes and work opportunities." – Jil, Germany





"The support I have found for my ideas and my academic projects has been unique, and I think is related to the human quality of the faculty members, and to the diverse and flexible nature of the program, that allow you to explore the discipline in its variety and also to focus on your field of interest." – Andrea, Colombia

Program Details

The Political Science Department offers a Master of Arts degree that enrolls a new class every fall. Our recent cohorts have included students from South Korea, Germany, Turkey, Pakistan, France, Brazil, Colombia, Ukraine, Somalia, Iraq, Mexico, as well as the U.S.

The two-year degree is comprised of eleven courses providing students a strong foundation in global politics, comparative and regional politics, theory, and research design. In the past few years our seminars have covered subjects such as critical race theory, imperialism, religion and politics, right-wing movements, gender and politics, immigration and border politics, international law, revolutions, and American democracy.

Scholarship and Other Financial Support

The Political Science Department has several forms of financial support to augment general financial aid or scholarships available from other sources. We have an internal Terhune scholarship that funds awards to incoming students based on merit as well as funding graduate research. All applicants with complete applications by February 15th are automatically considered for a Terhune award. We also nominate our top students for competitive campuswide support. including the University Graduate Fellowship and the Presidential Graduate Research Fellowship. Finally, many of our MA students work in the department as graders or as Teaching Assistants for undergraduate courses, having the opportunity to teach their own breakout sections for our large 100-level classes.