

**AMERICAN POLITICS TRACK**

This track is ideal for students interested in **pursuing a career in American politics, including work in campaigns, the government, and supporting elected officials.** (Keep in mind that completion of these courses alone does not fulfill degree requirements.)

**Possible careers** include working:

- As an elected official in local, state, or national office (many area elected officials are our graduates)
- On the staff of elected officials at the local, state, or national levels working on a wide variety of issues
- As a political campaign organizer and strategist
- In a local, state, and national government department or agency (many senior staff in city or county agencies are our graduates)
- At a nonprofit organization, foundation, or political advocacy organization working on grassroots organizing, social protest, and advocating on social justice issues
- In government relations or lobbying for political interest groups and corporations
- At a newspaper, magazine, film, television, or other media, working on political and governance issues
- At a think tank, research organization, or consulting firm working on local, state, or national political and governance issues
- In education (as a teacher, community college instructor, or university professor)

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Recommended courses for track:

**From the Core** (PLSI 90 should be taken first; when possible, take PLSI 150 before electives; otherwise, take concurrently):

PLSI 90 Methods of Analysis

PLSI 150 Public Policy Analysis

**Electives** (choose any of the following):

State and Local Government

PLSI 103 California Politics

PLSI 160 State and Local Government

PLSI 163 Municipal Government

PLSI 169T Seminar in Metropolitan Government and Politics

Political Behavior and Elections

PLSI 107 Women in U.S. Politics

PLSI 151 Political Participation and Political Parties

PLSI 152 Public Opinion and Political Behavior

PLSI 155 Interest Group Politics

PLSI 156T Topics in Political Behavior (ex. Campaigns and Elections, Political Psychology)

PLSI 159T Seminar in American Politics and Government

PLSI 161 Social Movement Politics

Political Institutions

PLSI 153 Presidential Politics

PLSI 154 Congressional Politics

PLSI 174 Politics and the Court

In addition to the above courses, an internship, as well as writing, communication, and analytical skills will be helpful for a career in this field. Some of the careers above may require further education in the form of a Master's or Ph.D. degree.

For complete information on course and unit requirements to complete a bachelor's degree in Political Science, refer to the course catalogue and the department's website at <http://www.fresnostate.edu/socialsciences/polisci/degrees/index.html>.

*Pursuing any track is optional, and you may switch tracks if your interests or career goals change.*

\*Last updated May 2023