

BACHELOR'S & MASTER'S DEGREES IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF PARIS PANTHEON-SORBONNE



BACHELOR'S DEGREE

(LICENCE)


Contact us

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The University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne houses one of the largest faculties of social sciences and humanities in Europe. The Department of Political Science was created under the leadership of Professor Maurice Duverger. As the oldest department of political science in French academia, it has gained national and international recognition.

Prerequisites for admission to the Bachelor's degree in Political Science

Candidates must have a demonstrated interest in political and social life, political affairs, public institutions and, more widely, in the development of contemporary societies. The curriculum comprises courses in political sociology, political history, public administration, international relations, history of ideas, public policy, communication and political theory. The courses give an important part to the European, transnational and international dimensions of political processes.

Students must also have oral and written expression skills, such as the ability to develop coherent and well-reasoned arguments, both written and oral. Our programme involves the study of texts, which includes academic articles, official documentation, political statements, administrative documents, media productions. This requires a thorough command of the French language, as well as the ability to express analytical thoughts in oral presentations, text commentaries, and personal essays. Students must be able to understand and analyse documents from a variety of sources, including qualitative and quantitative data. In this context, students must demonstrate self-reliance, good organisational skills, and a capacity to build critical analysis based on scientific sources.

The curriculum of the Bachelor programme

During their three years of undergraduate studies, students take courses in a variety of disciplines (including law, economics, sociology and history).

Five different curricula are offered at the Bachelor's level:

- **Political Science Degree.** Students complete three years of advanced study in political science. Our curriculum concentrates on the central themes of political science, including French politics, comparative political institutions, history of political regimes, state and local government, public policy analysis, European institutions and policies, international relations and globalisation, history of political thought, political philosophy, sociology of political parties, political behaviour analysis, gender studies, public and political communication.

Students also receive training in methodology. Teachers teach them to design, develop and implement both qualitative and quantitative approaches. This is a real asset of the political science degree: we have designed a program in which students experience concretely, in empirical work, what they learn in theory.

Our political science department is attentive to the internationalisation of our students. Therefore, our undergraduate programme places special emphasis on foreign language learning. The learning of a foreign language is compulsory in the first year. From the second year onwards, we offer political science courses in English. In the 3rd year, it is also possible to take part in an ERASMUS mobility program covering one or two semesters. The reputation of Paris 1 allows us to offer many exchange opportunities in Europe and around the world.

Four selective curricula are also offered:

- **Double Degree in History and Political Science**
- **Double degree in Philosophy and Political Science**
- **Double Degree in Law and Political Science**
- **Double Degree in Economics and Political Science**

These four three-year programmes provide a broad-based education that does not compromise disciplinary excellence for the sake of widening the field of study. They are divided into six semesters. Each program results in the issuance of two degrees: the bachelor's degree in political science and the bachelor's degree in the other selected discipline (History, Philosophy, Law or Economics). After graduation, our students can choose to pursue a Master's degree in either discipline. We would like to draw your attention to the heavy workload associated with these four curricula (approximately 140% of a bachelor's degree) and to the high standards expected.

Career opportunities

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in political science, students can take competitive exams. The main asset of our programme is its consistency and compliance with the topics and prerequisites of the French and European public service entrance exams.

The Bachelor's degree also allows students to access the Master's level, in order to develop their analytical skills and knowledge with a view to accessing high-level professional opportunities. The Department of Political Science offers a range of nine Master's specialisations, but our graduates can also apply to other Master's programmes at the University of Paris 1, as well as to many Master's programmes in France and around the world.

The career opportunities associated with a Bachelor's degree in political science are very broad. Our graduates may apply to job offers in multiple fields :

- Public dialogue and community organizing for policy development
- Communication and advocacy
- Policy analysis / Monitoring and evaluation in public policies
- Consulting and expertise development in firms and non-profit organisations in the areas of equality, ethics and sustainable development
- Institutional communication (public administration communication, local and regional governments), political communication, new digital communication
- Journalism
- Diplomacy and private professions in international relations
- Project coordination and policy expertise in international development or humanitarian affairs
- Positions of parliamentary assistants and political advisers to elected officials
- Senior civil service (State civil service, local civil service, European civil service)
- Teaching and research careers (lecturers and researchers in the humanities and social sciences)

Our academic environment

The Bachelor's degree in political science takes place in the very centre of Paris. Students enjoy venues and lecture halls rooted in history, including Le Panthéon and La Sorbonne, which is a privileged experience.

The University of Paris 1 is located in the Latin Quarter, near the Luxembourg Gardens and the main historical centres of Paris.

Within the campus are the Pantheon, the St Genevieve library, and many research centres. The university has 6 libraries associated in a common documentation service, as well as specialized libraries and inter-university libraries, including the prestigious BIS.

Finally, the University has an important campus life. The student experience is rich and diversified. Our Bachelor's degree students are among the most active in student associations, political clubs, cultural activities, forums for debate, social and humanitarian organisations.

