UvA Meet and Ask

BSc Political Science

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Program Director

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Outline

- Politics and political science
- The BSc programme
- Career & graduate studies
Politics and political science

Politics:

In a **narrow** sense: what happens in governments, states, parliaments, capital cities, at regional and local levels where decision making power exists

In a **broad** sense: articulations of conflicts and commonalities, related to dynamics of power and collective decisions

Political Science at the University of Amsterdam:

- Interested in politics according to both definitions
- Broader contexts in which politics takes place
- Critical and action-oriented
What kind of questions do political scientists ask?

- How can the rise of populist parties and populist leaders be explained?
- What are the structural causes of migration and the refugee crisis? What obligations do states have in this respect? What are the policy options that exist and how do they differ?
- How can the dynamics of civil wars be explained and how do these differ in time and place?
- In what ways can citizens participate more in relevant decision making processes and policy?
Our BSc programme

- A three year program
- First 1.5 years a broad basis, second 1.5 years various opportunities to differentiate and specialise
- Sub-disciplinary specialisations in:
  - International Relations
  - Public Policy and Governance
  - Comparative Politics
  - Political Theory
What we offer:

- A large department with highly qualified staff firmly attached to this programme
- A stable and well designed curriculum
- A strong research-oriented department which feeds into our teaching
- The widest scope in terms of specialisations, opportunities for choice and scholarship in political science, especially when it comes to International Relations where we are the most experienced and largest department
- A support infrastructure for our students
Dual-language program

• International program in a Dutch context.
• Choose between:
  • English track: fully in English.
  • Bililingual track: passive English skills, active Dutch skills (including exams), gradual transition into fully English program
• One program, two language tracks
Our program

Year 1 and Year 2 (curriculum):

• Lectures
• Academic skills (tutorials)
• Project

Introduction to Political Science

Research Methods

Law and Politics

Beginning Statistics: An Introduction for Social Scientists

Introduction to Law
Our program (2)

Year 2 and 3 (specialisation and differentiation):

- Specialisation module
- Electives
- Bachelor thesis
- Exchange/minor/internship

The political economy of development: the role of the IMF and the Worldbank

International Relations

Unequal representation

Conflict studies
Want to know more about our curriculum?

https://coursecatalogue.uva.nl/
Career prospects

- Labour market prospects for political scientists are good!
- We educate young adults who have really useful skills
- But we don’t educate you for one single job!
  - Public sector
  - NGOs
  - Private sector
  - Media
  - Research
Any questions?

  - Open days
  - How to enroll
  - Matching
- Questions? Contact [studyadviser-pol@uva.nl](mailto:studyadviser-pol@uva.nl)
- Questions about enrollment? Contact the Central Student Service Desk