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# Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

## OBJECTIVES

**The degree course aims to provide a solid training necessary for understanding, analysing and conducting political and social activities. The areas of political science and Political Sciences are: history of ideas, public policies, comparative political science, political sociology, international relations and studies focused on developing countries.**

**Political science also requires interdisciplinary knowledge, mainly deriving from sociology and history, philosophy, economics and law. It uses the investigation techniques and methodological tools of the human sciences.**

## POSSIBLE STUDY OPTIONS AT THE UNIL AFTER THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE (WITHOUT ANY FURTHER STUDY)

- > Master of Arts in Political Science
- > Master of Arts in Social Sciences (Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Social and historical sciences)
- > Master of Arts in Public Management and Policy

## ORGANISER

Faculty of Social and Political Sciences :  
[www.unil.ch/ssp](http://www.unil.ch/ssp)

## DEGREE AWARDED

Bachelor of Arts (BA)  
in Political Science

## ECTS CREDITS

180

## DURATION

6 semesters

## TEACHING LANGUAGE

French

## ADMISSIONS

[www.unil.ch/immat](http://www.unil.ch/immat)  
Deadline: 30 April. Candidates needing a visa to study in Switzerland must apply for enrolment at least two months prior to this deadline.

## START OF COURSES

Mid-September

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE DEGREE COURSE AND REGULATIONS

[www.unil.ch/ssp](http://www.unil.ch/ssp)

## CONTACT

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Only the official texts are authentic

[www.unil.ch/bachelors](http://www.unil.ch/bachelors)



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UNIL | Université de Lausanne

Faculté des sciences  
sociales et politiques

# EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

## Description

The first year is designed as an introduction to the most important disciplines constituting the social sciences (political science, but also law, economics, history and sociology) with access to the basic tools of university training (recognition, reading and presentation of scientific texts; introduction to data collection and analysis).

In the second and third years many courses and seminars are offered covering the main areas of observation and analysis of political science, such as political institutions, economics, Swiss politics, public policies, international relations and comparisons between political systems, both those of western countries and those of the Third World. Training in methodology (research instruments in the social sciences, statistics, mathematics, etc) introduces students to empirical research.

6 <sup>th</sup> semester	<p><b>Political Science</b> Compulsory and optional teaching (courses and seminars): Concepts and Theories in Political Science, Swiss Politics, International Relations, Public Policies, Political Sociology</p> <p>42.5%</p>	<p><b>Methods learning</b> Compulsory and optional teaching (courses and seminars): Learning and using research tools, Understanding statistical concepts and methods</p> <p>22.5%</p>	<p><b>Minor in Social and Historical Sciences (continuation)</b> Optional subjects in History and Social Sciences</p> <p>35%</p>
5 <sup>th</sup> semester			
4 <sup>th</sup> semester			
3 <sup>rd</sup> semester			
FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION			
2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	<p><b>Political Science</b> (basic course and seminar) Introduction to the most important disciplines constituting the Social Sciences: Political Science, Law, History, Sociology and Economics</p> <p>70%</p>	<p><b>Minor in Social and Historical Sciences</b> (Seminars and courses)</p> <p>30%</p>	
1 <sup>st</sup> semester			
MAJOR (120 ECTS CREDITS)		MINOR (60 ECTS CREDITS)	

# INFORMATION

## Examinations

Students must sit for the exams of the introductory part at the latest at the end of their first year of study. As a general rule, they may take the exams either in the session immediately following the end of the course, or in the following session.

## Mobility

The Faculty of Social and Political Sciences offers its students the possibility of following one or two semesters of study in another university, in Switzerland or abroad, during the second and third years of the bachelor's degree course. Information on mobility: [www.unil.ch/ri](http://www.unil.ch/ri)

## Academic calendar

[www.unil.ch/central/page4804.html](http://www.unil.ch/central/page4804.html)

## Timetables

[www.unil.ch/programmes](http://www.unil.ch/programmes)

## General information on studies, career prospects and guidance

Guidance and advisory service: [www.unil.ch/soc](http://www.unil.ch/soc)

## Acomodation and financial assistance

Office for socio-cultural affairs: [www.unil.ch/sasc](http://www.unil.ch/sasc)

## International students

International relations office: [www.unil.ch/ri](http://www.unil.ch/ri)