

*Political Science: Associate in Arts for Transfer*  
**CSUSM**

The major in Political Science aims to provide a foundational understanding of political processes and institutions. The study of political science is of value to ensure that all persons have knowledge of the political systems that govern their lives. A political science degree prepares students for possible career opportunities in a variety of areas including law, government service, education, journalism, and business.

**Please see a Pathways Counselor:** Create an education plan customized to meet your needs. [Contact a Counselor](#)

**Transfer Majors/Award Focus**

- Political Science, A.A.-T CSU, CSUSM, UC

**GE Pattern/Units**

- GE Pattern: Option B
- Total Units: 62



**Program maps** indicate the major coursework and recommended general education courses to fulfill your degree in 2 years (approximately 15 units/semester or 30 units/year). If you are a part-time student, start Semester 1 courses and follow the course sequence. Some of the courses listed may be substituted by another course. Please view these options in the official course [catalog](#).

**Semester 1**

**16 Units**

| ✓                        | COURSE                  | TITLE   | UNIT |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ENGL-101                | College Composition   | 4    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MATH-140 or<br>PSYC-121 | Introduction to Statistics or<br>Statistics for Behavioral Sciences | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ART-100 or<br>MUS-100   | Art Appreciation or<br>Introduction and Appreciation of Music       | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PSYC-101                | Introduction to Psychology  | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | COMM-100                | Public Speaking   | 3    |

**Semester 2**

**16 Units**

| ✓                        | COURSE                                | TITLE   | UNIT |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PHIL-112                              | Critical Thinking and Composition   | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PS-101                                | Introduction to American Government and Politics                              | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | HIST-111 or<br>HIST-112               | U.S. History to 1877 or<br>U.S. History Since 1865                            | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SPAN-101 or<br>FREN-101 or<br>ASL-100 | Elementary Spanish I or<br>Elementary French I or<br>American Sign Language I | 4    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | COMM-104                              | Argumentation and Debate  | 3    |

**Career Options**

- Attorney (D)
- Pol Sci Teacher Postsecondary (B, M+)
- Pol Scientist (B, M+)
- Paralegal (C)

Find more careers: [msjc.emsicc.com](http://msjc.emsicc.com)

Required Education: SM: some college; C: Certificate; A: Associate,  
B: Bachelor's, M: Master's; D: Doctorate

**Financial Aid**



Financial aid is determined by the number of credit hours you take in a semester. Maximize your financial aid by taking 12-15 units per semester.

**Semester 3****14 Units**

| ✓                        | COURSE                                | TITLE  | UNIT |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PS-102                                | Comparative Politics and Government  | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PS-120                                | California Government  | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ENVS-101                              | Environmental Science  | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SPAN-102 or<br>FREN-102 or<br>ASL-101 | Elementary Spanish II or<br>Elementary French II or<br>American Sign Language II | 4    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ENVS-102                              | Environmental Science Laboratory   | 1    |

**Semester 4****16 Units**

| ✓                        | COURSE                                | TITLE   | UNIT |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PS-103                                | Ethnic Politics in America  | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PS-105                                | Introduction to Political Theory  | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ANTH-101                              | Physical Anthropology   | 3    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SPAN-201 or<br>FREN-201 or<br>ASL-201 | Intermediate Spanish I or<br>Intermediate French I or<br>American Sign Language III | 4    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PS-106                                | Introduction to International Relations   | 3    |

**Notes:**

**Language Requirement:** Some CSU's require the equivalency of an intermediate language proficiency for graduation. Please see a counselor for more detail regarding specific CSU major and graduation requirements. [CSUSM Grad Requirements: Language](#)

**Work Experience**

Sign up for a special project or internship opportunity. Gain [work experience](#) and earn credits.