B.A. in Political Science

Learning Outcomes

Students can:

• Define and discuss core concepts within the field of political science, including but not limited to: power, democracy, representation, authoritarianism, freedom and equality. Students can also describe the key features of the American political system, and how American institutions compare to other forms of government found in different countries and regions of the world.

• Analyze a given political issue from a multiplicity of perspectives. They can identify, analyze, evaluate, and draw upon a variety of theoretical perspectives to explain particular political phenomenon. Students also can collect, organize, and apply various forms of information to assess statements or hypotheses about political questions.

• Compose clear and well organized explanations of political phenomenon and support these explanations with evidence.

• Explain and evaluate a sophisticated conception of justice, identify and describe situations in which justice concerns arise, and take an informed position about the meaning or demands of justice.

• Recognize and describe the importance of values to political attitudes and behavior, and be able to identify and explain their own. This includes an ability to communicate reflections about one’s own normative assumptions about politics, society, and other peoples.

• Identify and explain the key elements of the inter-state system, the nature of globalization, and the dynamics of a particular country or region of the world.