School of Social Sciences
and Philosophy

Political Science –
Undergraduate
Degree Programmes

Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

www.tcd.ie/political_science
Why Study Political Science?

Politics affects us all in our daily lives. It's easy to think of issues that we all have opinions about. Should the government tax the rich to try to achieve greater equality? Should it introduce 'green taxes' in order to protect the environment? How high a priority should development aid be? Questions such as these, along with analysis of political systems, political behaviour and how democracy works, are at the heart of the study of political science.

Political science will appeal to students who are excited about exploring the background to current events, the nature and use of power and how decisions are made that impact on wider society. If you are interested becoming more engaged in public affairs and in understanding activities and ideas that will shape the future then political science is the degree choice for you.
## Undergraduate Programmes

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<th>PPES - Philosophy, Political Science, Economics and Sociology (TR015)</th>
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<td>Brings together some of the most important approaches to understanding the social and human world, developing skills relevant to a wide range of future careers and activities. There is a gradual specialisation over the course of the degree with students ultimately having the option to study political science alone or to combine it with philosophy, economics or sociology.</td>
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<th>BESS - Business, Economic and Social Studies (TR081)</th>
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<td>Provides a broad education in business and the social sciences combined with the opportunity to specialise solely in political science or to jointly study with business, economics or sociology. It is a uniquely flexible programme where, after a common first year, students can adjust their course options to reflect their academic strengths, interests and emerging career aspirations.</td>
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<th>Joint Honours Political Science</th>
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<td>Allows students to study two subjects to degree level with advanced specialisation in one or both subjects depending on their course choices. The Joint Honors programme offers a choice of four subjects which complement the study of Political Science including Geography, History, Law, &amp; Social Policy.</td>
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Career and Postgraduate Opportunities

Trinity graduates are extremely well regarded worldwide and from a career perspective political science is an extremely flexible and practical subject. Many graduates have gone on to postgraduate study both at Trinity College Dublin and at other leading universities around the world such as Harvard, Princeton, the London School Economics, the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford.

Political science students develop exceptional communication, writing and critical thinking skills. Having politics as part of my degree has equipped me with analytical and problem solving skills that are very attractive to employers.”

“With one of the country’s best resourced libraries, a vast online academic infrastructure and a department staffed by world leading academics, the university really helped develop my capabilities as a political scientist.”

Éamonn Fahey, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND GEOGRAPHY GRADUATE
SINGLE HONORS
POLITICAL SCIENCE

“In Contemporary Political Issues students make presentations on political issues they are passionate about helping them to develop strong communication skills. Having politics as part of my degree has equipped me with analytical and problem solving skills that are very attractive to employers.”

Rebecca Kilbane, PPES GRADUATE
JOINT HONORS POLITICAL SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY

“I took a variety of theoretical and applied classes which helped me hone not only my writing and analytical skills, but also my public speaking and teamwork abilities. I rely on the skills I acquired at Trinity every day.”

James Walsh, BESS GRADUATE
JOINT HONORS POLITICAL SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for a political science degree programme please visit: www.tcd.ie/study