

College/School: **Yeshiva College**
 Department: **Political Science**
 Program/Major: **Political Science**
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Mission Statement:

Political Science equips students with the knowledge and analytical skills required to be responsible democratic citizens in a globalized and turbulent world, to engage in appropriate graduate studies and to enter professions related to public affairs, law and active politics. Students study American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Affairs and Political Theory to learn about and to learn to raise research-quality questions about the rule-making, rule-implementing and rule-adjudicating functions of political institutions in diverse socio-culture contexts and to assess the efficacy of such institutions in achieving modern standards of political development

Learning goals and objectives

Program/Major Goals	SLOs
1. Political Science students must come first and foremost to recognize and understand what constitutes a “political problem.”	a. To develop analytical skills entailing the ability to separate out and weight contributing factors to the “problem”
	b. To differentiate politically motivated explanations for the “problem” from scientifically deduced analyses
	c. To give the “problem” a historical context
2. Political Science students must achieve command over a technical political science terminology they learn to use expertly as well as acquire some familiarity with quantitative methodology. Unlike mathematics which has precision built into its own language, political scientists must largely rely on the language of their culture to convey precisely complex	a. Knowledge of the political science lexicon and ability to use it.
	b. Oral presentations that indicate mastery of communicating the factors of a political problem, the social implications of this problem and possible solutions with their social-political consequences.

<p>political concepts. Some areas of political science, however, require knowledge of quantitative methods which rest upon mathematics.</p>	<p>c. Acquisition of qualitative and quantitative methodological tools.</p>
<p>3. Political Science students must acquire the ability to write analytical political papers like policy papers.</p>	<p>a. To learn to write a succinct paper with a thesis cogently argued.</p> <p>b. To learn to revise a paper to achieve its overall objectives more efficiently and with greater clarity.</p> <p>c. To help other students develop their written research projects through constructive criticism and collaborative research.</p>
<p>4. Political Science students should be able to develop their own research interests.</p>	<p>a. Students concentrate in a particular field of political science of their own choosing and thus acquire a mini-specialty.</p> <p>b. Students engage in extended dialogue with professors to deepen their understanding of this specialty.</p> <p>c. Students work with a mentor in writing a senior thesis.</p> <p>b. Students can translate their knowledge into internships which, in turn, broaden their horizons and deepen their political understanding.</p> <p>c. Students express their research interests in Honors theses, senior theses, fellowships like Fulbright, Rhodes, Truman, Goldwater.</p>