

Faculty of Humanities Fakulteit Geesteswetenskappe Lefapha la Bomotho

Bachelor of Political Science specialising in **Political Studies**



Make today matter

Politics is a part of human existence, and social interactions invariably involve political relationships. Politics is essential for a just and humane way of life. The study of politics helps us understand the dynamics of power and how this directly and indirectly effects the state. This programme will help you understand politics within state borders. It will develop key analytical skills that will help you explain political events and how politics affects society. Political studies take into account a variety of non-political or related influences that affect politics. This programme provides a description of political facts, an explanation of how and why politics occurs, and a prescription of what should happen in the political world.



Who are the ideal candidates?

If you are interested in improving the human condition, then you are an ideal candidate for this programme.

Students who excel in this programme are:

- committed active citizens; and
- want to improve their community and society in general.

Successful students refine their research, communication and data analysis skills and are widely sought after in the private and public sectors.



What makes this programme unique?



Structure of programme

Core Modules

Political science is the major subject and has to be taken up to the final year. Other core modules are drawn from international relations.

Elective Modules

The elective modules supplement the understanding of politics.

Options include philosophy, history, religious studies, psychology, sociology, and European and African languages, providing a measure of flexibility that allows students to concentrate on a specific area, such as African studies, security studies, political communication, studies of political policy and political philosophy.

Which companies employ our graduates?

- National, Provincial and Local Government
- Academic and research organisations
- International organisations and multinational corporations
- Range of private businesses
- Media offices and Political parties





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Bachelor of Political Science specialising in **Political Studies** (continued)







'I chose to pursue a degree in Political Science because of my deep-rooted desire to work with people and make a meaningful change and impact in society. I have always been passionate about understanding the dynamics of power, governance, and policy-making and how these elements impact the lives of individuals and communities. Political Science, alongside my major in anthropology, has provided me with a comprehensive understanding of both the structural and cultural aspects of societal development.

One of my greatest learning experiences during my studies definitely has to be a fieldwork project I had in anthropology, where I engaged directly with diverse individuals. This hands-on experience allowed me to see first-hand the challenges these individuals faced and reinforced my commitment to contribute to positive change through informed, empathetic, and impactful work!'

Nombulelo Macozoma - Bachelor of Political Science specialising in Political Studies

Minimum admission requirements

Programme	Minimum requirements for NSC/IEB for 2026			
	Achievement level			
POLITICAL SCIENCES	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	APS		
Bachelor of Political Science specialising in Political Studies [3 years]	5	30		

To retain admission, you must obtain an APS of at least 30 in the NSC.

Careers: Policy analysis and consultation, political analysis and communication, governance, conflict resolution, strategic intelligence, political development and mobilisation and risk analysis

Contact information

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Minimum requirements for applicants with a school leaving certificate not issued by Umalusi (South Africa)





Refer to the International undergraduate prospectus at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission Information or click here for more information.

- The closing date for applications for programmes in this faculty is 30 June.
- Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission into a programme.

	Minimum requirements for 2026									
	Achievement level									
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES	Compulsory	GCSE # The qualifications in the two columns below will be considered only for conditional admission. If final AS and/or A levels have been completed, these two columns will not apply. It can also not be used for final admission and/ or registration.			AS Level	GCE	IB SL	IB HL	Комві	KCSE
TACOLITION HOMANTIES	subjects	CIE	UK	NSSC HL	CIE	CIE	10.50		ABITUR	Rest
Programmes		IGCSE LGCSE BGCSE O Level NSSC OL CGCE UCE NECO WAEC WASSCE ZGCE	England Wales Northern Ireland Pearson Edexcel GCSE		NSSC AS	CGCE UACE WAEC ZGCE				
Bachelor of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology Bachelor of Arts in Audiology	English Mathematics	C D	4 3	3 3	C D	E E	4 2	3 2	60-69% 50-59%	B C+
Bachelor of Arts specialising in	English	С	4	3	С	E	4	3	60-69%	В
Philosophy, Politics and Economics	Mathematics	C	4	3	c	Ē	4	3	60-69%	B
Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts [4-year programme] Bachelor of Arts in Information Design	English		4	3	с	E	4	3		В
Bachelor of Drama [3-year programme]		c								
Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law										
Bachelor of Social Work										
Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Arts specialising in Languages									60-69%	
Bachelor of Political Science specialising in International Studies										
Bachelor of Political Science specialising in Political Studies										
Bachelor of Arts specialising in Visual Studies Bachelor of Social Science specialising in										
Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies Bachelor of Social Science in Heritage										
and Cultural Sciences***					-			-		-
Bachelor of Music [4-year programme]	English Music*	C D	4	3 3	C D	E	4 2	3 2	60-69% 50-59%	B C+
Bachelor of Music [5-year programme]	English Music**	D D	3 3	3 3	D D	E	2 2	2 2	50-59% 50-59%	C+ C+
Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts [5-year programme]	English	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+
Bachelor of Drama [4-year programme]	English	D	3	3	D	E	2	2	50-59%	C+

Only English with at least a C symbol on this level can be used for final admission.

or Grade VI Practical and Grade III Theory (Unisa/Royal Schools/Trinity) or a comparable standard and a practical audition and theoretical test passed with 60%.
** or Grade V Practical and Grade III Theory (Unisa/Royal Schools/Trinity) or a comparable standard and a practical audition and theoretical test passed with 50%.
*** Possible name change to: Bachelor of Social Science specialising in Heritage and Cultural Tourism