

INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE (ISP)

HISTORY

Political science has been an integral part of the Saint Joseph University of Beirut since 1920, when the first courses were introduced under the initiative of the Governor of Greater Lebanon to train personnel for the new administration. In 1944, the Faculty of Law expanded and reorganized these efforts by establishing the Institute of Political Science.

Since then, the Institute has remained committed to training a proactive and influential elite capable of contributing to the public and private sectors, as well as to civil society. Upholding USJ's long tradition of academic excellence and rigor—especially that of the Faculty of Law and Political Science—the political science program continually updates its courses and programs to align with current issues and evolving professional demands.

MISSION

This program aims to explain the mechanisms of power and influence and examines how political systems operate. It analyzes the functioning of state institutions, the competing groups that seek to influence their actions, and decodes citizen attitudes. It also studies the relationships between public administration and citizens to evaluate sectoral public policies. On the international level, the program addresses global affairs through the study of foreign policies, the geopolitics of crises and conflicts, globalization, and the role of international organizations. Political science graduates have access to diverse career opportunities in both the public and private sectors, nationally and internationally. Their multidisciplinary background and strong commitment are highly valued in various fields, including:

- Civil service (diplomacy, public administration)
- Politics (parliamentary assistance, project management, communication)
- Consulting (security, elections, public policies, etc.)
- The non-profit sector (NGOs, associations, unions)
- Journalism and political marketing (media, social networks, culture, polling institutes)
- International organizations (UN, IMF, World Bank, etc.)
- Embassies
- Teaching and research
- Private companies and multinationals

ADMINISTRATION

Director: Sami NADER

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Administrative Coordinator for Academic Affairs: Michèle SALHA AFTIMOS

FACULTY

Professors

Carole (AL) SHARABATI, Fadia KIWAN, Pascal MONIN

Associate Professor

Carine ABOU LAHOUD TATAR

Assistant Professor

Wissam LAHHAM

Lecturers

Karim BITAR, Sami NADER, Wissam SAADÉ

Instructors

Charles ABDALLAH, Ziad ABDELSAMAD, Verena (EL) AMIL, Naziha (EL) AMINE, Nicolas BADAOUI, Ziyad BAROUD,

Elias BOU ASSI, Iskandar BOUSTANY, Rita (EL) CHÉMALY, Dominic CHIKHANI, Karim DAHER, Marc GEARA, Marie GHANTOUS, Robert GHOSN, Rana HABIB, Rabih HADDAD, Hoda HAGE, Khaled HAMADAEH, Fadi HAYEK, Khalil HÉLOU, Amine ISSA, Ibrahim JOUHARI, Yara (EL) KHOURY, Saleh (EL) MACHNOUK, Charbel MAROUN, Youssef MOUWAD, Ali MOURAD, Mahmoud NASSREDDINE, Stéphanie RAAD, Lamia (EL) SAAD, Reina SFEIR, Ahyaf SIN-NO, Tala SINNO BADREDDINE, Judith (EL) TINI.

DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED

Bachelor in Administrative and Political Sciences

Master in Political Science, Concentrations: Communication and Political Marketing, Comparative Politics - Arab World, Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Master in Human Rights and Democratization

PhD in Political Science

University Diploma in Migration and Forced Displacement

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- Civil service (diplomacy, public administration)
- Politics (parliamentary assistance, project management, communication)
- Consulting (security, elections, public policies, etc.)
- The non-profit sector (NGOs, associations, unions)
- Journalism and political marketing (media, social networks, culture, polling institutes)
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TUITION FEES

Bachelor in Administrative and Political Sciences, Master in Political Science, Concentrations: Communication and Political Marketing, Comparative Politics - Arab World, Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation: 128 USD and 4,922,000 LBP (for semester 1), equivalent in Fresh US Dollars to 183 (exchange rate = 89,500 LBP)

Master in Human Rights and Democratization: 66.67 EUR

PhD in Political Science: 76 USD and 2,865,000 LBP (for semester 1), equivalent in Fresh US Dollars to 108 (exchange rate = 89,500 LBP)

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF STUDY

Admission Conditions

a- Bachelor in Administrative and Political Sciences

Applicants must hold a Lebanese baccalaureate or its equivalent and they must pass the French placement test (TALF) at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut, ranking in category A.

b- Master in Political Science

Applicants must hold a Lebanese baccalaureate or its equivalent and a Bachelor in Political Science or Law. Applicants with a Bachelor's degree in another social or human science discipline may also apply, provided that non-Lebanese diplomas or those issued by unofficially recognized Lebanese universities must be recognized as equivalent by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

c- PhD in Political Science

Admission conditions for the PhD are stipulated in the Bylaws of the Doctoral School of Law and Political Science.

Courses and Credits

The Bachelor's and Master's programs follow the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). Courses are organized by credits and semesters. The academic year consists of two semesters, and enrollment for each semester is based on the number of credits.

The academic calendar (holidays, public holidays, exams) is annually set by the University Board. Students must sit exams for all enrolled courses. Successfully passing a course validates the assigned credits, which are permanently acquired.

The Bachelor in Administrative and Political Sciences is awarded upon validation of 180 credits. Applicants who already hold a Bachelor's degree in another social or human science discipline may receive equivalency for up to 90 credits of prior studies.

Applicants for the Master in Political Science who hold a Master's degree in another social or human science discipline may receive equivalency for up to 60 credits of prior studies.

Students enrolled in the Bachelor in Administrative and Political Sciences or the Master in Political Science may participate in a scientific exchange program under agreements between the Institute of Political Science and partner universities offering similar programs.