

# Politics

# 2010

School of Social Science & International Studies Undergraduate Program



Politics is concerned with the study of political action, ideas, institutions and actors, from the local to the global. It deals with governments and how policies are made on a wide range of issues, such as the economy, the environment, and social issues.

The study of Politics covers areas such as:

- > government
- > ideologies, language and ideas
- > key thinkers who have helped shape political beliefs
- > different international political systems and the cultures and societies they support



## Politics at UNSW

Politics at UNSW equips students with the ability to describe, analyse and understand the politics of our own country and of the global community. Emphasis is placed not only upon the study of institutions, but also upon the analysis of a range of theories. Our areas of expertise include Australian Politics, World Politics and Political Theory. The program encourages students to develop a spirit of critical enquiry, and equips them with the intellectual tools necessary to pursue diverse career paths.



## Careers

The study of Politics has some clear career advantages. It is essential for a number of career paths, especially those sections of public service involving policy, planning, diplomacy, foreign affairs, international trade and social welfare. The union movement, pressure groups and political parties all offer career opportunities, as do mass media, government consultancies, the legal profession, parliament and the education system. The private sector is also especially interested in our graduates because of the training we provide in critical thinking and analysis.

Politics produces graduates with sought after skills in:

- > Communication
- > Negotiation
- > Mediation
- > Leadership
- > Critical Analysis
- > Evaluation
- > Teamwork
- > Research
- > Presentation
- > Conflict Resolution



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## Program Information

Politics is available as a major or minor within the three-year Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Science and other combined degree programs. Within the BA Politics may be combined with over thirty different areas of study. Political Science is particularly closely aligned with International Relations. A fourth (honours) year is available to selected students.

Postgraduate studies are available by research through PhD and Masters programs, and by coursework at the Masters, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate level e.g. Master of Arts in International Relations and Master of International Law and International Relations.

### Level 1

- > Introduction to Australian Politics
- > International Relations: Continuity and Change

### Sample of upper level courses:

- Australian Politics:
- > Language and Politics
  - > Human Rights
  - > Australia in the World
- World Politics:
- > Globalisation
  - > International Security
  - > International Law
  - > Politics of International Organisation
  - > Politics and Business
  - > Comparative Politics
- Political Theory:
- > Sex, Human Rights and Justice
  - > Multiculturalism in Law and Political Theory
  - > Theories and Concepts of International Relations
  - > Liberal Democratic Thought
- Capstone Course:
- > The Art of Political Science

## International Opportunities

Students have the opportunity to complete an international exchange for one or two semesters as part of their degree. UNSW manages a large and active exchange program with over 180 different student exchange opportunities in 32 countries.

## Students Profile

What inspires you most about your area of interest?

*Philosophy to me is like aerobics for the brain, it hones one's thinking and analytical ability. Politics, on the other hand, seems much more concrete, allowing one to consider a variety of viewpoints in an endeavour to reach conclusions with practical policy implications. There is a fruitful interplay between philosophy and politics."*

Top 3 highlights of my uni experience

- > In July 2007 I represented UNSW in New York at the annual Goldman Sachs Leadership Institute. I met students from all over the world and took part in workshops on social entrepreneurship, as well as hearing from extraordinary leaders.
- > I spent 6 months in Washington DC at Georgetown University on international exchange. I had the real college experience and did an internship at the Brookings Institute.
- > Touch football! I play each week in co-ed social competitions which is great fun.

### Emily

*Bachelor of Arts, 4<sup>th</sup> Year (Honours)  
Politics and Philosophy*



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