



Photo credit: Michael Chang

## CONNECT WITH US

### Cal Day

Come to UC Berkeley's annual **Open House** in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

### Golden Bear Orientation

Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley **orientation** program for all new students.

### Events

Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit [politicaleconomy.berkeley.edu](http://politicaleconomy.berkeley.edu) for news and updates.

## ADVISING

Students can schedule appointments with a Political Economy advisor by visiting the **Meet with an Advisor webpage**.

Students can also schedule appointments with Political Economy peer advisors to obtain a student perspective on the major. Email [askpe@berkeley.edu](mailto:askpe@berkeley.edu) to schedule an appointment with a peer advisor.

## HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone's Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit [ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps](http://ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps) for the latest version of this major map.

# Berkeley

**Interdisciplinary Social Science Programs**

101 Stephens Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-2306  
[issp.berkeley.edu](http://issp.berkeley.edu)

# POLITICAL ECONOMY

Bachelor of Arts

# Berkeley

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

## INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The **Political Economy** major studies the relationship between government, society, and the economy in a holistic manner from a multi-disciplinary perspective. Political Economy majors investigate how real-world market systems are embedded in both politics and society. Students graduate with a mastery of a broad range of contemporary analyses as well as a deep understanding of classic works of political economy.

The major's unique characteristic is the concentration; each student selects a series of four courses that directly address a question that they would like to investigate. The program has pre-designed concentrations as well as the possibility for a self-designed one.



Photo credit: Elena Zhukova

“ *To impact today's world that's undergoing rapid and tectonic shifts, the Political Economy degree provides exactly what's needed: a deep and nuanced understanding of the multidimensional relationship between theory and practice, as well as ideology and impact.* ”

– Toby Frankenstein, Class of 2006

## PE MAJOR ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Political Economy major has two minimum requirements for entry. The first is an overall GPA of 2.7 at the time of application. The second is a B- grade in GLOBAL 45 on the first attempt at the class. We suggest taking GLOBAL 45 as early as possible in your college career as it is the single best predictor of how students will fare within the Political Economy major.

## AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Join the **Political Economy Students Association (PESA)**.
- Study and intern in Washington D.C. with **UCDC** or **Cal in the Capital**.
- Engage with political economy issues firsthand through **study abroad**.
- Complete a major paper or capstone project as part of an optional **Senior Thesis**.
- Apply to the year-long **Honors Program**.

# POLITICAL ECONOMY DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY

Bachelor of Arts

	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR	FOURTH YEAR	WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?
<b>Explore</b> your major	<p>Meet with your <b>major</b> and <b>college advisor</b> to discuss your academic plans.</p> <p>Complete the <b>Online Major Declaration Workshop</b> for an overview of the PE major. Consult the <b>Political Economy Handbook</b> to learn about major requirements and policies.</p> <p>Enroll in ECON 1 or 2 and GLOBAL 45.</p> <p>Get started on the foreign language requirement.</p>	<p>Enroll in GLOBAL 45 if you did not take the course in your first year.</p> <p>Complete lower division prerequisites and <b>declare the major</b>.</p> <p>Continue with the foreign language requirement.</p> <p>Discuss potential <b>concentrations</b> with your major advisor and review major guidelines for <b>study abroad</b>.</p>	<p><b>Declare</b> the Political Economy major.</p> <p>Focus on upper division requirements such as POLECON 100 and 101.</p> <p>Review your Academic Progress Report in CalCentral to stay on track to graduate.</p> <p>Ask your major advisor about the optional <b>Honors Program</b> or the optional <b>Senior Thesis</b>.</p>	<p>Review your Academic Progress Report in CalCentral to ensure you are on track to graduate.</p> <p>Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining <b>major, college, and campus requirements</b>.</p>	<p><b>WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?</b></p> <p>Political Economy students graduate with a broad-based liberal arts background as well as the intellectual skills appropriate for careers in the public or private sector or for graduate study.</p> <p><b>Jobs and Employers</b></p> <p>Analyst, Dropbox Blockchain Ecosystem Manager, BASF Consultant Analyst, Accenture Digital Strategy Analyst, Adobe Fellow, California State Assembly Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley Founder, Blue Mercury Management Analyst, City of Richmond Paralegal, Hawkins Delafield &amp; Wood Policy Specialist, Google Public Sector Strategy Analyst, Deloitte Tax Associate, ACG CPA Teacher, Public and Private Schools</p> <p><b>Graduate Programs</b></p> <p>Anthropology, PhD Environmental Studies, PhD Information Technology, Masters International Relations and Global Studies, MS/PhD Law, JD Management Information Systems, Masters Political Science, PhD Public Policy, MA Sociology, PhD</p> <p>Examples gathered from the <b>First Destination Survey</b> of recent Berkeley graduates.</p>
<b>Connect</b> and build community	<p>Get 1:1 mentoring with <b>Berkeley Connect</b> and <b>L&amp;S Mentors Program</b>.</p> <p>Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the <b>Student Learning Center</b>.</p> <p>Enroll in UGIS 98: College Success in L&amp;S.</p>	<p>Join a student organization such as the <b>Political Economy Students Association (PESA)</b> which connects PE students to the department, career opportunities, and each other.</p> <p>Check out the <b>Network for a New Political Economy</b>.</p> <p>Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.</p>	<p>Explore PE-related centers on campus like the <b>Berkeley Center for Economics and Politics</b>.</p> <p>Become a <b>Golden Bear Orientation Leader</b> and welcome new students to UC Berkeley.</p>	<p>Connect with <b>alumni groups</b> like the <b>Political Economy Alumni group</b> on LinkedIn, and build your <b>network</b> as you prepare to graduate.</p> <p>Give back as a <b>Political Economy Volunteer</b>.</p>	
<b>Discover</b> your passions	<p>Discover new interests in a <b>Freshman Seminar</b> such as POLECON 24, <b>L&amp;S 1</b>, or a student-run <b>DeCal course</b>.</p> <p>Attend the Undergraduate Research and Scholarships Fair in October.</p> <p>Explore related minors such as <b>Global Studies, Global Poverty &amp; Practice</b> and <b>Public Policy</b>.</p>	<p>Continue exploring with a <b>Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas</b> or <b>Discovery Course</b>.</p> <p>Assist faculty in their research through <b>URAP</b>.</p> <p>Enrich your major with a <b>certificate, course thread, or summer minor</b>.</p>	<p>Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the <b>Haas Scholars Program, SURF</b> or optional <b>Senior Thesis</b> for PE.</p> <p>Find research and funding opportunities in the <b>OURS database</b>.</p> <p>Curious about entrepreneurship? Enroll in <b>HUM 120: Entrepreneurship for All</b>.</p>	<p>Teach your own <b>DeCal course</b>.</p> <p>Undertake the year-long <b>Honors Program</b> or independent project and submit your work to the <b>Berkeley Undergraduate Journal</b>.</p> <p>Keep pursuing your interests through a <b>fellowship</b> or gap year after graduation.</p>	
<b>Engage</b> locally and globally	<p>Attend the <b>Calpalooza</b> student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.</p> <p>Find service opportunities through the <b>Public Service Center</b>.</p> <p>Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with <b>Berkeley Study Abroad</b>.</p>	<p>Work with a community organization in an <b>American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course</b>.</p> <p>Consider a <b>Berkeley Global Internship</b> in the United States or abroad.</p> <p>Apply for a <b>FLAS award, Boren Scholarship</b> or <b>Critical Language Scholarship</b> to support your language study.</p>	<p>Experience life at another UC or study abroad on a <b>visitor and exchange program</b>. Consider the year-long, Berkeley only, LSE exchange program.</p> <p>Study and intern in Washington D.C. with <b>UCDC</b> or <b>Cal in the Capital</b>.</p> <p>Check out events at the <b>Commonwealth Club</b> and the <b>World Affairs Council</b>.</p>	<p>Hone your leadership skills with the <b>Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program</b>.</p> <p>Interested in a public service career? Apply for the <b>John Gardner Fellowship</b>.</p> <p>Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as <b>Peace Corps</b> or <b>U.S. Department of State</b>.</p>	
<b>Reflect</b> and plan your future	<p>Visit <b>Berkeley Career Engagement</b> and the <b>Career Counseling Library</b>.</p> <p>Sign up for <b>Handshake</b> and <b>CareerMail</b>.</p> <p>Explore <b>career fields</b> through the <b>Career Connections Networking Series</b> or a winter <b>externship</b>.</p> <p>Check out <b>career resources</b> on the Political Economy website.</p>	<p>Reflect on your education so far and skills and experience you still wish to build.</p> <p>Discuss career options and goals with a <b>Career Educator</b>.</p> <p>Learn about <b>graduate and professional school</b>. See <b>Step-by-Step</b> for planning help.</p> <p>Think about doing an <b>internship</b> and attend an <b>internship fair</b>.</p>	<p>Discuss post-graduate options with advisors and professors.</p> <p>Practice your interviewing skills through Career Center workshops.</p> <p>Attend <b>career and graduate school fairs</b> like the “Nonprofit, Education, &amp; Public Service Career Fair.”</p> <p>Ask for recommendation letters and take any exams required for graduate school.</p>	<p>Attend Political Economy career workshops and connect with Political Economy alumni about internship or job opportunities.</p> <p>Utilize <b>job board tools</b> in your job search.</p> <p>Attend <b>Employer Info Sessions</b> and <b>On-Campus Recruiting</b>.</p> <p>Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.</p>	