



SPOB1BA - Introduction

Introduction

Introduction

Are you interested in the world around you and the way in which political power is exercised at national, European and international level?

The bachelor's degree in political science at the Saint-Louis - Bruxelles campus offers you an undergraduate education which teaches you to understand the mechanisms of power which govern today's world:

- How are decisions made, and at which levels of power?
- Who actually influences decisions and in whose interest?
- What are the main systems of political power both historically and throughout the world?
- How can we explain their emergence, evolution, successes and difficulties?
- What are the main contemporary issues at national, European and global level? Who do they oppose? What are the power relationships involved? What are the possible outcomes?

These are just some of the questions which political science provides answers to through various specialised areas: political parties and interest groups, electoral studies, international relations, political regimes, etc.

But power does not operate in isolation. Courses in sociology, history, law, economics and philosophy shed light on human relations in general, as well as on how they function and evolve. Finally, in order to decipher a political issue, it is necessary to master the tools for gathering and analysing the data required for a scientific understanding of human phenomena: documentary research, field observations, interviews, opinion polls, statistical analyses, etc.

Your profile

Would you like to understand the issues and political and social transformations in contemporary societies? Would you like to play an active role at local, national, European and international level?

An open mind, an interest in foreign languages, intellectual curiosity and constant attention to current events are basic prerequisites for future students.

Your future job

The bachelor's degree in political science gives access to a variety of master's programs in Belgium and abroad. A master's degree in political science opens up a wide range of career opportunities.

Political scientists work in all positions related to government action:

- its implementation: government administration, international organisations, the European Commission, regional public bodies, etc;
- its elaboration: participation in an elected assembly, parliamentary or ministerial assistance, consulting firm;
- its influence: lobbying, campaigning in an NGO, attaché for a political party, a trade union, an industry association, etc;
- its analysis: journalism, consultancy, polling, research, analysis in a research department;
- its teaching: continuing education or social advancement organisations, upper secondary education, higher education or university.

Your programme

The bachelor's degree in political science is a first-cycle programme (a 'transition' bachelor's degree), consisting of 180 credits spread over three years (60 credits per year).

The programme is divided into two parts: one general, the other of a political science nature.

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The dual bachelor's degree has the same value as the main bachelor's degree and provides immediate access to the corresponding master's degree.

Dual bachelor's degree programmes available for political science students:

- [Bachelor in Law \[Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in Political Sciences\]](#)
- [Bachelor in Philosophy \[Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in Political Sciences\]](#)
- [Bachelor in History \[Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in Political Sciences\]](#)
- [Bachelor in Information and Communication \[Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in Political Sciences\]](#)
- [Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology \[Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in Political Sciences\]](#)
- [Bachelor in Economics and Management \[Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in Political Sciences\]](#)

For further information, please contact the faculty administration: espo-slb@uclouvain.be.

SPOB1BA - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

I A grounding in the core teachings and methods of the discipline of political science

- A command of the fundamentals of political science and its epistemological grounding, with a view to addressing the key research issues of the discipline
- A thorough grounding in political science, in its various branches: international relations, European studies, (national) political institutions and regimes, studies of political parties and pressure groups, analysis of public policies and political ideas, etc.

II Basic knowledge in fields complementary to political science

- The ability to draw on interdisciplinary knowledge from various fields of the humanities and social sciences in order to analyse contemporary or historical social phenomena
- General knowledge of the humanities and social sciences, based on an understanding of the main postulates and teachings of the various disciplines, as well as their methods and the related ethical issues

III A grounding in the scientific method

- The ability to apply the rules and ethical principles of the scientific approach in political science
- The ability to gather and analyse quantitative and qualitative empirical data with discernment
 - The gradual ability to produce analytical work on contemporary political issues, on their own or as part of a team
 - The gradual ability to gather information using the most relevant data collection methods (statistics, etc.)
- The ability to carry out an analysis independently as well as jointly with peers
- Critical thinking and independent judgement
- The ability to analyse information, based on a review of the relevant literature and the most appropriate analytical methods

IV High-level written and oral communication skills in French, English and Dutch

- The ability to communicate the results of an analysis in a clear, coherent, structured and well-presented manner, in both written and oral form in French, English and Dutch
- The ability to take a course and the oral or written exam in English and Dutch
- Fluency in spoken and written English and Dutch; more specifically, the ability to carry on an everyday conversation and to communicate about the subjects and analyses of political science
- A familiarisation with an environment in a language other than their own (stays abroad with the possibility of an Erasmus exchange within or outside Europe in the third year of the bachelor's programme)

Programme structure

The bachelor's degree in political science is a first-cycle programme (a 'transition' bachelor's degree), consisting of 180 credits spread over three years (60 credits per year). It prepares students for a number of master's degree programmes in the second cycle, which they can take at Louvain-la-Neuve or another university in Belgium or Europe (for details, see the 'Access to further studies' page).

The first year of the degree is common to the political science, information and communication and sociology and anthropology programmes offered by the faculty. In addition to the educational commitment to providing a solid foundation for a multidisciplinary programme, which is one of the hallmarks of the programmes offered at UCLouvain Saint-Louis - Bruxelles, this shared first year facilitates reorientations at the beginning of the programme: students can change their orientation in year 2 to one of the other two programmes (information and communication or sociology and anthropology) without having to make up any course units.

The programme gradually becomes more specialised: the second year includes 20 credits in political science, and the third year includes 30 credits in political science.

The programme is made up of lecture-based course units, with introductory courses in the humanities and social sciences (philosophy, law, history, economics, psychology, sociology, political science, information and communication), as well as lessons in academic methodology accompanied by practical work (e.g. approaches and research methods in social sciences).

At the end of the programme, there is a workshop during which students work together in the field in small groups and present their work to a panel of experts, who assess the quality of the presentation and the relevance of the analysis.

SPOB1BA Programme

Detailed programme by subject

- Mandatory
- ✘ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2024-2025
- ⊖ Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2024-2025 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
- 🚫 Not open to incoming exchange students

[FR]

o Other Human and Social Sciences

<input type="radio"/> BESPO1160	Sociology	Benedikte Zitouni	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]		X		
<input type="radio"/> BPOLS1110	Communication science						
<input type="radio"/> BPOLS1113	Media institutions analysis						
<input type="radio"/> BPOLS1111	Anthropology						
<input type="radio"/> BPOLS1121	Contemporary History						
<input type="radio"/> BPOLS1124	Moral Philosophy						
<input type="radio"/> BPOLS1125	General and Social Psychology						

o Computer Science and Quantitative Methc

<input type="radio"/> BPOLS1150	Introduction to university work in social scienc						
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				Year		
				1	2	3
<input type="radio"/> BANGL1292	English II 	Gerlanda Cipolla Sebastiano Ferrari Françoise Longrée (coord.) Erwin Ochsenmeier (coord.) Madeline Riordan	EN [q1+q2] [0h+60h] [5 Credits] 		x	
<input type="radio"/> BNEER1282	Dutch II  <i>Student who replaced the course unit of Dutch I the First Year by Dutch for Beginners I or Spanish I should follow the Second Year, the same course unit, higher level (Dutch for Beginners II or Spanish II). Additional informations are available at the Faculty secretariat.</i>	Isolde Boutsen (coord.) Astrid De Munter (coord.) Barbara Fraipont	NE [q1+q2] [0h+60h] [5 Credits] 		x	

Choose one course among the following :

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BANGL1392	English III 	Gerlanda Cipolla Marleen Cré Julie George Garkov Françoise Longrée (coord.) Erwin Ochsenmeier (coord.) Madeline Riordan	EN [q1] [0h+30h] [5 Credits] 			x





Alternatives

> [Bachelor in Political Sciences \[Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in Law\]](https://uclouvain.be/en-prog-2024-spob1ba-programme) [<https://uclouvain.be/en-prog-2024-spob1ba-programme>]

> [Bachelor in Political Sciences \[Dual Bachelor's degree for the holder of a Bachelor in History\]](https://uclouvain.be/en-prog-2024-spob1ba-programme) [<https://uclouvain.be/en-prog-2024-spob1ba-programme>]

BACHELOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCES [DUAL BACHELOR'S DEGREE FOR THE HOLDER OF A BACHELOR IN LAW]



- Mandatory
- ✘ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2024-2025
- ⊖ Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2024-2025 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
- 🚫 Not open to incoming exchange students
- (FR) Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)

Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)



***BACHELOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCES [DUAL BACHELOR'S DEGREE
FOR THE HOLDER OF A BACHELOR IN HISTORY]***



				Year		
				1	2	3
⌘ BESPO1162	Political science	Olivier Paye	PR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 		x	x
⌘ BESPO1165	Political Science	Emmanuel Klimis	EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 		x	

Prerequisites list

- BANGL1292** "Anglais II" has prerequisite(s) BANGL1192
- BANGL1192 - [English I](#)
- BANGL1392** "Anglais III" has prerequisite(s) BANGL1292
- BANGL1292 - [English II](#)
- BCOMU1210** "Communication, culture et interactions sociales" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1110
- BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BCOMU1211** "Corporate communication and public relations" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1110
- BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BCOMU1212** "Socio-histoire des médias" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1113
- BPOLS1113 - [Media institutions analysis](#)
- BCOMU1213** "Intercultural communication" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1110
- BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BCOMU1250** "Usage et réception des médias" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1110
- BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BCOMU1310** "Sémiotique" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1110
- BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BCOMU1313** "International communications" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1110
- BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BCOMU1315** "Communication et organisations" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1110
- BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BCOMU1316** "Enjeux et pratiques du journalisme" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1113
- BPOLS1113 - [Media institutions analysis](#)
- BCOMU1317** "Espace public, connaissance et médias" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1110
- BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BDRAN1265** "Law and Religion" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1176
- BESPO1176 - [Law](#)
- BDRAN1360** "Law and Tech Governance" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1176
- BESPO1176 - [Law](#)
- BDROI1340** "Théorie générale de l'Etat et de l'Union européenne" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1176
- BESPO1176 - [Law](#)
- BECGE1321** "Théorie des organisations" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1160
- BESPO1160 - [Sociology](#)
- BECGE1326** "Mens en organisatie" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1160
- BESPO1160 - [Sociology](#)
- BHDDR1361** "Justice et politique" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1162 OU BPOLS1120
- BESPO1162 - [Political science](#)
 - BPOLS1120 - [Public Law](#)
- BHDPO1222** "Politique économique" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1122 ET BPOLS1123
- BPOLS1122 - [Economics I](#)
 - BPOLS1123 - [Economics II](#)
- BHDPO1312** "Analyse des relations internationales" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1162
- BESPO1162 - [Political science](#)
- BHDPO1315** "EU politics" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1162
- BESPO1162 - [Political science](#)
- BHDPO1316** "Mutations et politiques urbaines" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1160
- BESPO1160 - [Sociology](#)
- BHDPO1317** "Partis politiques et groupes d'intérêt" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1162
- BESPO1162 - [Political science](#)
- BNEER1282** "Néerlandais II" has prerequisite(s) BNEER1183
- BNEER1183 - [Dutch I](#)
- BNEER1382** "Néerlandais III" has prerequisite(s) BNEER1282
- BNEER1282 - [Dutch II](#)
- BPOLS1120** "Droit public" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1176
- BESPO1176 - [Law](#)
- BPOLS1233** "Méthodes quantitatives II: Statistique" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1231

- BPOLS1231 - [Approach and methods in social sciences](#)
- BPOLS1252** "[Questions spéciales d'anthropologie](#)" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1160 OU BPOLS1111
 - BESPO1160 - [Sociology](#)
 - BPOLS1111 - [Anthropology](#)
- BPOLS1320** "[Media en politiek](#)" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1162 OU BPOLS1110
 - BESPO1162 - [Political science](#)
 - BPOLS1110 - [Communication science](#)
- BPOLS1321** "[Society and Environment](#)" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1162 OU BESPO1160
 - BESPO1162 - [Political science](#)
 - BESPO1160 - [Sociology](#)
- BPOLS1330** "[Méthodes quantitatives I: Production des données](#)" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1231
 - BPOLS1231 - [Approach and methods in social sciences](#)
- BPOLS1331** "[Méthodes quantitatives III: Analyse des données](#)" has prerequisite(s) BPOLS1233 ET BPOLS1330
 - BPOLS1233 - [Quantitative methods II: statistics](#)
 - BPOLS1330 - [Quantitative methods I: data production](#)
- BPOLS1352** "[Ateliers](#)" has prerequisite(s) BSOCA1330 ET BPOLS1330 ET BPOLS1231
 - BSOCA1330 - [Field methods: observation and interviews](#)
 - BPOLS1330 - [Quantitative methods I: data production](#)
 - BPOLS1231 - [Approach and methods in social sciences](#)
- BSOCA1210** "[Sociologie de la culture](#)" has prerequisite(s) BESPO1160
 - BESPO1160 - [Sociology](#)

The programme's courses and learning outcomes

For each UCLouvain training programme, a [reference framework of learning outcomes](#) specifies the the skills expected of every graduate on completion of the programme. Course unit descriptions specify targeted learning outcomes, as well as the unit's contribution to reference framework of learning outcomes.

Detailed programme per annual block

SPOB1BA - 1ST ANNUAL UNIT

- Mandatory
- ✂ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2024-2025
- ⊖ Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2024-2025 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
- 🚫🌐 Not open to incoming exchange students

[FR]

SPOB1BA - 3RD ANNUAL UNIT

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2024-2025
- ⊖ Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2024-2025 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
- 🌐 Not open to incoming exchange students
- (FR) Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)

Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

o Content:

o Political Sciences

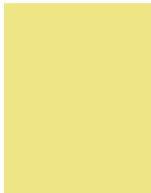
● BSPOL1322	Public Policy Analysis ■	Youri Vertongen (compensates Amandine Orsini) Youri Vertongen (compensates Abraham Franssen)	
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o Group Project

o BPOLS1352	Multidisciplinary workshop 🟡	Benjamin Denis Marie Dufrasne Sophie Jacquot Emmanuelle Lenel Renaud Maes (compensates Abraham Franssen) Youri Vertongen	[q1+q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🇳🇱
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o Languages

o Choose one course among the following :



⊗ BHDPO1315	EU politics 🇺🇦	Valentina Brogna	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ BDROI1340	General Theory of the State and the European Union 🇺🇦	Hugues Dumont	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐

⊗ **Optional choice of one course unit among :**

⊗ BCOMU1210	Communication, culture and social interactions 🇺🇦
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SPOB1BA - Information

Access Requirements

Decree of 7 November 2013 defining the landscape of higher education and the academic organization of studies.

The admission requirements must be met prior to enrolment in the University.

In the event of the divergence between the different linguistic versions of the present conditions, the French version shall prevail.

SUMMARY

- [General access requirements](#)

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- For any secondary school diploma **from a European Union country**, the admission request must contain the equivalence of your diploma or, at the very least, proof of the filing of the equivalence request with the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (French Community of Belgium). For any information relating to obtaining an equivalence, please refer to [the following site](#).
- For any secondary school diploma **from a country outside the European Union**, the admission application must contain the [equivalence of your diploma](#) issued by the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (French Community of Belgium). If you have a restrictive equivalence for the programme of your choice, in addition of it, you **must** have either the [DAES](#) or a certificate of successful completion of the [examination giving access to 1st cycle studies](#) when you submit your application

Access based on validation of professional experience

Admission to undergraduate studies on the basis of accreditation of knowledge and skills obtained through professional or personal experience (Accreditation of Prior Experience)

Subject to the general requirements laid down by the authorities of the higher education institution, with the aim of admission to the undergraduate programme, the examination boards accredit the knowledge and skills that students have obtained through their professional or personal experience.

This experience must correspond to at least five years of documented activity, with years spent in higher education being partially taken into account: 60 credits are deemed equivalent to one year of experience, with a maximum of two years being counted. At the end of an assessment procedure organized by the authorities of the higher education institution, the Examination Board will decide whether a student has sufficient skills and knowledge to successfully pursue undergraduate studies.

After this assessment, the Examination Board will determine the additional courses and possible exemptions constituting the supplementary requirements for the student's admission.

Teaching method

In addition to traditional lectures, which take place in moderate-sized auditoriums, active teaching practices encourage the use and development of theoretical, methodological and analytical skills.

Furthermore, the bachelor's degree in political science includes more 'practical' learning activities, for example in the form of seminars or workshops based on student contributions and held in small groups. This allows students to be in close contact with professors and teacher-researchers within small working groups, and to implement approaches which make concrete use of the knowledge acquired during the programme.

The Saint-Louis - Bruxelles campus is located right in the centre of Brussels, with easy metro and train connections as well as other practical advantages. But above all, its location close to the headquarters of national and European political institutions allows interactions and participation in activities to take place in relation to these stakeholders.

The Saint-Louis - Bruxelles campus places great importance on educational support for all bachelor's programmes. The Academic Guidance Service (AGS) offers a range of support activities.

Evaluation

The evaluation methods comply with the [regulations concerning studies and exams](#). More detailed explanation of the modalities specific to each learning unit are available on their description sheets under the heading "Learning outcomes evaluation method".

Assessments are generally carried out by means of an examination. In the case of seminars, they take into account the grades received for work submitted over the course of the year. Examinations are either written (for courses given to large groups of students) or oral. They focus not only on knowledge of the subject matter, but also on a student's ability to apply it to topics not discussed during the course.

Three exam sessions are organised during the academic year, in January, June and August/September. First-year students who do not achieve passing grades in the January session have up to two opportunities to retake specific examinations, in June and/or September.

Mobility and/or Internationalisation outlook

Exchange programmes

UCLouvain Saint-Louis - Bruxelles has exchange agreements with universities outside the French-speaking community of Belgium. These agreements allow students to take part of their bachelor's degree programme at a partner university while remaining enrolled at UCLouvain Saint-Louis - Bruxelles. Conversely, students from partner universities may take part of their bachelor's programme at UCLouvain Saint-Louis - Bruxelles.

Three types of exchange are available:

- Erasmus exchanges with universities in European Union countries
- Erasmus Belgica exchanges with Dutch-language Belgian universities
- exchanges with universities outside Europe, on the basis of bilateral agreements

Students in political science can take part in an ERASMUS exchange in the second term of year 3. [Find out more](#) about the proposed destinations. The exchange programme is equivalent to approximately 30 credits.

Language study grants

The faculty awards grants to students for language courses in various destinations during the summer. The selection of candidates is based on their results and motivation.

Students who take part in an Erasmus exchange during year 3 may also take part in another Erasmus stay during their master's degree.

Find out more about the [language stays and study grants](#).

Possible trainings at the end of the programme

The bachelor's degree in political science: general orientation gives direct access to the following master's programmes at UCLouvain's Louvain-la-Neuve, or at another university in the Féd's d9in's

Master's degrees [60]

- [Master \[60\] in Political Sciences: General](#)
- [Master \[60\] in Labour Sciences \(shift schedule\)](#)

Contacts

Faculty administration

02 211 78 79 - espo-slb@uclouvain.be

Office: Ommegang 6 - 2nd floor - office OM 205

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday, 10am to 12.30pm

Curriculum Management

Faculty

Structure entity

Denomination

Sector

Acronym

Postal address

SSH/ESPB

Faculty of Economics, Social and Political Sciences and
Communication Saint-Louis ([ESPB](#))Human Sciences ([SSH](#))

ESPB

Boulevard du Jardin Botanique 43 - bte

1000 Bruxelles

Mandate(s)

- Dean : Abraham Franssen

Academic supervisor: [Amandine Orsini](#)

Jury

- President: [Yannick Vanderborght](#)
- Secretary: [Amandine Orsini](#)
- Third member: [Karine Dejean](#)

