

# Department of Political Science

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## What is Political Science?

The political science major is concerned with the theory and practice of politics and the analysis of political systems and political behavior. Political scientists study to reveal the relationships underlying political events and conditions. The undergraduate curriculum of the Department of Political Science is structured to develop an understanding of the dynamics and institutions of political life, to learn the methods of empirical research and analysis, and to educate a prepared citizen for society.

## Political Science at Kyung Hee

The oldest of its kind in Korea, the Department of Political Science at Kyung Hee University accepted its first students in 1955. Since then, the department has become a leading faculty of political science in Korea, training graduates who have become leaders in both the public and private sectors. The department aims to educate students in the basic theories and practices of politics, both domestic and international, so as to prepare them to take on leading positions and roles in the public sector. As such the curriculum focuses on teaching the students analytical tools and skills which will enable them to understand and analyze politics and political behavior as well as the institutions and processes through which public policy is formed in different political systems. The curriculum is divided into three sub-fields: political thought and theory, comparative politics, international relations.

Currently, there are 10 faculty members and some 237 undergraduate students in the department. The department runs a special program for those students preparing to work for the citizen sphere.

## Degree Requirements

The requirements for the intensive single major track include:

- 23 courses in political science (67 credits): 2 required courses (6 credits), 2 basic courses (4 credits) and 19 elective courses (57 credits)
- a graduation thesis
- The requirements for the dual-major track include:
- 15 courses (45 credits) in political science including 2 required courses (6 credits), 1 basic course (3 credits) and 12 elective courses (36 credits)
- a graduation thesis (this may be waived under certain conditions)

## Courses

### Year 1

Introduction to Political Science, Theories of International Relations, Political Science Careers

### Year 2

Western Political Thoughts, Korean Politics, Theories of International Relations, Western Modern Political Thought, The Constitution & Political Institutions, Politics of Information Society, Contemporary Parties and Elections, Seminar on Area Studies, International Organizations, Research Methods of Political Science, Trade and Politics, Special Lecture

Series of Mentors, Social Conflict and Politics,

### Year 3

National Assembly and President, North Korean Politics, European Politics, Japanese Politics, Russian Politics, Foreign Policy Analysis, International Relations in East Asia, International Conflict and Peace, International Political Economy, International Environmental Politics, Civil War and Political Violence, Politics and Strategy, American Politics and Foreign Policy, Data Analysis for Political Science, Capstone Design(Political Science),Capstone Design2(Political Science) Field studies in politics, Comparative Politics, Understanding Public Diplomacy, South-North Korean Relations and Unification, International Relations Theories and Their Applications, Art of Diplomacy, Gender and Politics, International Migration and Identity Politics, (Independent Learning & Research 1(Political Science & International Relations), Independent Learning & Research 2(Political Science & International Relations),Liberalism and Communitarianism, Politics of civic participation, Foreign Policy Analysis

### Year 4

Political Leadership,Globalization and Global Governance, Capstone Design(Political Science) Government and Politics of China, Art of Diplomacy, International Negotiation and Cooperation, China and Globalization, Independent Learning & Research 1(Political Science & International Relations), Independent Learning & Research 2(Political Science & International Relations), Capstone Design2(Political Science)

## Careers and Graduate Destinations

The vast majority of the graduates enter public service upon graduation, including foreign service, political parties, law, and the media, while a large number also join the private sector, and other graduates go on to work for NGO affiliations. Some students wish to further their study in political science and enter graduate programs for the M.A. degree or Ph.D. degree and some graduates stay at foreign universities around the world.

## Faculty

Seong-Ho Lim, Ph.D. M.I.T, 1995, Professor, Comparative Politics, limsh@khu.ac.kr  
Seok-Won Song, Ph.D. Kyoto University, 2000, Professor, Japanese Politics, j60w0178@khu.ac.kr  
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Seong-yi Yun, Ph.D. Ohio State University, 1997, Professor, Korean Politics, yun31@khu.ac.kr  
Jong-pil Chung, Ph.D. Syracuse University, 2005, Professor, Chinese Politics, jongpil@khu.ac.kr  
Jungkun Seo, Ph.D. University of Texas, Austin, 2007, Professor, American Politics, seojk@khu.ac.kr  
Min-hyung Kim, Ph.D. University of Washington, 2008, Professor, International Relations, min-hyung@khu.ac.kr  
Jinhee Jo, Ph.D. University of Rochester, 2012, Associate Professor, Political Economy, jinheejo@khu.ac.kr  
Hyun Jin Choi, Ph.D. Michigan State University, 2012, Associate Professor, International Relations, choihj@khu.ac.kr  
Soo Jin Kim, Ph.D. Princeton University, 2019, assistant professor, Political Theory, suzie.kim@khu.ac.kr