

MA Political Science

(major or minor)

Inequality, Power, Conflict



Why should I study Political Science at the University of Basel?



Die FG PoWi lädt herzlich ein zum interaktiven Talk:
**Wieso werden junge Männer
immer rechter und junge Frauen
immer linker?**



EUROVISION
SONG CONTEST
BASEL 2025



Political Science at the University of Basel: Highlights

- **Combination with a second subject:** Political Science + Sociology, Gender Studies, Near Middle Eastern Studies, Media Science etc.
- Young and **dynamic department** (since 2017) with highly motivated teachers
- **Empirical** and analytical driven program
- Cooperation with **Swisspeace, Basel Institute on Governance & EUCOR**
- **Specialty: Regional Expertise** (North-South, Europe etc.)
- New teaching focus: ***Inequality, Power and Conflict***



Inequality, Power, Conflict



Update of MA Title:

- **New Name:** *Master Political Science – Inequality, Power, Conflict*
- **Focus:** Integrates Political Sociology, Comparative Politics, and International Relations/Peace Research.
- **Language:** All courses offered in English.

Enhanced Thematic Focus:

- **Consolidated Modules:** 20 ECTS specialization on *Inequality, Power, Conflict*
- **Flexible Study:** Focused studies within this theme *or* alongside other Political Science courses.

Emphasis on Methodology:

- **Applied Methods Seminars:** Enhance practical methodological skills both for research and the job market.

Goal: Preparing Graduates for Advanced Roles in a Changing World

MA in Political Science in a nutshell

- 4 semesters (120 ECTS)
- Two subjects, each 35 ECTS
- Master thesis in one of the subjects (major), 30 ECTS
- Free electives, 20 ECTS
- All political science MA classes held in **English**
- Possibility to **obtain credit points for internships**
- EUCOR cooperation with 5 universities in 3 countries
- Cooperation with **swisspeace** (e.g. **Summer School** e.g. Colombia, South Sudan, Syria) and **Basel Institute on Governance** (seminars, internships)



International Cooperation

EUCOR

- Cooperation of **5 universities in 3 countries** along the Rhine
- **Joint course offers:**
e.g., Seminar: "**Escaping Europe**" (Seminar designed as Escape Room Game)

EPICURE

- Joint course "**European Values**" with a university in Poland + visit to Poznań

FIELD TRIPS

- e.g. to the European Parliament or international conferences



Potential course of MA program (1/2)

1st Semester

- Research methods (quant./qual., 5 ECTS)
- Introductory course (3 ECTS)

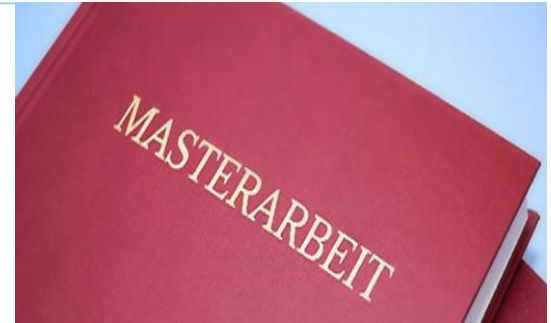
2nd Semester

- Two research seminars (6 ECTS)
- Seminar paper (5 ECTS)

Potential course of MA program (2/2)

3rd Semester

- Research colloquium (3 ECTS)
- Courses of your choice or internship (3 ECTS)
- Writing MA thesis



4th Semester

- Submission MA thesis (30 ECTS)
- MA exam (5 ECTS)



Seminars in the MA program

Examples from Autumn 2025 & Spring 2026

- The Political Consequences of Economic Inequality
- The Political Economy of "Natural" Disasters in the Global South
- Women and Politics in Comparative Perspective
- Politics of Migration
- Corruption and Development
- Peace Negotiations
- Chinese Politics
- War, Democracy, and Civic Agency in Ukraine
- Political Elites: Who Are They, How Do They Decide, What Do We Like/Hate About Them?
- Politics of Military Occupation
- The Impact of Lobbying: How Business and Civil Society Shape Public Policy



Master Thesis Examples

Swiss Politicians and Their Social Media Behavior

- Quantitative Content Analysis of Tweets by Politicians on Twitter/X
- Data used: Social Media Data (e.g., Twitter, X)

Campaign Effects and Voting Behavior in EU Referendums

- Quantitative and/or Qualitative Analysis of Treaty Referendums
- Data used : Survey Data and/or Semi-Structured Interviews

Determinants of Political Ideology and/or Attitudes

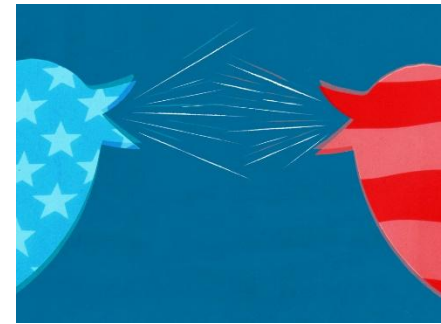
- Quantitative Analysis of Existing Data
- Data used : World Value Surveys

Lobbyist for Hire: Why Interest Groups Retain Consultants During the EU's Policy Formulation Stage

- Quantitative and/or Qualitative Analysis
- Data used : Survey Data and/or Semi-Structured Interviews

Peace-building and State-building in Post-conflict Countries

- Qualitative Analysis, Process Tracing in Selected Countries
- Data used : Expert Interviews, Document Analysis



Questions?

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