



# Historical Evolution of Political Science and Social Political Economy

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## DESCRIPTION

The study of politics and power from a national, global, and comparative perspective is known as political science. Understanding politics requires knowledge of groups, classes, governments, diplomacy, law, strategy, and war as well as political concepts, ideologies, institutions, policies, practices, and conduct. Political science, as it is generally understood and studied, investigates the state, as well as its institutions and organizations. Modern political science covers research on all the sociological, cultural, and psychological elements that have an impact on whether governments and the general public function.

The focus on power defined as the capacity of one political actor to influence another person to do what is desired at the global, national, and local levels sets political science apart from the other social sciences. Political philosophy and political science have significant parallels, but they're separate disciplines. Political philosophy is normative in attitude and rationalistic in methodology; it is primarily concerned with political ideas and principles, such as rights, justice, freedom, and political obligation. Political science, in contrast, analyses institutions and behaviour. It favours the descriptive over the normative and builds hypotheses or derives conclusions from empirical data that, if possible, is expressed quantitatively. Political science, like all modern disciplines, relies on empirical research but typically doesn't generate exact measurements and forecasts. This has led some academics to question if the field can truly be called a science.

Historical development ancient influences, in the writings of numerous scholars, such Confucius (551-479 BCE) in China and Kautilya (flourished 300 BCE) in India, analyses of politics first appeared in ancient societies. The study of politics in the Arabic-speaking world has been strongly impacted by the North African historical writings of Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406). Students of Aristotle gathered information on 158 Greek city-states, which Aristotle utilised to create his renowned typology of political systems, which is divided into six categories. He made distinctions between political systems based on the number of rulers and the legitimacy of the structure. Though democracy

was viewed by Aristotle as mob rule in his classification, it was still the roughest type of governance. In modern polity, the best type of government was comparable to a successful democracy. Aristotle correctly observed that a polity functions best when the middle class is large, and recent empirical data support this finding. Aristotle's classification has stood the test of time and is still useful for comprehending political systems. The polis (state), which for the Greeks meant both society and the political system, was the focus of Plato and Aristotle's work. Alexander the Great, an Aristotelian student, conquered the Mediterranean region and beyond between 336-323 BCE, and after his death, his generals divided up his empire.

19th-century roots of contemporary political science the 19th century saw the rapid development of the natural sciences, which sparked interest in the development of a new social science, and is where the majority of the roots of contemporary political science can be found. He created the term ideology in the 1790s to describe his science of ideas, which, in his opinion, could create a perfect society. On the publication of the Plan of the Scientific Operations Necessary for the Reorganization of Society (1822), Saint-Simon worked with the French mathematician and philosopher Auguste Comte (1798-1857), widely regarded as the father of sociology. Comte's theory predicted that politics would develop into a social physics and that scientific laws of social progress would be discovered. In 1895 the London School of Economics and Political Science was founded in England, and the first chair of politics was established at the University of Oxford in 1912.

The early 20th century, developments in the United States universities, politics have long been studied, although typically as a part of courses in law, philosophy, or economics. After studying at the Ecole Libre in Paris, John W. Burgess founded a school of political science at Columbia University in New York City in 1880. This marks the beginning of political science as a distinct academic discipline in American colleges. Despite the unequal growth of political science faculties after 1900, by the 1920s the majority of significant institutions had created new departments with names like political science, government, or politics up to World War II, American political science was heavily institutionalized and very formalistic, with a constitution-

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focused approach. The work of American political scientists represents an effort to create a field that is independent of history, moral philosophy, and political economy.

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