

◀ Political Sciences ▶

At the end of this lecture, you are going to learn the followings :

- What means by **Political Sciences** ?
- Which topics do **Political Scientists** deal with?
- What are the main disciplines of **Political** studies?
- How can we get benefit from this field in language learning?

Definition :

It is a social science concerned with the study of the state , nation , government and politics¹ and policies of government. Politics is "The activities in getting and using power in public life and being able to influence decisions that affect a country or a society."²

Its Topics : It deals extensively with the theory and practice of politics , and the analysis of political systems , political behaviours and political culture.

Political Scientists are engaged in revealing the relationships underlying political events and its conditions , and from this revelations they attempt to constitute principles about the way the world of politics work.

Disciplines of Political Sciences :

It is commonly divided into distinct sub- disciplines which together constitute the field:

- Political theory ,
- Political philosophy,
- Political ideology,
- Policy studies,
- Political economy,
- Comparative politics,
- Public administration,
- International relations,
- Public law ³

Political Sciences in Study:

Students who are studying political sciences can gain **analytical skills , administrative competences and communication abilities** that are valued in a wide spectrum of potential career areas. Like :

- Motivation , Critical thinking, Argumentation, Originality , Respect , etc.

¹ late Middle English: from Old French politique 'political', via Latin from Greek politikos, from politēs 'citizen', from polis 'city'.

² From Oxford Dictionary

³ From wikipedia

Tip: If you are going to make debates in English about different political topics, you are going to get new skills.

The use of English in politics :

Language is the medium through which we understand each other. It is fundamental for each thing we do in life, it helps us to communicate ideas, persuade and present ourselves; English language for example can be used in the interactive learning, interpretation, telephone or interviewing skills, debates, etc.

English language has become the language of international relations, if you understand and speak it, you will facilitate your work and get extra benefits. But in political field, you have to take trainings in English for politics. (Varieties of English is a vast field in ESP)⁴

The latter is the active topic in all languages, talking about politics in English with your mates for example, is a great opportunity to practice your language skills; if you really feel strongly about a political viewpoint, you will be motivated to make yourself understood, just learn expressions and vocabulary you need to discuss politics with.

If you want also to improve your language skills, you can put a hand in the different debates held by many language centres all over the world. It is a great chance to invest your vocabulary and communicative talents. Besides, as students, you should not only be aware of events and decisions of this world, it is beneficial to understand why these events come to be.

In that case, you have to be eager to debates and talks about political affairs of the current world. Discussing in English with your mates about the different immediate topics in politics will enlarge your experience and backgrounds.

⁴ VARIETIES OF ENGLISH SIMPLIFIED Hassan Ghazala <http://libback.uqu.edu.sa/hipres/e-book/eb88.pdf>