

## Subject Guide to Political Science

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### Browsing the Political Science Collection

The call number heading for political science is J. In the event that you do not find what you are looking for by simply browsing, please consult the online catalog. Below is a table for the Library of Congress Classification scheme for political science.





J 1-981	General Legislative and Executive Papers	JS 39-8500	Local Government
JA 1-92	Political Science—General	JV 1-9480	Colonies and Colonization
JC 11-605	Political Theory—The State	JX 1- JZ 6530	Intl. Law and Relations
JF 20- JQ 6651	Political Institutions and Public Administration		

### Selected Reference Books

#### *General*

-  **The Almanac of American Politics** [JK1012 .A45 2008 Ref] – provides articles which contain information pertaining to all 50 states of the United States. Information includes state histories and career biographies of governors, senators, and representatives. State maps of congressional district boundaries are also included in articles.
-  **American Political Scientists: A Dictionary** [JA61 .A525 1993 Ref] – contains biographical articles of 171 scholarly political scientists who contributed significantly to the discipline. The time period covered begins in the late nineteenth century and continues to around 1970. In addition to biographical information, articles include bibliographies, which contain selected works and works about the political scientists when applicable.
-  **Encyclopedia of American Parties, Campaigns, and Elections** [JK9 .B56 1999 Ref] – includes brief articles pertaining to political issues, events, and individuals who have served in political positions. Examples of topics include bandwagon effect, congressional elections and James Madison. Articles range from one to two paragraphs.
-  **Encyclopedia of Government and Politics** [JA61 .C66 1991Ref, 2 volumes] – provides articles which discuss political science topics, such as “campaigns and elections” and bureaucracies. Articles generally range from ten to 25 pages in length. Some articles contain lists of resources for further reading.
-  **Encyclopedia of Human Rights** [JC571 .E67 1996 Ref] – contains articles covering regional, national, and international activities which occurred for the promotion of human rights between 1945 and 1996. Topics covered include freedom of thought, minorities’ rights and many others. Articles generally range from three to fifteen pages in length.
-  **Safire’s Political Dictionary** [JK9 .S2 2008 Ref] – provides definitions and other information for various political terms, such as “bread-and-butter issue” and “crossover vote.” Entries generally range from a few paragraphs to a few pages.

#### *International*

-  **The Europa World Year Book** [JN1 .E85 2008 Ready Ref, 2 volumes] – contains chapters pertaining to countries of the world. Chapters are arranged alphabetically by country and contain historical information, government directory information, and statistical data pertaining to population, area, labor, finance and other topics. Articles typically range in length from 10 to 30 pages. Volume 1 also covers international organizations.
-  **The Penguin Dictionary of International Relations** [JZ1161 .E94 1998 Ref] – includes articles which define and discuss international relations topics, such as fascism and international order. Articles range from one paragraph to a few pages.
-  **Political Handbook of the World** [JF37 .P6 Ref, 1980-2002; 2005-2008] – contains thorough articles with information about countries of the world and their governments. Intergovernmental organizations also included.
-  **The Statesman’s Yearbook** [JA51 .S7 1978-2010 Ref] – provides information pertaining to international organizations and countries throughout the world. Articles covering organizations include historical, financial,

and other information. Articles covering countries each include a map and provide historical, demographic, governmental, economic and other information. The length of articles ranges from a few pages to 50 pages.

- 📖 **World Encyclopedia of Parliaments and Legislatures** [JF511 .W67 1998 Ref, 2 volumes] – contains articles which provide information pertaining to the countries of the world. Information in articles includes the date of independence, form of government, elections, governmental operations and other information. Articles vary in length, as some may be a few pages while others are 10 to 15 pages long. Some articles also include maps.

### *Legislative*

- 📖 **Congress and the Nation: A Review of Government and Politics in the Postwar Years** [KF49 .C653 1945-2004 Ref, 11 volumes and one cumulative index] – These volumes cover the topics of politics, policies such as foreign and defense policies, health and human services, and many others. Chapters generally range from 15 to 100 pages in length. These volumes also contain information pertaining to key votes, congressional membership, the President, and political issues and events, and a glossary of congressional terms.
- 📖 **Congressional Quarterly Almanac** [JK1 .C66 1972-2009 Ref] – provides articles pertaining to legislation in the United States Congress. This book also includes votes in the House and Senate, information pertaining to bills, and other information. Several topics are covered such as agriculture, education, and foreign policy. Chapters vary in length, depending on coverage.
- 📖 **CQ Weekly** [JK1 .C67 1980-2011 Ref] – formerly known as Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report, this is a hardbound collection of weekly magazine issues which cover governmental, social, financial, industrial, and many other types of issues. The length of articles generally ranges from one to five pages.
- 📖 **Guide to Congress** [JK1021 .C565 2008 Ref, 2 volumes] – contains information pertaining to the United States Congress. Chapters cover the following topics: congressional history, powers, functions, influencing factors, facilities, elections, qualifications and conduct. Topical chapters vary in length. Some may cover 10 to 20 pages while others contain 50 to 60 pages.

### **Selected Databases**

- 📖 **Academic Search Premier** [EBSCOhost] <sup>Off-Campus Full-Text</sup> - indexes and abstracts articles from a wide range of academic areas including business, social sciences, humanities, general academic, general science, education and multi-cultural. Provides coverage for over 100 political science journals.
- 📖 **JSTOR** <sup>Off-Campus Full-Text</sup> – cites 127 political science journals, many of which are available in full text in JSTOR.

### **Selected Web Sites**

- 🔗 **American Political Science Association** [<http://www.apsanet.org>] – the official Web site of the American Political Science Association. This site contains links to political science publications, a listing of discussion groups, and information pertaining to meetings, teaching, jobs and careers, and other information. Also included is a search engine for searching within the site.
- 🔗 **Political Information.com** [<http://www.politicalinformation.com>] – a Web site which focuses on the topics of politics, policy and political news. This site contains a search engine with an index of over 5,000 Web sites checked for currency and quality content every two or three weeks.
- 🔗 **USA.gov** [<http://www.usa.gov>] – the U.S. government's official Web portal. On this Web site, you can find government agencies and information on many other topics.