Bachelor of Science (BSc)

Politics, Psychology, Law and Economics

website: pple.uva.nl
Not one major problem facing the world today – for example, the global financial crisis, the conflict between national identity and migration, the debate between security and privacy – can be addressed without drawing on the subjects of politics, psychology, law and economics. Only PPLE College combines these four disciplines into one Bachelor’s programme.

In lectures, students hear from top professors, who design their courses specifically for PPLE. In tutorials, small groups of students discuss course materials with tutors, present group projects and engage in debates. PPLE teachers pride themselves on knowing their students personally, answering their questions and like nothing more than a discussion that keeps going after class has been dismissed.

PPLE students come from everywhere, from small Dutch towns to the largest global cities and everything in between. All find a home in Amsterdam, which like PPLE is small in numbers but culturally larger than life.

Outside the classroom, the Talent Development Project organizes events, trainings and excursions to help students connect theory with practice. Graduating PPLE students are prepared to enter masters programmes in their majors. They also develop lasting skills in the other three areas that help them solve problems throughout their professional lives.

Recent studies show that the average millenial will have between 15-20 jobs over the course of their working lives. PPLE won’t just prepare you to find a career in this changing world, it will prepare you for change itself.
Why these four disciplines?
The four PPLE disciplines make up the building blocks of society. Politics studies the organization and distribution of power in the world; how the rules of the game are made and who makes them. Law studies how those rules are applied, interpreted, manipulated or upheld. Economics studies the role of money and markets – how rules affect them and they affect rules. Psychology studies how individuals, alone or in groups, make decisions in response to the world around them.

Curriculum
In the first year, all students complete the same core curriculum, including thematic courses grounded in Politics, Psychology, Law and Economics, but also social science philosophy, academic research and rhetoric. These courses explore not only the foundational elements of the four core disciplines, but emphasize the connections between them. In the second and third year, students specialize in one of the four disciplines but continue taking at least one core curriculum course each semester. This combination of specialization and integration allows students to bring their deepening knowledge of their major subjects back to the whole group during core courses.

Small scale and intensive
PPLE students attend 16 hours of class each week, double the hours of most European university programmes. Each course consists of two lectures and two tutorials per week. The entire class attends lectures but tutorials only have about 15 students. In addition to classes, each student is assigned a tutor-mentor, a PPLE tutor who advises and counsels the student throughout the entire three years of the programme. PPLE also has its own student counselor and dedicated student services department.

An international classroom
We strive for a PPLE class that is balanced between Dutch students and those coming from abroad. Like real life, however, the real numbers are a bit more complex. Many Dutch PPLE students have grown up abroad. Others are from small towns and coming to PPLE for their first international experience. Some foreign PPLE students are coming to Europe for the first time. Despite this desire for a balanced class, there are no admissions quotas or limits. This flexibility in admissions is evidenced by the fact that we have students from over 50 different nationalities.

Your entry requirements
In general we require:
• a secondary school diploma equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma, including math.
• sufficient proficiency in English, as demonstrated through TOEFL, IELTS or Cambridge test scores (non-native speakers).

Please check:
pple.uva.nl/how-to-apply

Application deadline and procedure
The application deadline is 1 March 2017. The admissions procedure includes writing a motivation letter and an essay. Successful candidates are invited to an interview.

'It’s exciting to see what results from the confrontation of these different views. Fresh ideas are born from a multi-disciplinary perspective.'
- PPLE Dean Radboud Winkels

'It feels great to be part of a group of smart people who are ambitious and who really want to put themselves out there to make a change.'
- PPLE student Dina Hrastovic
Is PPLE right for you?
Interdisciplinary does not mean undecided. PPLE seeks students who have a genuine interest in our four subjects and how they fit together, who enjoy intellectual challenges and wrestling with real-world problems, who are willing and able to work hard. The ideal PPLE student enjoys the process of learning for its own sake and engages others to do the same.

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Tuition fees 2016-2017:
€ 3,968 (Dutch/EEA students); € 9,900 (non-EEA)

Visit our open days!
See the agenda on our website: pple.uva.nl.