BISP Certificate Program: Current and Historical Politics

BISP Certificate Overview

The BISP Certificate in Current and Historical Politics is available for visiting students who are interested in current-day political and societal issues, examining political history, public policy, law, power and governance, criminal justice, conflicts and war, NGOs, social movements, human rights, globalization, immigration, international relations, journalism, media, among other areas of work that involve politics. The political focus may be on the U.S. and/or other regions in the world.

Politics affects every aspect of human life and society and this BISP Certificate consists of multidisciplinary fields and courses focused on current and historical perspectives including history, sociology, and economics. Students can choose to focus their courses on a particular interest in politics, or study more broadly with a variety of political topics.

Learning Goals

By pursuing this BISP certificate, you will gain:

• UC Berkeley academic credit in a focused set of courses tailored to your interests in politics.

• Faculty guidance on a culminating certificate project in which you will synthesize learnings and insight gained in your coursework and research at UC Berkeley.

• Research and analytical skills through approaching political and historical issues from multiple perspectives.

• Communication and presentation skills through your participation in the BISP Certificate Program and coursework.

Sample Courses

For a more complete list of pre-approved courses, click here.

• Political Economy in Historical Context
• Globalization and Minority American Communities
• Political and Economic Development in the Third World
• Social and Political Thought in the Diaspora
• Comparative Perspectives in Sociology: The Global Elite
• Global Migration: The Political Economy of Displacement
• Nordic Lands: Politics, Society and Culture

About BISP

BISP provides study opportunities at UC Berkeley for visiting international and domestic students for one or two semesters. BISP supports its students beginning to end, and provides a robust set of activities to get to know students from around the world. Due to the pandemic we are mostly a virtual program, which provides unique opportunities for students to participate in our program near and far away. BISP sponsors qualified students by way of invitation to apply with UC Berkeley Extension who provide the means for enrolling in Berkeley courses on a space availability basis (many courses have space!), processes tuition and fees, and provides the necessary visa documents when possible for international students.

Applying for the BISP Certificate is Easy!

• Please fill out a simple inquiry form on our Contact page. We recommend doing this right away to receive relevant and timely information about the program and deadlines, and to ask questions.

• For more information about BISP Certificates, visit bisp.berkeley.edu/certificates

• Spring 2021: BISP Goes Virtual! More information is available at bisp.berkeley.edu/virtual