



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

राजनीति शास्त्री

Political scientists study systems of government, elections, policies and political ideas. Using surveys and data, they explain political trends for governments, think tanks and the media.



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/socst-4553

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Jethantri · ब्लॉक समदड़ी · बालोतरा (Block Samdari · Balotra)

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सुशील कुमार शर्मा

प्रधानाचार्य, रा.उ.मा.वि. जेठन्तरी · मास्टर ट्रेनर
Principal, GSSS Jethantri · Master Trainer



श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
Designed & developed · Lecturer (History)

विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

Political scientists study systems of government, elections, policies and political ideas. Using surveys and data, they explain political trends for governments, think tanks and the media.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Class 12 (any stream) + bachelor's and master's in political science
Work mode	Office and research; fieldwork during election surveys
Demand	Growing - in think tanks, election analysis, policy and teaching
Top earning	₹2.5 lakh+/month at professor/senior fellow level

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Interest in politics, society and current affairs
- Love of debate, argument and ideas
- Like reading trends from data and surveys

ABILITIES

- Skilled written and spoken communication
- Ability to analyse and interpret data
- Independent, critical thinking

KEY SKILLS

- Grounding in political theory and the Indian Constitution
- Comparative politics and international relations
- Survey design and election data analysis
- Research writing and policy analysis
- Public speaking and media communication
- Basic knowledge of statistical tools

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 12 in any stream.
- 2 Do a BA (Hons) in political science - admission mostly via CUET.
- 3 Pursue an MA in political science/international relations/public policy.
- 4 Clear UGC NET/JRF and do a PhD.
- 5 Take research roles at think tanks, survey bodies or universities.

MAIN EXAMS

- CUET UG/PG for university admission
- UGC NET/JRF in political science
- UPSC/RPSC - political science is a popular optional

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- University of Rajasthan — Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Mohanlal Sukhadia University — Udaipur, Rajasthan
- Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) — New Delhi
- University of Delhi — Delhi
- Banaras Hindu University — Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- Ashoka University — Sonapat, Haryana
- Christ University — Bengaluru, Karnataka
- O.P. Jindal Global University — Sonapat, Haryana

ONLINE

- IGNOU (M.A. Political Science, distance) — Distance education

FEES

Course fees roughly ₹5,000 to ₹1,00,000 per year; very low at government universities and IGNOU.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- National Scholarship Portal (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)
- Vidya Lakshmi Education Loan Portal (<https://www.vidyalakshmi.co.in>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Universities, think tanks, survey and election analysis bodies, government agencies, media and international organisations.

WORK CULTURE

Mostly full-time office research; extra hours near report deadlines and fieldwork during elections. Opportunities exist for persons with disabilities.

WHO HIRES

- Universities and colleges
- Central and state government agencies
- Media houses and digital news platforms
- Think tanks like CSDS-Lokniti, CPR and ORF
- Election survey and political consulting firms
- International bodies like the United Nations

DEMAND (2026)

Opportunities for political scientists are growing in 2026 with the rapid expansion of election analytics, public policy and political consulting.

7 Career growth

- 1 Research assistant
- 2 Political scientist/Assistant professor
- 3 Senior fellow/Associate professor
- 4 Professor/Director/Senior adviser

EARNINGS

Starting	₹25,000-40,000
Mid level	₹55,000-1,00,000
Senior level	₹1,50,000-2,50,000

UGC pay scales in universities; think tanks and political consulting pay much more with experience.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Work that helps understand and improve democracy and policy
- Diverse paths - teaching, media and consulting
- Directly complements UPSC preparation

The challenges

- Stiff competition for permanent academic posts
- A PhD is often needed for good roles
- Pressure of public criticism on political topics

9 Real-life journeys

Pratap Bhanu Mehta

Eminent political scientist - former president of the Centre for Policy Research

Born in Jodhpur, Pratap Bhanu Mehta studied at Oxford and Princeton, taught at Harvard and led the Centre for Policy Research, ranking among India's foremost political thinkers.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pratap_Bhanu_Mehta

Zoya Hasan

Political scientist - professor emerita at JNU

Zoya Hasan taught political science at Jawaharlal Nehru University for decades, wrote several books on Indian politics and social justice, and served on the National Commission for Minorities.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zoya_Hasan

10 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- Criminologist
- Anthropologist
- Museologist

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance portal - official career page — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/political-scientist-%e0%a4%b0%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%9c%e0%a4%a8%e0%a5%80%e0%a4%a4%e0%a4%bf-%e0%a4%b6%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%b8%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%a4%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%b0%e0%a5%80-%e0%a4%aa%e0%a5%89%e0%a4%b2%e0%a4%bf/>
2. National Career Service portal — <https://www.ncs.gov.in>
3. National Scholarship Portal — <https://scholarships.gov.in>
4. NIRF institute rankings — <https://www.nirfindia.org>
5. Vidya Lakshmi education loan portal — <https://www.vidyalakshmi.co.in>



And 770+ more careers — the whole portal

Interest and aptitude tests, government jobs, skill courses and a CV builder — free, no login, and it works offline.

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