

Additional information may be obtained from:

UM-St. Louis Admissions Office
One University Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63121-4400
(314) 516-5451
<http://www.umsl.edu/>



University of Missouri-St. Louis

Political Science

Why UM-SL?

The Department of Political Science at UM-St. Louis offers broad coverage of the study of politics in the areas of American politics, urban politics, public law, comparative politics, international relations, public administration and policy, and research methodology. Our faculty has won excellence in teaching awards and they are nationally and internationally recognized for their research. The political science major provides students with the skills and knowledge to understand the theory and practice of politics and government both in the United States and abroad. UM-St. Louis political science students study the presidency, legislative and judicial systems, political parties, interest groups and elections, political theory, city government and urban development, international organizations, conflict, war, and other political processes. Our internship program provides opportunities for students to learn first-hand about politics, government, law, and nonprofit agencies in the St. Louis metropolitan area and in Washington, D.C. Students have the opportunity to study abroad and work with faculty on research projects. The Political Science Academy, a student organization, sponsors monthly meetings, usually at professors' homes, where students and faculty come together to discuss timely topics led by a guest speaker. Our alumni enter careers in law, business, politics, government service, nonprofit agencies, and education.

Career Outlook

Political science majors have done well in the job market and in pursuing graduate education. Majors develop communications and decision-making skills, research techniques, learn to analyze complex policy issues, both domestic and international in scope, and have a thorough understanding of government and politics. Political science is a particularly good undergraduate major for pre-law students. Many other majors pursue careers in business, education, public administration, journalism, public relations, nonprofit organizations, and many other fields. A number of graduates have been elected to public office. Publications relating to careers in political science are available in the Department office.

General Information

Faculty

Political science faculty are nationally known scholars in their respective fields, dedicated to high-

quality teaching. Department faculty members recently have received distinctions such as Fulbright and National Science Foundation grants and Governor's teaching awards and have held important professional positions, including membership in the governing councils of the Midwest Political Science Association and International Studies Association. The faculty has published its research in more than 80 books and 400 articles in scholarly journals and has authored several texts used throughout the United States.

Degree Programs

Undergraduate Studies

The Political Science Department offers undergraduate work leading to the B.A. degree in political science, B.S. degree in public policy and administration, and, in cooperation with the School of Education, to the B.S. in education with an emphasis in social studies. Minors in political science are available to students with a special interest in law, government, and politics but who are majoring in another discipline.

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (B.A.)

- A total of 120 hours is required.
- Satisfy the University and College general education requirements.
- Complete at least 36 hours, but no more than 45 in political science, including:
 - 1100, Introduction to American Politics
 - 1500, Introduction to Comparative Politics
 - 2000, Political Analysis
 - 3950, Senior Seminar
- Take at least one course in four of the following political science subfields:
 - Public Law American Politics
 - Political Theory Methodology
 - Comparative Policy
 - International Relations
 - Public Policy & Administration
- Take at least 18 hours of political science courses at the 2000, 3000, 4000-level, not including PS 2000.

In addition to this general course of study in political science, the Department offers several specialized programs of study in political science geared to various student academic and career interests:

- Legal Studies
- American Politics
- Public Policy and Administration
- International and Comparative Studies

CAREER GUIDE

For more information regarding the B.A. degree, see the on-line *University of Missouri-St. Louis Bulletin: Undergraduate, Graduate and Professional Catalog*.

Bachelor of Science in Public Policy and Administration (B.S.P.P.A.)

- A total of 120 hours is required.
- Satisfy the University and College general education requirements.
- Complete at least 33, but no more than 45, hours in political science.
- Take the following core courses:
PS 1100, PS 1500, PS 2000, PS 2400, PS 2420, PS 3940, PS 3950
Econ 1001, Econ 1002, and CCJ 2220 or Soc 3220 or Econ 3100
- In addition, must demonstrate computer proficiency through BA 1800 or other study approved by the B.S.P.P.A. coordinator.
- B.S.P.P.A. major must pick either public administration or public policy emphasis area

For more information regarding the B.S.P.P.A. degree, see the on-line *University of Missouri-St. Louis Bulletin: Undergraduate, Graduate and Professional Catalog*.

Requirements for Minors

Fifteen hours of coursework in the Political Science Department are required for the minor. A general minor in political science can be arranged, as well as specialized minors in eight different subfields of the discipline. Interested students should see a faculty advisor to plan a coherent program of study as a minor field.

Graduate Studies

2+3 B.A. and M.A. in Political Science

The 2+3 combined BA/MA program in political science provides an opportunity for students of recognized academic ability and educational maturity to complete the requirements for both degrees in 5 years of fulltime study.

- 140 credit hours of which 33 must be graduate level in political science
- Meet all University and College requirements
- Apply to the Department during the semester you will complete 60 undergraduate credit hours.
- Must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher
- Three letters of recommendation from faculty
- After completing 30 hours as provisional student, maintaining a 3.0 GPA and recommendation of the Graduate Director, students can be granted full admission in the 2+3 program.

Students who successfully complete the requirements for the M.A. degree will be awarded a B.A. degree simultaneously upon completion of at least 107 hours of undergraduate credit.

Master of Arts program in political science offers advanced education for individuals anticipating entering a doctoral program and for those seeking careers in government, business, community, or not-for-profit agencies. A total of 33 class hours is required. For admission, you must have:

- Baccalaureate degree
- 2.75 GPA (Graduate School requirement)
- Graduate Record Examination
- Two letters of recommendation

Ph.D. program in Political Science emphasizes theoretic, analytic, and substantive approaches to public policy. Core courses include research methods and policy processes and institutions. Doctoral candidates, in consultation with the faculty, develop a policy concentration, many of which are interdisciplinary. As a research-oriented Ph.D., all successful doctoral candidates must complete a dissertation which makes a significant contribution to knowledge in the field. Emphasis areas include the following fields:

- Urban politics
- American political institutions
- Comparative politics
- International relations
- Public policy
- Public administration

The program prepares its graduates for either academic careers or positions in government, business, or the voluntary sector. A total of 60 credit hours is required.

For admission you must have:

- Baccalaureate degree
- Above a 2.75 GPA
- Graduate Record Examination
- Three letters of Recommendation

See the on-line *University of Missouri-St. Louis Bulletin: Undergraduate, Graduate and Professional Catalog* for more information.

Cooperative Programs

Political science students may also study overseas or obtain a certificate in international studies, European studies, East Asian studies, Latin American studies, African studies, women's studies, or writing, in conjunction with their political science major.

See Certificate Programs in the on-line *University of Missouri-St. Louis Bulletin: Undergraduate, Graduate Professional Catalog*.

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One University Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63121-4400
(314) 516-5451

Toll-Free in MO and IL 618 area code:

1-888-GO-2-UMSL

Career Services: (314) 516-5111

Political Science Department: (314) 516-5521

<http://www.umsl.edu/~polisci>