

# DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political science focuses on the theory and practice of politics in the US and around the world. We are dedicated to studying the institutions and processes that constitute public life, to understanding the exercise of political power, and to providing education that instills citizenship.



## Highlights

- ▶ Political Science is the second largest major in the social sciences and the fifth largest major in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- ▶ Political science students develop important job and life skills through classes that challenge them to evaluate conflicting perspectives on political controversies. Alumni include many prominent community and business leaders.
- ▶ Two well-established internship programs—in the state legislature and Washington D.C.—have provided valuable internships to many hundreds of students since 1956.
- ▶ Faculty members regularly win awards for research and teaching. Our highly ranked PhD program has an outstanding job placement record.

## Education

Students of political science learn how social science methods can help to develop a better understanding of government and politics. Undergraduates acquire knowledge of political institutions in the United States and around the world. Students learn to think critically as they evaluate conflicting claims about what government can and should do. They explore how mass political behavior influences law and policy, and study how government capacities and popular commitments to democracy vary across time and location. Courses in political science use award-winning teaching technology and help students develop sought-after analytic skills. They learn how to sort through conflicting information to develop sound ideas about complicated issues and how to communicate effectively on controversial topics. Our research centers, writing center, and honors program provide additional opportunity to strengthen research and writing skills.

Our doctoral program prepares the next generation of scholars for careers in academics and the public and private sectors. During their time at the UW, doctoral students also make critical contributions to the department's undergraduate teaching mission. Many go on to careers at some of the top universities in the U.S. and abroad.



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### STUDENTS (Spring 2018)

973	Undergraduate majors
58	Graduate students
5800	Annual student course enrollments (2017-18)

### DEGREES AWARDED (July 2017-June 2018)

351	Bachelor of Arts degrees
4	Master of Arts degrees
14	PhD degrees

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS (since 2012)

Rhodes Scholarship
Harry S. Truman Scholarship
Ford Foundation Graduate Fellowship
Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellowship
National Science Foundation Dissertation Grant
Best Dissertation, American Political Science Association
Best Dissertation, Western Political Science Association
Presidential Dissertation Fellowship in the Social Sciences (UW)
Dean's Medalist, College of Arts & Sciences
Chester Fritz and Boeing International Graduate Research Fellowship
U.S. State Department Critical Languages Scholarship
U.S. Dept of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship
Mary Gates Undergraduate Research Scholarship

## Faculty

Department of Political Science faculty awards and honors include:

### Grant Awards:

Several National Science Foundation Grant recipients  
American Council of Learned Societies  
Annenberg Policy Foundation  
Carnegie Foundation  
Environmental Protection Administration  
Ford Foundation  
German Marshall Fund Fellowships  
Guggenheim Fellowship  
Hewlett Foundation  
MacArthur Foundation  
Ministerio de Educacion Y Ciencia Investigadore Extranjeros (Spain)  
National Council of Social Studies  
Pew Charitable Trusts  
Russell Sage Foundation  
Social Science Research Council  
US Department of State  
US Institute of Peace  
US Agency for International Development

### Honors/Appointments:

Recent leadership positions in the American Political Science Association, International Studies Association, and Western Political Science Association  
President, Law & Society Association  
Numerous national awards for outstanding books, articles, papers and fieldwork  
Founding Editor, Cambridge University Press Book Series on Business and Public Policy  
Lifetime Achievement Award, European Union Studies Association  
APSA Award for Graduate Mentoring  
ASPA Award for Best Educational Website  
Award of Excellence in Interactive Design, *Communication Arts*  
**University Awards**  
Several Distinguished Teaching and Excellence in Teaching Awards  
James D. Clowes Award for the Advancement of Learning Communities  
Marsha Landolt Award for Graduate Mentoring

## Research

Faculty (often in collaboration with graduate students) conduct cutting edge, internationally recognized, research that is published in peer-reviewed books and journal articles. In American Politics, specialties include policy processes, law and politics, politics and race, political communications, and constitutional development. Comparative Politics professors have expertise in Europe, China, Africa, and Latin America. They focus on political economy, the expansion of international judicial institutions, explaining decisions by central bankers, using technology to prevent electoral fraud, and the politics of religion. Faculty members in the International Relations field study international political economy and international security, with particular expertise in voluntary environmental agreements and the role of emotion in international conflicts. Faculty expertise in Political Theory includes American political thought, human rights, and feminist political theory.

Several major interdisciplinary research centers are affiliated with Political Science, including the Center For Environmental Politics, Center for American Politics and Public Policy, Comparative Law and Society Studies Center, Center for Civic Communication and Engagement, Bridges Center for Labor Studies, Center for Human Rights, and Washington Institute for the Study of Inequality and Race.

## Outreach

The department hosts regular speaker series that offer opportunities for the public to engage with leading academics from the University of Washington and elsewhere. Faculty participate in community events around the Puget Sound region, write opinion pieces for prominent outlets such as the *Seattle Times*, *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, and are frequently interviewed by major national and international media outlets such as CNN, MSNBC, C-SPAN, Bloomberg, Univision News, and BBC-TV. Faculty also engage in outreach by producing podcasts and by developing civic engagement resources for use in high schools and colleges across the U.S.

## FACULTY (Autumn 2018)

14	Professors
9	Associate Professors
3	Assistant Professors

## AREAS OF RESEARCH

American Politics  
Comparative Politics  
International Relations  
Political Theory  
Political Economy  
Political Science Methodology  
Law and Society  
Public Policy  
Political Communication  
Race and Ethnicity Politics  
Environmental Politics  
Politics and Religion  
Labor Studies



Students in the Legislative Internship Program in Olympia.

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