Imagine where you could go with a UM Political Science degree!

Political Science is the systematic study of how individuals and institutions exercise and resist power, and how nations and communities are governed.

Political Science faculty engage and enlighten undergraduate and graduate students, colleagues, and fellow citizens about the nature and future of politics.

Majoring in Political Science at UM provides students with:

- A broad education in the social sciences and humanities.
- The foundations of citizenship and the capacity to participate effectively in local, national, and international politics.
- Communication, problem-solving, and research skills for careers in government, politics, law, and teaching.
- Accreditation to teach government and social studies in middle and secondary schools.
- Strong preparation for law school and continued study of politics at the graduate level.

We embrace the University’s vision of “Creating Change Together.” Our exciting and rigorous courses and programs offer many opportunities for local, national, and international engagement and leadership.

Source: 2016 Senior Exit Survey, 36 respondents

KNOWLEDGE
- 84% of graduates said the PSCI major contributed "a great deal" or "a good deal" to their understanding of the major fields of political science.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- 72% said the major assisted them "a great deal" or "a good deal" in developing writing skills.
- 92% gave an oral presentation in a PSCI course.
- 97% participated in a debate or simulation in a PSCI course. Many classes have active-learning components to develop public speaking, interview, and negotiation skills.

PROBLEM-SOLVING AND RESEARCH SKILLS
- 81% said the PSCI major assisted them "a great deal" or "a good deal" in developing analytical and critical thinking skills.
- 78% said PSCI assisted them "a great deal" or "a good deal" in developing research skills.

CITIZENSHIP, LEADERSHIP, AND CAREERS IN GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, LAW, AND TEACHING
- 72% said the PSCI major assisted them "a great deal" or "a good deal" in preparing for citizenship and career practices such as voting, engaging in political and community work, understanding current political events, contacting public officials, endorsing candidates, and speaking/testifying at government hearings.
- 33% of graduates participated in community-service activities in their PSCI courses.
- 47% participated in PSCI-related extra-curricular activities such as Pi Sigma Alpha or Montana Model United Nations.
- 56% of graduates had a PSCI-related internship at the local, state, national, or international level.
- 75% were satisfied with the quality of faculty advising.

What Recent Graduates Say about UM Political Science
Political Science Major Options

Political Science (PSCI) majors select one or more of the following options (concentrations):
- General Political Science
- American Politics
- International Relations and Comparative Politics
- Public Administration
- Public Law

PSCI Major Requirements

4 Introductory Courses:
- PSCI 210SY American Government
- PSCI 220S Comparative Politics
- PSCI 230X International Relations
- PSCI 250E Political Theory

1 Upper-Division Course in 4 of the 5 Political Science fields:
- American Government and Politics
- Comparative Politics
- International Relations
- Political Theory
- Public Administration & Public Policy

Advanced Writing in Political Science (PSCI 400):
- 1 credit, add to any upper-division course
- Can be taken up to 3 times

Additional Upper-Division PSCI Courses, up to at least:
- 37 credits for a General Political Science major
- 40 credits for an option (see list above)

Recommended Experiences:
- Internships (legislative, administrative, legal, non-profit, etc.)
- Study Abroad, such as PSCI’s Summer in Mexico
- ASUM Student Senate
- Montana Model UN Conference and Traveling Team
- Pi Sigma Alpha honors society

Political Science collaborates with other departments to offer:
- Pre-law major
- Political Science-History teaching major
- Broadfield Social Studies teaching major
- Climate Change Studies minor
- Global Public Health minor
- International Development Studies minor
- Non-Profit Administration certificate
- Peace Corps Preparation certificate

Selected Upper-Division Courses by Field

American Government & Politics
- 341 Political Parties & Elections
- 342 Media, Public Opinion, Polling
- 344 State & Local Government
- 345 American Political System
- 348 U.S. Multicultural Politics
- 370 Courts & Judicial Politics
- 443 Politics of Social Movements
- 444 American Political Participation
- 445 Political Psychology
- 471 American Constitutional Law
- 474 Civil Rights Seminar

Comparative Politics
- 311 Revolution & Reform in Modern China
- 322 Politics of Europe
- 324 Climate Policies: China & USA
- 325 Politics of Latin America
- 326 Politics of Africa
- 327 Politics of Mexico
- 328 Politics of China
- 381 State Formation
- 443 Politics of Social Movements
- 456 Chinese Political & Social Thought
- 481 Origins of Democracy & Authoritarianism

International Relations
- 332 Global Environmental Politics
- 334 International Security
- 335 American Foreign Policy
- 336 European Union
- 337 Model United Nations
- 431 Politics of Global Migration
- 433 International Law & Organizations
- 463 Development Administration
- 482 Politics of the World Economy

Political Theory
- 352 American Political Thought
- 354 Contemporary Issues in Political Theory
- 357 Ancient & Medieval Political Philosophy
- 452 Utopianism & Its Critics
- 453 Modern Political Theory

Public Administration & Public Policy
- 344 State & Local Government
- 361 Public Administration
- 365 Public Policy Issues & Analysis
- 442 Environmental Policy
- 448 Health Care Policy
- 461 Administrative Law
- 462 Human Resource Management
- 463 Development Administration
- 466 Nonprofit Administration & Public Service
- 467 Advanced Nonprofit Administration
- 468 Public Policy Cycle

Selected Upper-Division Courses by Field

Comparative Politics
- 311 Revolution & Reform in Modern China
- 322 Politics of Europe
- 324 Climate Policies: China & USA
- 325 Politics of Latin America
- 326 Politics of Africa
- 327 Politics of Mexico
- 328 Politics of China
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