

# Political Science



- Major, BA
- Minor

*Majoring in Political Science at UMass Dartmouth helps students understand and work within political institutions at a local, state, national, and global level. Using scientific, philosophical, and applied perspectives to examine the world at large helps prepare graduates for a career in several exciting fields. The Political Science (PSC) major offers three concentrations of potential focus: International Politics, International Security Studies, and Pre-Law. All Political Science majors complete an off-campus internship in government, politics, public policy, and/or law. Internship opportunities include the Washington Center and the College for Social Innovation.*

## Skills developed

PSC majors acquire proficiency in writing, communication, advocacy, and comparative analysis - skills that are vital in today's working environment. An education in political science prepares students to think critically and to act as effective global citizens. Students learn to gather and organize information; effectively communicate ideas in verbal, visual and written form; and analyze data to develop meaningful solutions to real-world problems.

## Curriculum overview

Political Science (PSC) majors complete 39 credits in political science. In addition, majors must satisfy a specific cognate requirement in selecting their distribution courses for the Bachelor of Arts degree. PSC majors are also required to complete an internship. Specialized courses are also required, and students can choose from among topics like:

- The Presidency
- Civil Rights Movements in the United States
- Urban Politics
- Political Parties and Interest Groups
- Sex Roles and Politics
- Elderly Affairs in American Politics
- Women and Public Policy
- Politics of Public Health
- Environmental Law
- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Islam and Politics
- African Political Systems
- Seminar on Rules of War

## Top Jobs

- Political Scientists (median salary \$115,110)
- Urban and Regional Planners (median salary \$71,490)
- Postsecondary Educators (median salary \$76,000)
- Lawyers (median salary \$119,250)
- Town Clerks (average salary \$42,205)
- Public Policy Analysts (average salary \$59,312)
- Directors of Public Policy (average salary \$83,586)
- Campaign Managers (average salary \$60,329)
- State Representatives (average salary \$45,583 )

## Graduate School Placements

- Boston College
- Brown University
- Claremont McKenna College
- Duke University
- Roger Williams University
- Salem State University
- SUNY Stony Brook
- University of Massachusetts Law
- University of Rhode Island

## Career Placements

- Barrington Law Centers
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Community Resources for Justice
- Massachusetts Superior Court
- Merrill Lynch
- Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
- Suffolk County District Attorney's Office
- United States House of Representatives
- United States Department of Veterans

## More Info

- Study abroad: Experiences through the International Programs Office
- Participation in student government, community service; hands-on experiential learning
- Join Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society
- Pre-Law advising; prep courses for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and law school
- 3+3 Law Degree: UMass Law's accelerated program allows students to receive both an undergraduate degree and law degree in 6 rather than 7 years. In their fourth year, students matriculate at UMass Law as a first-year law student.
- The Political Science Department now offers a Public Administration major leading to a B.A. or B.S. degree
- Honors College