

Political Science

MASTER OF ARTS

Department Mission

As a liberal arts program, the master of arts in political science is dedicated to developing analytical skills and promoting critical thinking. Students are encouraged to reflect not simply on career goals, but also on what type of person they wish to become and on the rights and duties of citizens. The program encourages students to actively employ their analytical skills by engaging in internships with various federal, state, local or nonprofit community agencies.



polisci.txstate.edu

The challenge of studying political science at Texas State also is the benefit. You learn not only how to understand political theory and political science, but how to reach within your own knowledge and experiences to develop your own opinion about the world of government.

– Robert Fyrst, M.A. alumnus

Department of Political Science

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The program prepares students for careers in professional political science while providing a traditional liberal arts education.



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Why choose Texas State?

Graduate students find exceptional resources at their fingertips. With a large full-time faculty, students have the opportunity for a close intellectual exchange with professors. Texas State is also a depository for federal and state government documents as well as a member of the Council of Research and Academic Libraries.

Current master's students have been successful in pursuing doctoral education, teaching careers or professional careers ranging from federal, state and local government to nonprofit organizations.

Course Work

The program courses are organized into four major fields: American politics, comparative politics, political theory and international relations. Students choose either the thesis track or the non-thesis track. Both thesis and non-thesis students may take nine hours of their program hours in a related field with the approval of the graduate director.

Students selecting the thesis option must complete a minimum of 33 hours of political science course work, including three required hours, six thesis hours and a thesis defense.

Non-thesis option students must successfully complete a minimum of 36 hours, including three required hours and a written examination that covers course work in the major field and takes place near the completion of the degree.

Faculty

The 16 full-time graduate faculty members provide students with research emphases in politics and literature, humanitarian and refugee policy, African politics, religion and politics, Marxist-Leninist ideology, the American presidency, international political economy, security policy, Texas politics and constitutional theory among others. Faculty members' research has been published in top-tier journals and presses, including *Foreign Policy*, *Critical Review*, Cambridge University Press and Oxford University Press.



Career Options

Graduates of the master of arts program may choose to continue with doctoral education or law school. Other graduates may choose to advance careers in government at the federal, state and local levels. Most graduates of the master's program seek careers in high school and community college education, journalism, business and nonprofit organizations.

Important Deadlines*

Admissions

Priority Fall: February 15

Fall: June 15

Spring: October 15

Summer: April 15

Summer midterm: June 1

Applications will continue to be considered on a space-available basis after the deadline.

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships

Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

How to Apply

For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at: gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/posi