



The Department of Political Science provides students with the essential skills and knowledge for a successful career in political science or a related field, including academia, government, law, or international affairs. Students also master a specific core of discipline-based knowledge and an understanding of their civic responsibilities in a global community. The department provides faculty mentoring through academic advisement as well as through career counseling and exposing our students to practical political experience.

A Political Science major requires 10 courses and one capstone experience in the form of a directed independent study, a field experience, or a 400-level seminar. The Pre-Law Program also is associated with this department.

Major Requirements

Ten courses, with the distribution as follows:

POL 110 Origins of American Government

POL 111 Processes of American Government

POL 120 World Politics

Three courses at the 300 level or above, one course each from:

- American Government/ Public Policy
- International/Comparative Politics
- Normative/Empirical Theory

Three Electives

One Capstone Experience chosen from the following:

- POL 410 Seminar-American Politics-Public Policy
- POL 420 Seminar-International Relations-Comparative Politics
- POL 450 Field Experience
- POL 500, 501 Independent Study

Program Requirements

Currently the Political Science major does not offer a minor. However, majors are encouraged to pursue minors in cognate fields.

A full list of courses and descriptions can be found online in the College catalog.



Program Website

washjeff.edu/political-science

Department Chair

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Beyond the Classroom

Students have many opportunities for research, internships, conferences, and networking beyond the classroom that give them an advantage to prepare for life after W&J.

Research and Internships

- Federal and State Legislatures
- Federal, State and County Courthouses
- Law Offices
- Political Parties/Campaigns
- Finnegan Foundation

Careers

- Law
- Government/Public service
- Teaching Profession
- Diplomacy/Security
- Legislative Aid/Administration
- International Organizations

Successful Alumni

- State Supreme Court Justices
- Federal/State Judges
- Federal and State Legislators
- Federal and State Elections Campaign Managers
- High Ranking Military & Security Professionals
- Attorneys



**WASHINGTON
& JEFFERSON
COLLEGE**