



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

# Political Science

## UMaine's ADVANTAGE

- Our students have been accepted in prestigious graduate schools including Harvard University, Columbia University and Boston College Law School
- Instruction by award-winning faculty members
- Madigan Congressional Internship program in Washington, DC, Palmer State Legislative Internship Program in Augusta, Maine Public Policy Scholars program, and numerous other internship opportunities.
- Opportunity to work closely with faculty to pursue research and coauthor published work

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[umaine.edu/polisci](http://umaine.edu/polisci)

To apply: [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu)



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[umaine.edu/socialnetwork](http://umaine.edu/socialnetwork)

## WHY STUDY POLITICAL SCIENCE AT UMAINE?

The Political Science Department provides students with the intellectual framework to understand the complexities of political affairs, and the analytical and practical skills necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing world. The department fosters an open and stimulating intellectual atmosphere, and recognizes the necessity of free exchange of ideas and the intrinsic worth of the individual student. Political science examines the nature of politics from diverse perspectives. Study in political science teaches students to think critically about the fundamental theories, principles, institutions and practices of politics in their social and historical contexts. Coursework is offered in four main areas — American politics, international relations, comparative politics and political theory — so that students will acquire the knowledge and skills for further study in graduate or law school, or will be prepared for careers in public service and related fields.

## WHAT CAN I DO WITH A POLITICAL SCIENCE DEGREE?

Many students continue their studies at graduate and law schools, including Harvard University, University of Maine School of Law, Columbia University and Boston College law schools, and the University of Toronto, University of Massachusetts, University of Connecticut and Boston University doctoral programs. Other students directly enter careers in public service or government at the state and federal levels. Still others find the liberal arts education they received prepares them well for a career in business or other pursuits.

## OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Students are immersed in the four primary areas of the discipline and interact with an award-winning teaching faculty. The department is also involved with UMaine's

International Affairs Program, the Leadership Studies minor, the Legal Studies minor, the Cohen Institute for Leadership and Public Service, the Honors College, and the School of Policy and International Affairs. Faculty members employ a variety of teaching styles, approaches and tools. There are a few large lecture courses; most lecture courses enroll about 40 students. A range of small-enrollment, participatory seminar courses is also offered. Courses are offered both in the classroom and online.

## OUR FACULTY

The department is recognized for its outstanding instruction and scholarship. Political science faculty members have received the University of Maine Distinguished Professor Award, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Outstanding Faculty Award for teaching and advising and the University of Maine Trustee Professorship. Faculty members' articles are frequently published in the top journals and books in the discipline, and many faculty regularly present their work at regional, national and international forums. Political Science faculty are frequent contributors in local, state, and national media, and faculty research informs a wide range of public issues.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EXCEL

The political science major offers a number of opportunities for students, including internships and field study, integrating theoretical knowledge with practical professional experience. UMaine offers the Madigan Congressional Internship and the Palmer State Legislative Internship and Maine Public Policy Scholars program. Students have opportunities to pursue research in conjunction with the faculty and coauthor published work. In addition, students can pursue their own research under

## ABOUT UMAINE

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 73 countries. It currently enrolls 11,286 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. The University of Maine offers doctoral degrees in 35 fields, representing the humanities, sciences, engineering and education; master's degrees in roughly 70 disciplines; 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu).



## explore

*Bachelor of Arts in  
Political Science*

*Minor in  
The Constitution and American Law  
Political Science  
Political Theory*

*Interdisciplinary Major in International Affairs  
POS primary field in  
International Security  
Comparative Politics and Area Studies*

*Interdisciplinary Minors in  
Leadership Studies  
Legal Studies*

*Five-Year Master of  
Business Administration*

faculty supervision, as well as design and execute research in collaboration with community partners as part of the Practicum in Engaged Policy Studies. In this way, students can utilize their knowledge and expertise to improve the communities in which they live. The department offers several merit-based scholarships and inducts its best students into Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society. Each year, top graduating seniors receive the Edward Collins Award in international affairs/political science and the Eugene Mawhinney Award in political science. UMaine students also have participated in

the Harvard and McGill University Model United Nations Programs and the international Student Conference on United States Affairs. The most prominent of these merit-based scholarships is the newly established Nickerson scholarships, which provide select junior and senior Political Science students with substantial assistance each year.

### HOW DO I APPLY?

Visit [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu) for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.



**Majoring in political science at the University of Maine will provide you with the expertise and skills needed to positively impact your community and your world. Whether your passion lies in understanding politics at the global, national, or local level, you will have the opportunity to work closely with dedicated and highly knowledgeable professors who take a personal interest your educational enrichment and success."**

— Robert W. Glover, Assistant Professor of Honors and Political Science

