

WHERE TO GO FOR INFORMATION

The Political Science Department is located at **5700 Haven Hall**. Administrative and advising offices can be found on the fifth floor.

The Graduate/ Undergraduate Studies Office (Room 5705) holds academic files, information on program requirements, and other items of interest. See the Student Services Associate with questions about the program. Handouts and common forms are available outside this office.

Academic Advising

Students are encouraged to schedule an appointment with an academic advisor at least once before declaring their major. Concentration Advisors are advanced graduate students in the Political Science department with knowledge and experience in various fields of political science. Appointments can be made in the Central Office (Room 5700) or by calling 764-6313. Advisors can counsel students about planning a concentration, and matters such as Political Science's relationship to other disciplines on campus, graduate school prospects, and career choices and their requirements.

For general questions such as foreign language proficiency or LSA distribution requirements, students should make an appointment to see a general advisor in the LSA Advising Office, 1255 Angell Hall.

Declaring a Concentration

When you decide you would like to become a Political Science major, make an appointment in the Central Office in Room 5700 to see a Concentration Advisor. The advisor will be glad to go over your schedule, answer questions, point out possible difficulties, and generally welcome you as a Political Science major. Then take your concentration declaration form to the advising office to inform them that you have declared a Political Science concentration.

Concentration Release

When you have completed 90 hours credit toward your program and are within one year of graduation, it is wise to make an appointment with a concentration advisor to have your requirements reviewed and to fill out a Concentration Release Form. This form, signed by a concentration counselor, will indicate the additional courses you need to complete during your final term in order to receive a B.A. in Political Science. By having the Concentration Release Form signed more than one full term in advance, you allow yourself time to correct any errors in choosing classes during the last term.

THE STUDY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Science prepares students for active citizenship, for careers in public affairs, and for advanced study in the social sciences and professions by training them to become good observers of political behavior in their own country and around the world.

Political Science is the study of politics and government. It is an exciting field because of its complexity, its diversity, and above all, its relevance to the modern world. Political scientists attempt to describe and explain the wide range of political systems using a variety of powerful analytical techniques.

Political Science cannot be studied in isolation from other disciplines. Many different and constantly changing influences—historical, geographical, economic, sociological, psychological, philosophical, and cultural—determine the form and continually affect the functioning of political systems.

An education in political science exposes students to the issues over which people struggle and disagree not only in the United States, but also in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Students learn about the latest research findings on public opinion, executives and bureaucracies, parties and elections, the legislative and judicial systems, international organizations, and other aspects of the governmental process. Students acquire better understanding of the way public affairs are conducted and a more practical knowledge of how citizens, elected representatives, judges, and administrators approach the decisions they are called upon to make.

The Department of Political Science is a unit within the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Michigan was one of the first schools in the country to organize a department devoted entirely to the study of politics. Today the department has some 50 members and had gained national recognition for the achievements of both its faculty and students. Michigan's Political Science Department has consistently ranked among the top five departments in the nation in recent surveys of university professors. The Department takes pride in its members' accomplishments as teachers, writers, and consultants or advisors to public officials.

CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

At Michigan, Political Science studies are generally grouped into five subfields:

Political Theory
American Government and Politics
Comparative Government and Politics
World Politics
Quantitative Methods

Undergraduates who concentrate in political science will find their interests well served in any combination of these groupings.

The Political Science Concentration consists of three major components:

1. The Prerequisite, made up of two introductory courses (8 credit hours)
2. The Concentration Core, six or more intermediate or advanced courses (24 credit hours)
3. The Cognate, approved advanced courses in a related department (6 credit hours)

These components are the minimum for a concentration (36-40 credit hours, depending on introductory course work). Additional courses in the Department are possible, provided the total credits elected in the Department do not exceed the 60-hour limit set by the College.

1. The Prerequisite requirement is met by taking **two** introductory courses chosen from **different** fields of political science.

First and second year students usually take two four-credit courses from among these:

- P.S. 101 Political Theory
- P.S. 111 American Government
- P.S. 140 Comparative Politics
- P.S. 160 World Politics

Juniors and Seniors usually choose from these three credit courses:

- P.S. 301 or 302 Political Theory
- P.S. 310 or 311 American Government
- P.S. 336 or 349 Comparative Government
- P.S. 360 or 370 World Politics

2. Concentration Core (Intermediate and Advanced Courses). A concentration plan should include 24 credit hours of course work in the Department at the 300 and 400 level. Within this component concentrators are usually expected:

- a. to acquire appreciation of diversity in political science by taking at least one course **in each of four fields** (part of this requirement may be met by courses taken to fulfill the Prerequisite).
- b. to develop a particular focus designed around a particular field or interest.
- c. to acquire the ability to do individual research and to write. Seniors who concentrate are encouraged to elect an undergraduate seminar.
- d. to elect at least **two** 400 level courses; PS 460, the upper-level writing courses, may meet this requirement.

Please note: only 4 hours of directed study (P.S. 491/2) and 4 hours of internship (P.S. 591/2, advanced internship) may be used to complete a concentration program.

3. The Cognate. At least two upper-class courses in a discipline related to political science make up the cognate.

Generally, the cognate is in one of the social sciences. Normally both cognate courses should be from the same department. Since the cognate is an integral part of the concentration, the course should adhere to the student's particular program and interest. A political science advisor should approve the cognate.

THE HONORS PROGRAM

For students of outstanding academic promise the department offers an honors concentration program. Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.3, and a GPA of 3.5 in Political Science

courses may apply for admission during the first term of their Junior year. During the winter of their junior year students must enroll in the Junior Honors Seminar that is designed to acquaint them with the broad range of topics studied by the Political Science faculty. In their senior year, Honors concentrators elect Political Science 493 and 494, the Honors Thesis Seminars, and write a major research paper, the Honors Thesis, under the direction of a member of the faculty. To receive a degree with honors the student must complete the paper and defend it in an oral examination at the end of the senior year. Students with a high GPA will be graduated “with distinction” whether or not they have been in the Honors concentration program.

THE POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR

The department also offers an option to minor for students who are interested in Political Science but do not want to complete all the requirements of a concentration. The minor consists of two parts:

1. Pre-requisites: Two introductory courses in two different sub-fields. First- and second-year students may choose from among: POLSCI 101 (Political Theory) ; 111 (American Politics) ; 140 (Comparative Politics) ; 160 (World Politics). Juniors and Seniors may choose from POLSCI 301/302 (Political Theory) ; 310 (Public Policy and administration) ; 311 (American Politics) ; 336/349 (Comparative Politics) ; 360/370 (World Politics).
2. Minor Concentration: Five 3 or 4 credit upper-level courses must be taken in two of the five political science fields. Students should ideally take their upper level courses in the same two fields as their prerequisites. (Advisor approval must be obtained in order to switch areas.)

The minor is a structured course of study in itself. Students concentrating in Political Science should consult an advisor before considering dropping the concentration in order to pursue a minor in political science.

GRADUATE STUDY

In addition to its undergraduate program, the Department of Political Science offers graduate work leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree. The Department has strong programs in almost every area of political science. The University of Michigan is headquarters for the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, which offers courses each summer on research design and methods and the techniques of data processing.

For those interested in entering government service, the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, which is closely linked to the Department of Political Science, offers an accelerated program of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and the master’s degree in Public Policy. This program enables students to complete the requirements for both degrees within a five-year period (instead of the more normal six). Information about the program can be obtained from the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, 440 Lorch Hall, 764-0454.

Students who are interested in a particular region of the world may wish to pursue a master’s

degree program in area centers such as Asian Studies, Modern Near East and North African Studies or Russian and East European Studies. Detailed information about these programs is available from the individual area centers on campus.

FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

American Government and Politics

The three dozen or so undergraduate American politics courses offer a diverse yet intensive set of offerings from which the Michigan student may select. Through classroom instruction, research and practical experience in government, the Department's specialists endeavor first to broaden and solidify the students' general knowledge of American government and politics. Secondly, through many advanced undergraduate offerings, the Department seeks to intensify students' particular interest in one or more specialized areas of American political and governmental activity. These include public opinion and elections; public policy and administration; political parties, interest groups and factions; Congress, the Chief Executive and the courts; constitutional law and legal process; and the bureaucracy.

The study of American government and politics prepares students for careers in law, for work in government, and with interest groups.

Comparative Government and Politics

The Department offers a wide variety of courses concerning the political systems of foreign countries or cultural areas. These courses not only contribute to the understanding of a particular political system, but also familiarize students with analytical concepts that facilitate the comparison of political systems. Students may focus on a particular geographical area, such as Africa, Asia or Latin America, on certain types of systems, such as Western European democracies of Communist societies, or simply certain individual countries that interest them. The program also allows students to focus on some component of national political systems such as parties, political opinion or pressure groups, or legislatures. Students who are interested in foreign area studies should seriously consider acquiring competence in use of the relevant foreign language.

The study of comparative government and politics enhances one's understanding of American politics at the same as it adds to one's knowledge of other countries. It provides a good foundation for students considering a career in foreign affairs, law, journalism or international business.

Methods of Political Analysis

There is a sustained demand for political scientists who can design, conduct, and evaluate quantitative research. Universities continue to hire individuals who offer promise as methodologically sophisticated teachers and researchers. Local, state, and national governments require skilled professionals who can conduct original studies, administer research programs, and translate the results of research into a form that can be used in making policy decisions. Opportunities also exist in the private sector—in consulting firms, foundations, research institutes, polling organizations, and multi-national corporations.

The Department offers several political analysis courses at the undergraduate level with opportunities for further research training on the graduate level through the Department, the Center for Political Studies and the Institute for Public Policy Studies. It is strongly advised that the undergraduate with a Methods focus prepares him/herself by taking appropriate courses in other departments. In particular, Statistics 350 (or its equivalent) is recommended and can be counted as one of the political science courses required for concentration. Beyond that, courses in mathematics, including calculus and probability theory, and a course in computer utilization will be invaluable for any person interested in quantitative social science.

Political Theory

Political theory is the method of studying politics that examines the recurrent questions underlying the entire field of political science. It raises questions about the values with which political systems deal and about the methods by which we can know and understand the functioning of these political systems. Students interested in political theory gain an overview of the history of political thought from ancient Greece to the twentieth century, as well as pursuing more specialized topics such as democratic political theory, ethics and public policy, or the theoretical foundations of political science. Political theory courses enhance course work in other political science subfields and serve as foundation courses for those who plan careers in law, or teaching.

World Politics

World Politics explores the principles that underlie the operation of the global political system and illustrates these principles with contemporary material. It exposes the student to several key questions in the area of international relations: Who are the major actors in international affairs? What kind of order exists in relations between nations? What mechanisms exist for change? What regularities exist in the behavior of actors toward one another that give shape or direction to the system? It allows a student to specialize in an area such as foreign policy, regional subsystems or international systems. The study of world politics helps a student develop a global perspective that will make him or her a better citizen of the world; it also helps those wishing to pursue a career with a multi-national corporation, an international law firm, the foreign service, or an international agency.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPECIAL STUDY

Independent or Directed Study (P.S. 491/2)

A directed study on any subject agreed upon by a student and an instructor that does not duplicate a regular course offering may be elected by a student for a total of 1-6 credit hours in any semester. A maximum of 4 credit hours may be applied toward the concentration core in Political Science. Students who wish to enroll in a directed study course should work out the details of the course before the start of the term. Forms for this purpose are available from the student services assistant in the Central Office.

Gaining Credit for an Internship (P.S. 591/2)

While the Department encourages students to take internships to enrich their academic course work, it does not automatically give credit for such experiences toward the Political Science concentration. See an advisor to determine whether you may be able to receive credit for your internship.

Occasionally a student may also develop an independent internship project with a faculty member. A student is expected to work out the details of an academic project before the internship begins. A maximum of 4 credit hours may be applied toward the concentration core in Political Science. Forms for this purpose are available from the Student Services Assistant.

Senior Seminars (P.S. 495, 496, 497, or 498)

Students are urged to complete their concentration at Michigan by enrolling in a senior seminar. These courses are limited to 15-20 students who write research papers on a topic in the fields of political theory, American government and politics, comparative government and politics, or world politics. Different topics in each subfield are offered each term.

Study Abroad

At the University of Michigan, arrangements can be made for students to study abroad throughout the academic year or during the summer months. Information on the various University of Michigan study abroad programs is available through the Office of International Programs located in the Michigan Union. All foreign credit is evaluated through the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, 1220 Student Activities Building, but before going abroad students should discuss their study abroad program with a concentration advisor. Students may apply no more than 8 hours of course work from a one-semester program and 12 hours from a yearlong program to the concentration core in Political Science.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Undergraduate Political Science Association provides students with a voice in the Department. UPSA elects representatives who sit on departmental committees concerned with such matters as education policy, proposed course changes, and the quality of undergraduate education. They also conduct peer advising and publish the Political Science Course Guide. UPSA and the Department co-sponsor a series of seminars and lectures on subjects such as careers, internship opportunities, and discussions with prominent political figures. Contact upsainfo@umich.edu if you are interested in joining.

Michigan Journal of Political Science, a professional journal edited and published by students, provides a forum in which undergraduates and graduates may publish superior academic papers. If you are interested in joining MJPS, contact mjps2K@umich.edu.

Pi Sigma Alpha is the national honorary fraternity in Political Science. **Sigma Iota Rho** is the national honorary society in international relations. Students who maintain a 3.5 average in course work in either Political Science or international relations courses can apply for membership during their junior or senior year.

In addition to these formal organizations, undergraduates have an opportunity to take part in a wide variety of conferences as representatives from the University. The Department nominates students directly to represent the University at the Student Conference on United States Affairs at West Point in November, the Annual Air Force Academy Assembly in Colorado Springs in March, and the United States Naval Academy Conference at Annapolis in April. Students may find out more about activities such as these by joining the electronic message group, ps.majors. To join this group, send a message to lkivisto@umich.edu.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

At the University of Michigan students have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities that bring distinction not only to themselves, but also to the University. Here are some special awards, honors and scholarships that reward the efforts of Political Science concentrators.

The Frank Grace Award is given for the best paper written by a Michigan undergraduate that is published in the Michigan Journal of Political Science. The winner of this award is decided by the Journal editors and is announced each year in April.

The William Jennings Bryan Prize in Political Science is awarded to the member of the graduating class who shows the most promise in the field of political science. The prize is awarded in the form of books to be chosen by the recipient. The winner of this award is decided by the Undergraduate Affairs Committee.

The Edwin F. Coneley Scholarship in Government is awarded to a first year graduate student who received an A.B. in Political Science from the University of Michigan.

The Harry S. Truman Memorial Scholarship awarded by the Truman Foundation offers a \$5000 stipend and full tuition to finance the last two years of undergraduate study and the first two years of graduate study. One scholarship is awarded per state, and students at Michigan are nominated in their sophomore year through the Honors Council. Applicants must plan on a career in public service/government upon graduation. Applications are available in the Honors Program, 1228 Angell Hall.

The Cutcheon Fund offers awards of up to \$200 to fund work on honors theses. Applications are available through the Honors Program, 1228 Angell Hall.

Student Service and Recognition Awards are given each year by departments and units under the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. Certificates of achievement and plaques for excellence in student activities are awarded for participation in student activities at the University. One hundred graduating seniors are also honored for excellence in student activities each year by the Alumni Council at a senior leadership breakfast.

Other scholarships and awards that students might pursue include the Virginia Voss Award for Excellence in Writing through the Honors Program, the Hopwood Awards through the English Department, and Army, Navy, and Airforce merit scholarships. Scholarships based on need as well as academic excellence are granted through the Alumni Center, the Center for Continuing Education for Women, the LSA Senior Scholarship Office and the Office of Financial Aid.

SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE

At the University of Michigan there are many resources students can use in planning an academic program. Some of the most important are listed below.

Department of Political Science Resources

The Computer Assistance Program (6760 Haven Hall) is provided by the Department to help students with quantitative analyses of political phenomena. For more information, contact the Director, Computer Assistance Program, 763-4582.

Main Office (5700 Haven Hall, 764-6313) provides students with general information on course locations and times, closed sections and time schedule changes. The Main Office also has a listing of instructors' office location and hours. This is where concentration appointments are made.

The Office of Undergraduate Studies (5705 Haven Hall, 764-9598) provides information on program requirements, internship and directed study courses, advisors, student organizations, awards, and conferences.

The Undergraduate Political Science Student Office (5639 Haven Hall) contains information about political science courses and serves as an office for student organizations.

College Resources

Comprehensive Studies Program (CSP), (155 Angell Hall) is an academic support program unit of the College of LS&A. CSP offers course tutorials for basic courses in mathematics, natural and physical science, economics, and foreign languages. Also, "Quantitative Skills Assistance" is available to aid students on an individual basis in the areas of mathematics, applied mathematics/engineering, statistics and computer-related mathematical models, paradigms, and problems. Individual aid in English language expository writing is offered through the CSP Writing Workshop.

LSA Academic Information and Publications (G415 Mason Hall) offers current information about LSA academic policies and procedures, LSA courses and closed course/section information. It conveys this information in several ways: the student services web page, <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/saa/>, the bulletin boards outside 1411 Mason Hall and by phone (764-6810). Information and Publications provides information exclusively about LSA, but will refer students to other appropriate University offices.

Peer Academic Advising Office (G150 Angell Hall) is a student-run organization providing academic peer counseling for LSA students.

University Resources

Counseling and Psychiatric Program (CAPS) (3100 Michigan Union, 764-8312) has a professional staff including social workers, psychologists, a religious psychological counselor, and a consulting psychiatrist, which is supplemented by student interns and peer counselors. Counseling is available to students for a wide range of personal and interpersonal concerns

Counseling Center (525 E. University #1465, 764-9466) provides premarital and marital counseling, vocational testing, and counseling for groups and children. It has a staff consisting of professional clinical and counseling psychologists and graduate students in clinical psychology.

Writing Workshop (1139 Angell Hall, 764-0429) is staffed by faculty of the Sweetland Writing Center. Workshop faculty offers students assistance with specific writing problems or with general deficiencies in writing skills. It can also be found at the World Wide Web at www.lsa.umich.edu/swc/toc.html.

Financial Aid

The Office of Financial Aid (2011 Student Activities Building) advises and assists students in meeting education expenses. This office handles some undergraduate scholarships, guaranteed student loans, and work/study certification. Work-study students can gain valuable experience working on campus in libraries, administrative offices and research facilities. A list of undergraduate scholarships of interest to Political Science students is also available outside of the Advising Office, 5725 Haven Hall.

Registrar's Office

Wolverine Access Registration System is used by all LSA students. The system stores various types of information including the course offering data base which includes titles, pre-requisites and time; spaces available; each student's schedule, and wait lists for various courses.

In the case of a course change, you may wish to consult Student Services Assistant located at 5719 Haven Hall for last minute changes in location or times. In the case of a closed course, you should register for the WAITLIST and then go to the first meeting. When there is no wait list, go to the first meeting. Only a faculty member or a graduate student instructor can authorize entry in a closed course. The Student Services Assistant issues overrides into these courses after permission is given by the instructor.

CAREER PLANNING, INTERNSHIPS AND SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Career Planning and Placement (3200 Student Activities) has the resources to help people place themselves in jobs. It offers a full range of services including workshops, counseling, on-campus recruiting, summer job and internship information, credentials services, pre-professional advising, and job opening bulletins. Special services include a career resource library, including a bibliography of resources for political science majors and an occupational information library. You may start a credentials file at Career Planning and Placement, from which letters of recommendation will be sent to prospective employers or graduate or professional schools. The Office also provides counseling and information to students interested in professional education such as Law or Business Administration. Information on all national tests as well as registration forms for LSAT, GMAT, GRE, Civil Service and the Foreign Service exams are available in 3200 Student Activities Bldg.

The **Public Service Internship** program is housed in Career Planning and Placement. This service places students directly in summer positions in government offices in Washington or Lansing. Application deadlines are in October of each year. An internship is a practical way for a student to gain experience before seeking a career in the public sector after graduation, or to experience the realities of working in a capital city like Washington, D.C., so as to test the theories learned in the classroom. A board listing internship opportunities is located outside

the Advising Office.

RESEARCH FACILITIES

Centers and Institutes

Political Science at Michigan enjoys an unusually rich research environment that supports its large and intellectually vigorous faculty. Several faculty members have joint appointments with the School of Public Policy Studies (SPPS) or the Center for Political Studies (CPS). The Political Science faculty is actively involved in the area specific centers within the International Institute. Activities at these centers such as lectures and workshops can enrich the program of political science concentrators especially those interested in particular areas of the world.

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) (124 Borders Building, 998-9820, www.isr.umich.edu/cps/) houses the survey research archives, the historical archives, and the international relations archives.

University Libraries

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/>

In addition to such independent libraries as Law or Business Administration, the University has 28 branch libraries. Especially interesting to political science concentrators might be the compilation maintained by the Documents Collection, 2nd Floor of the Graduate Library.

To learn more about the libraries, orientation programs and tours are available at the beginning of the fall term. A printed do-it-yourself walking tour of the Grad Library is also available. Study carrels, copying machines and microform readers are located in the Grad Library as well as specially equipped study carrels for handicapped students.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, 1000 Beal

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/indi.libs/ford.html>

The new Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library on the North Campus contains documents and records from his 25 years in Congress and his presidency, as well as collections of material contributed by significant members of his administration. All unclassified files are available for research. The Library is maintained and administered by the Federal Government.

Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, Diag, 764-0400

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Grad.lib/gradlib.html>

The Graduate Library, the largest unit in the University Library System, offers many different types of materials (books, periodicals, microfilms, documents, maps, etc.) and is primarily a research collection. The Public Catalog, a catalog of all publications in the Graduate Library and divisional libraries and selected catalog records for other campus libraries not part of the library system, is located on the second floor of the Grad Library's North Bldg. The stacks of the Grad Library are open for browsing.

Undergraduate Library, 919 S. University, 764-7490

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/UGL/uglib.html>

The Undergraduate Library contains a large collection of books, periodicals, and other materials. There are course reserve books, reference services to help students with research, and the Sight and Sound Center that has recordings, cassettes and videotapes. There are special study rooms for the blind and visually impaired. Instruction in library use, computerized bibliographic database searches and other specialized services and facilities are also available.