



# Department of Political Science



Political science focuses on the theory and practice of government and politics at the local, state, national, and international levels. We are dedicated to developing understandings of institutions, practices, and relations that constitute public life and modes of inquiry that promote citizenship.

## Highlights

- ▶ Political science has the highest total number of undergraduate majors in the College of Arts & Sciences.
- ▶ The Comparative Politics specialty field was recently ranked as a top 10 program in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual graduate program rankings.
- ▶ Through its two well-established and outstanding formal internship programs—the Washington State Legislature Internship program and the Washington Center Internships in Washington, D.C.—the department has provided internships to hundreds of students since 1953.

### STUDENTS (AUTUMN 2006)

869	Undergraduate majors
95	Graduate students

### DEGREES AWARDED

(JULY 2005-JUNE 2006)

448	Bachelor of Arts degrees
12	Master of Arts degrees
5	PhD degrees

### MAJOR STUDENT AWARDS (SINCE 2002)

1	George J. Mitchell Scholarship
1	Arts & Sciences Dean's Medal
3	Rhodes Scholar Finalists
1	UW Beinecke Scholarship

## Education

The department offers a BA, MA, and PhD degree. Students can also participate in undergraduate certificate programs in political economy and political communication. Students typically develop expertise in at least two of the five major fields in political science: political theory, American politics, international relations, comparative politics, and research methods.

Undergraduate students of political science examine the theory and practice of government and politics. They acquire knowledge of political institutions and processes, both in the United States and around the world. Students learn to think critically about public policies and their consequences. They learn how to evaluate individual, group, and mass behavior in political settings, and explore the relationship between such behavior and political institutions responsible for creating and implementing policy. Students are taught to communicate ideas about politics clearly and to evaluate and make arguments about politics and policy.

The doctoral program focuses on the development of students' mastery of the discipline, the development of their research skills and teaching skills, and the evolution of a scholarly engagement and professionalism that will ensure a successful transition to a career.

## Faculty

Department of Political Science faculty honors include:

4 Distinguished Teaching Awards	President, American Political Science Association
1 S. Sterling Munro Service Teaching Award	President and Vice President, International Studies Association
1 Guggenheim Fellowship	Vice President, Midwest Political Science Association
1 Kellogg Fellowship	Editor, <i>Comparative Political Studies</i>
2 German Marshall Fund Fellowships	Editor, <i>Cambridge University Press Studies in Comparative Politics</i>
1 American Academy of Arts and Sciences member	
4 Faculty have received lifetime achievement awards for their areas of research	

## Research

The range of faculty research reflects the extraordinary diversity of the field of political science. In American politics, the faculty have achieved national recognition for research on agenda setting, policy processes, participation, public law, race and ethnicity politics, and media and political communications. The comparative politics faculty specializes in topics such as labor-management relations, the fiscal and taxation capacities of nation-states, political party formation and behavior, federalist structures, judicial institutions and religion. The international relations group has established two clusters of strength: international political economy and international security. The political theory faculty has primary strengths in feminist political theory, liberal theory, and the foundations of political economy.

Six major interdisciplinary research centers are located within or closely affiliated with the department: the Center for American Politics and Public Policy; the Center for Civic Communication & Engagement; the Comparative Historical Analysis of Organizations and States Center; the Comparative Law and Society Studies Center; Washington Institute for the Study of Ethnicity, Race, and Sexuality; and The Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies.

## Outreach

The department sponsors numerous public forums on elections, politics and the economy, citizenship, labor and unions, and international conflicts.

The Center for Communication and Civic Engagement developed the Seattle Student Voices Project, a year-long curriculum involving the entire Seattle school system, designed to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for young people to become active and effective citizens.

The Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies participates in activities in the community concerning a wide variety of labor issues.

## Fiscal Information (fiscal year ending June 30, 2006)

Total operating budget: \$4,172,831      Endowment value: \$3,279,635

### Sources

State support	\$3,343,106
Private gifts	\$118,661
Endowment income	\$231,254
Grant support	\$479,810

### Allocations (for State Support)

Faculty	\$2,367,924	71%
Teaching/research assistants	\$504,287	15%
Professional staff	\$246,706	7%
Classified staff	\$87,601	3%
Operations	\$136,588	4%

### FACULTY (AUTUMN 2006)

14	Professors
13	Associate Professors
6	Assistant Professors
11	Emeritus Professors

### AREAS OF RESEARCH

American Politics
Comparative Politics
International Relations
Political Theory
Political Economy
Political Methodology
Public Law
Public Policy
Political Communication
Area Studies
Race and Ethnicity Politics
Labor Studies

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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