



To be human is to be political. So claimed Aristotle, who stated that human beings are, by nature, the “political animal.” Political science is the systematic study of political institutions, ideas, identities, events, and behaviors. As such, political science seeks to understand collective power — specifically, how and by whom such power is acquired, exercised, and challenged. Students who major in political science at Providence College examine politics in a variety of contexts and from a variety of perspectives, both domestic and international. Graduates of the program find that a degree in political science from Providence College opens doors to a wide range of careers in the public and private sectors. The major also enables our students to become engaged and responsible citizens of their communities.

B.A. Political Science

Students complete 11 three-credit courses, including Political Science 101 and an upper-level seminar of their choosing. Majors must take at least one course in each of the subfields of American politics, comparative politics, political theory, and international relations, and a course on quantitative and qualitative methods. Students also complete four electives, which may include courses from the main subfields and others that cross subfields and disciplines.

Minor

A minor in political science is a valuable addition to many other fields of study, including sociology, economics, public and community service studies, global studies, and business. Minors must complete PSC 101 and five additional political science courses of their choosing. At least two of these must be at the 300 or 400 level.

Certificate Program

The Public Administration Program prepares students for careers in a variety of public service sectors and graduate degrees in public administration (MPA) and public policy (MPP). The program consists of core courses in political science as well as three courses in other disciplines on ethics, economics, and finance.



Explore Courses
of Study
and More





PLACES AND PEOPLE

Our program offers students a wealth of opportunities to put knowledge learned in the classroom into action. Our students participate in programs outside the classroom, such as the Rhode Island State House Internship Program and the Washington Semester Program; pursue independent research projects; present research with faculty members at local and national meetings and conferences; and publish articles co-authored with department faculty in prominent scholarly journals.

Small class sizes mean that majors can really get to know their professors. Our faculty come from diverse backgrounds and hold degrees from some of the finest institutions, including Berkeley, Brandeis, Brown, Columbia, Penn, Rutgers, Michigan, Notre Dame, Syracuse, UMass-Amherst, and UT Austin.

Selected Places of Employment

Aflac Group Insurance • Disney • New York Legal
Assistance Group • Analytic Partners • EY
EdVestors • Office of Governor Daniel McKee
Ankura Consulting • FDIC • Perkins Thompson Law Firm
• FBI • Audit Analytics • Guidepoint Global
Hasbro • Blue Cross & Blue Shield of RI
Hudson Valley Justice Center • Strategic Benefit Advisors
IGT • Suburban Propane • Carousel Industries
Imperium Consulting Group • Teach for America
Chisholm Chisholm & Kilpatrick • Lifespan
City of Boston • Massachusetts House of Representatives •
United States Senate • Wayfair • Dell EMC
New Jersey Senate Majority Office

Selected Graduate Schools

American Washington College of Law
New York University • Syracuse University
Boston College • Northeastern University, School of Law
Tufts University • Boston University
Brooklyn Law School • Notre Dame University
University of North Carolina School of Law
Fordham Law School • Saint John's Seminary
University of Oxford • Loyola Law School
University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School
Southern Methodist University
University of San Francisco • New England Law
London School of Economics and Political Science
Michigan State University • Vanderbilt Law School

92%

of **political science graduates** are employed or attending graduate school

(Providence College classes of 2018 – 2022)

political-science.providence.edu