

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 • Analytic Partners  
Ankura Consulting • Audit Analytics  
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of RI  
Carousel Industries • Chisholm Chisholm & Kilpatrick  
City of Boston • Dell EMC • Disney • EdVestors  
EY • FBI • FDIC • Guidepoint Global • Hasbro  
Hudson Valley Justice Center • IGT  
Imperium Consulting Group • Lifespan  
Massachusetts House of Representatives  
New York Legal Assistance Group  
Strategic Benefit Advisors • Teach for America  
United States House of Representatives • Wayfair

### Selected Graduate Schools

Boston College • Boston University  
Brooklyn Law School • Fordham Law School  
London School of Economics and Political Science  
Michigan State University • New England Law  
Northeastern University  
Southern Methodist University • Syracuse University  
Tufts University  
University of North Carolina School of Law  
University of Notre Dame • University of Pennsylvania  
Vanderbilt Law School

# 91%

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

(Providence College classes of 2019 – 2023)

[political-science.providence.edu](http://political-science.providence.edu)