

POLITICAL SCIENCE

bachelor of arts

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION

Illinois politics has fueled legend but has also produced giants in history and ably guided the state for nearly 200 years. Where better to study the theory and practice of governance than the state where history was carved by bold wrangling and lively debate? Bachelor's degree students can expect sound academic instruction in state and national politics, politics and law, political philosophy, and political behavior, as well as extraordinary experience immersed in one of the nation's most dynamic political cultures.

ADVANTAGE UIS

- **Learn from the pros.** Our faculty members have worked with the state legislature and have been participants in major civil rights lawsuits. They're widely published authors, experienced news commentators, and sought after resources for political strategizing and writing legislation. There are no passive observers in this program. Count on learning about politics up close and personal.
- **The Center for State Policy and Leadership.** Political science students have a special connection to UIS' important hub of public policy research and outreach. The Center is home to scholars who address issues of leadership, civic engagement, and ethical political behavior. Students are encouraged to get involved in research and public opinion polling.
- **UIS Pre-law Center.** This degree program provides you with a solid foundation for a career in law. If that's your goal, our Pre-law Center can help you with career planning, the application process, LSAT prep, and more.

Capital gain. There is no substitute for being in Illinois' state capital. Period. Our students excel in this living laboratory. Under-graduate students spend two semesters interning in the governor's office, the attorney general's office, legislative staff offices, or state agencies.

Model students. Our Model Illinois Government and award-winning Model United Nations clubs teach you how to function effectively in a committee, caucus, or legislative environment. Our Model U.N. students compete at the National Model United Nations Conference held annually in New York City.

Wise Words

Brad J. Goodman, B.A. '04
White House Intern

"UIS was a perfect match for me. The professors in the Political Science program are truly teacher-scholars and the students are top notch. Springfield is a great location for students interested in government. I am so glad to know that my experiences here will translate into an exciting future."



What can I do with this degree?

Besides law school, our political science degree is an excellent foundation for careers in politics, policy analysis, public service, research, lobbying, urban affairs, teaching, even the Peace Corps.

Recent employers include:

*Illinois State Senate
State of Illinois Guardianship & Advocacy
Illinois House of Representatives
Illinois Industrial Commission
Illinois Department of Revenue
Illinois Education Association
Illinois Department of Labor
PrimeAmerica Financial Services
American Red Cross*

Fast Track. Students who plan to make politics their career can apply for admission to our Integrated B.A.-M.A. degree in Practical Politics. It's an accelerated program that's heavy on practical experience and helps you develop expertise in an area of public policy, i.e. environment, health, finance. Credit hours are reduced for the master's program and you are prepared for a lifetime of public service.



The Chicago Semester.

Few cities in the nation can boast of a more colorful political history than our own Windy City. We place students interested in urban politics in Chicago city government internships for a semester.

The political science undergraduate program is strong in the study of American national and state politics, politics and law, political philosophy, and political behavior. Individual faculty have special competencies in such topics as policy analysis, voting behavior, legislative politics, civil liberties, political philosophy, public administration, and the role of symbols in politics.

Faculty Adriana Crocker, Hilary Frost-Kumpf, Richard Gilman-Opalsky, Ron Michaelson, Tim Miller, Chris Mooney, Calvin Mouw, Ali Nizamuddin, Jason Pierceson, Steve Schwark, John Transue, Pinky Wassenberg, Charlie Wheeler

Associated faculty Peter Boltuc, Heather Dell, Barbara Hayler

Emeritus faculty Craig Brown, Larry Golden, Hugh Harris, Naomi B. Lynn, Kent Redfield, Robert Sipe, Jack Van Der Slik

Adjunct faculty Erik Dillman, Bernie Sieracki

Entrance Requirements

The political science program has no special entrance requirements beyond those required for admission to UIS. Students entering the program will be assigned an advisor, and they should consult their advisor before registering for their first semester.

Department Requirements

Undergraduate majors must take the five foundation courses: POS 201 Introduction to the American Political System, POS 325 Introduction to Political Philosophy, POS 371 Introduction to Comparative Politics, POS 373 Introduction to International Relations, and POS 451 Empirical Political Analysis.

Students who believe that they have had a comparable course at their four-year or community colleges may petition the program to waive the course requirement. All students intending to become POS majors should take POS 201 prior to taking any other POS course. Students are encouraged to take the foundation courses, including POS 451, prior to taking any other 400 level courses.

POS 325 Introduction to Political Philosophy is a prerequisite to advanced courses in political philosophy. POS 371 Introduction to Comparative Politics and POS 373 Introduction to International Relations are prerequisites to advanced courses in comparative and international politics.

In addition to the foundation courses, students are required to take 16 hours of POS

electives, of which 12 credits must be at the 400 level. This brings the total hours required for Political Science major to 32.

Foundation Courses

POS 201 Introduction to the American Political System	3 Hrs.
POS 325 Introduction to Political Philosophy	3 Hrs.
POS 371 Introduction to Comparative Politics	3 Hrs.
POS 373 Introduction to International Relations	3 Hrs.
POS 451 Empirical Political Analysis	4 Hrs.
Total	16 Hrs.

Political studies electives
(minimum 12 Hrs. at 400 level) 16 Hrs.
Total 32 Hrs.

ECCE Requirements

100 level Comparative Societies 6 Hrs.
(One Humanities; one Social Science)
Not required for students with Associate's Degree

200-400 level U.S. Communities 3 Hrs.
Global Awareness 3 Hrs.
Engagement Experience 6 Hrs.
ECCE Speakers Series 1 Hr.
Total 19 Hrs.

Integrated B.A.-M.A. in Practical Politics

Curriculum

To ensure that students acquire the skills and knowledge needed for effective professional practice in the public sector, three additional courses are required as part of the 32-hour undergraduate major in political studies: POS 405 Illinois Government and Politics, POS 409 Political Parties and Interest Groups, and POS 451 Empirical Political Analysis.

Students must develop expertise in an area of public policy (i.e., environment, health, or finance) through two significant learning experiences. One of these must be an upper-division or graduate course. The other may be a course or experiential learning in a government position, policy research, or other practical experience in the policy area.

The integrated B.A.-M.A. plan includes an enhanced engagement experience that focuses on political practice.

When the student has successfully completed the undergraduate phase of the B.A.-M.A. curriculum, he/she will be admitted to the graduate program. The required internship in the practical politics concentration will be waived – although the

student may choose to do an additional internship – and the number of courses required for the M.A. will be reduced by two.

Political Science Minor

To earn a minor in political science, students must complete a minimum of 20 semester hours, at least eight hours of which must be upper-division course work taken at the University of Illinois at Springfield. Required hours vary depending on whether courses are taken at UIS or at a previously attended college. See our website for a listing of required courses.

Visit our website for more information on

- UIS Admission Requirements
- ECCE requirements
- Engagement Experience (internship)
- Communication Skills
- Advising
- Admission to Integrated B.A./M.A. Program
- Political Science Minor requirements

To view course descriptions

uis.edu/uiscatalog

CONTACT INFORMATION

Political Science

(217) 206-6646 or pos@uis.edu

Website

uis.edu/politicalscience

Office of Admissions

(217) 206-4847
or Toll free (888) 977-4847
admissions@uis.edu
uis.edu/admissions

IMPORTANT!—Information effective fall 2009. Subject to change without notice. The information is not to be considered final, nor does it constitute a contract between the student and UIS. See uis.edu/uiscatalog for current program requirements.

