

POLITICAL SCIENCE

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

At Xavier, students in political science pursue answers to the vital questions of equity, justice, and peace in the modern world. Our challenging courses consider the best political and social science literature with a view toward gaining a deeper understanding of contemporary domestic and foreign controversies. In this way, students confront the promise and limits of political and social solutions to humanity's most challenging problems.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

The Political Science Department offers intellectually stimulating introductory courses that explore underlying issues of real significance. All political science majors take the following four introductory and foundational courses:

- American Government and Politics,
- Comparative Government,
- International Relations, and
- Political Philosophy.

All political science majors receive training in economics and statistics. Students also complete six upper-level political science electives, which are limited in size to ensure that students receive personalized attention. As a capstone to the program, all majors take a senior seminar course in either American Politics or International Relations. Seminar courses allow students to pursue a major research project that can be developed into a conference paper or research publication.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Xavier Political Science students engage in high quality research that makes a substantive contribution to scholarship in their field. Xavier Political Science students present their research at national and regional undergraduate research conferences. Students can also publish their research in **The Xavier Journal of Politics**, a student-run publication that showcases the very best student research in political science and international studies.

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

Political Science faculty lead study abroad programs in Ireland and France, and political science students can participate in a range of other study abroad and service learning programs, including Xavier-sponsored programs in Italy, Spain, Peru, Costa Rica, Cameroon, Australia and England, among others.

- **Nearly 6 in 10 political science majors complete a study abroad experience as part of their undergraduate studies.**

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

Xavier's **State Politics Internship Program**, founded in 2012, provides students with the opportunity to intern full time in the Ohio State Legislature and earn from 3-6 credits. Students take courses with Xavier faculty and work closely with Xavier alumni who are working in the fields of politics, government and policy in the state capital.

Our partnership with **The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars** enables students to gain real-world experience and earn course credits participating in a Washington, DC internship in the Fall, Spring or Summer.

The Department's **Local Internship Program** enables students to earn political science elective credit while interning for a government office, public official or political campaign. Students can participate in internships in the Cincinnati area, or wherever they call home.

- **75% of XU Political Science graduates complete one or more internship experience.**

DUAL MAJORS AND MINORS

A Political Science major offers students the flexibility to pursue one or more complementary majors and minors. Among the most popular are: International Studies; Philosophy, Politics & the Public; Public Relations; and Economics. The department also offers students opportunities to earn minors in Political Thought, International Studies and Political Communication.





CHALLENGING ELECTIVE COURSES

The department offers a variety of elective courses that are limited in size and scope. Through upper-level electives, students engage in coursework and research focused on topics in the discipline that interest them most. Our elective courses include:

- U.S. Foreign Policy
- Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- Political Theory and the American Regime
- Campaigns, Elections, and Parties
- Middle East Politics
- Chinese Politics
- Politics of War and Peace
- Irish Political Culture
- Rousseau's Human and Political Vision
- Montesquieu and Tocqueville
- Science, Civilization and Sustainability
- Global Islamic Politics
- Gender and Politics
- International Political Economy
- Advanced Political Analysis
- Congress and the Legislative Process
- State and Local Politics
- Media and Politics

CAREER OUTCOMES

Xavier University's Political Science graduates pursue careers in a variety of fields, including government, politics, policy, law, business, health care, teaching and service.

Selected Placements of Recent Xavier Political Science Graduates:

- John F. Kennedy School of Government, MA Program in Public Policy
- United States House of Representatives
- Legislative Service Commission, Ohio State House
- Americorps
- Peace Corps
- Teach for America
- United States Capitol Police
- United States Army
- Ohio Republican Party
- MCPHS School of Optometry, Worcester, Massachusetts
- Urban Sustainability and Resilience MA program, Xavier University
- Martin School of Public Policy, University of Kentucky
- University of Louisville Law School
- Stratford Capital Group, Wakefield, Massachusetts
- Jefferson County (KY) Attorney's Office, Child Support Division
- The Ohio State University Law School
- Villanova School of Law
- University of Cincinnati School of Law
- Scripps Howard Marketing and PR Internship at the Know Theatre of Cincinnati
- RICS Software
- University of Kentucky Office of Sponsored Products Administration
- Greater Cincinnati Council on World Affairs

WHAT DO POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATES DO?

RESULTS FROM AN ALUMNI SURVEY

A survey of Xavier Political Science graduates over a three-year period revealed the following:

- 24% of Political Science graduates were attending graduate school.
- 19% were attending law school.
- 18% were working in the field of Government and Politics.
- 14% were working in a business-related field.
- 4% were working for a nonprofit or the health or teaching professions.
- 6% were in the military or working in a law enforcement related field.
- Just 3% were working in a non-professional occupation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

POLITICAL SCIENCE

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