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Department of Political Science

Undergraduate Student Handbook



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WELCOME

Political Science is a social science oriented around the study of politics and government. The Political Science Department at Miami University is large and active, with over two-dozen full-time faculty working in all aspects of the discipline. We offer three undergraduate majors, Political Science, Diplomacy and Global Politics, and Public Administration, as well as a Master's degree in Political Science.

We regularly offer a range of courses that cover central issues and questions in the study of politics and government, including courses on the American political system (e.g., constitutional rights and liberties, the American presidency, Congress, parties and interests groups, and political behavior); World Politics (e.g., international relations, international law and organizations, American foreign policy); Comparative Politics (the politics and government in the major regions of the world, e.g., Western and Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, Africa, and Asia); Political Philosophy; and Public Administration.

We prepare our students for their futures, whether in advanced studies or careers, and as citizens. Our alumni go on to study at top graduate and professional schools. Other alumni find careers in business, the Foreign Service, the armed forces, federal, state, and local government, law enforcement, lobbying, and non-profit organizations. Some of our alumni serve in Congress, at the White House, and in U.S. embassies abroad. Some of our alumni have successful careers in academic political sci-

ence, including the president of a university, deans, and department chairs.



Harrison Hall

Our students study with an expert and engaging faculty, who themselves are involved in a wide range of research projects. Several members of our faculty have received awards for outstanding teaching and in recognition of their scholarly research. Many of our faculty also have experienced working in government and politics, and bring that experience to the classroom. We also encourage our students to take

advantage of opportunities to undertake internships and other experiences in applied settings, and to study abroad—which are increasingly important in the global environment. There are opportunities for students to engage in research projects of their own, and funding may be available from college or university programs.



Learning Outcomes for All Undergraduate Majors in the Department of Political Science:

1. Our majors will be able to define and explain political science concepts, theories and approaches.
2. Our majors will demonstrate skill in evidence-based reasoning from identifying the appropriate data or evidence necessary to construct a convincing argument to constructing and communicating that argument.
3. Our majors will be able to identify the appropriate methodology, design and analysis for a given problem and understand the ethical components of research choices.
4. Our majors will be able to apply political science knowledge to contemporary political issues and problems and be able to identify and evaluate alternative political science-based solutions.
5. Our majors will be able to formulate, propose and advocate possibilities for positive

change in democratic society as engaged and informed citizens.

The Department of Political Science is committed to support the learning of all students, irrespective of gender, race, ethnicity, age, religion, handicapping condition, or sexual preferences. Students should be able to expect that their learning environments are free from any form of prejudice. Disparaging comments aimed stereotypically at any group and any questioning of the seriousness of purpose or academic commitment of students based upon group characteristics may undermine our educational mission.

If such behaviors occur in any class, University policy directs students to first try talking with the instructor and identifying the specific examples of behavior by the instructor or by other students that the students find offensive or disparaging. If the student is not satisfied with the resolution of the complaint, the student is encouraged to consult with the Department Chair and to seek the Chair's assistance in improving the classroom environment.



Department of Political Science

218 Harrison Hall

Department Phone: 513-529-2000

Administrative Staff:

Betsy Burger

Cheryl Chafin

Website:

<http://www.units.miamioh.edu/politicalscience>.

Interim Department Chair:

Dr. Patrick J. Haney

221 Harrison Hall, 529-4321

haneypj@miamioh.edu

The Chair of the Department, is the Chief Departmental Administrator who is responsible for overseeing the entire operation of the Department including the scheduling of all courses, approval of proposals for independent study, arbitrating student or faculty grievances, and representing the Department to the rest of the University.

Assistant Department Chair and Chief Departmental Advisor:

Dr. Bryan W. Marshall

220 Harrison Hall, 529-0161,

marshabw@miamioh.edu

The Assistant Department Chair and CDA acts as Chair of the Department's Undergraduate Studies Committee and assists the Department Chair on issues and problems related to the undergraduate curriculum. He can answer questions when regular advisors are unavailable, as well as help with problems related to advising, course requirements, petitions concerning academic requirements, etc. He can also sign forms related to undergraduate matters.

The Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs:

Director: Dr. Philip Russo

2 Harrison Hall, 529-6959

russopa@miamioh.edu

Housed in the Public Administration program, the Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs (CPMRA) at Miami University engages in applied public policy and management research, technical assistance services, training and education, and database development in the areas of public management and capacity building, local government economic development, planning, and public program evaluation and policy research.

The Center provides assistance to local governments (counties, municipalities, and townships) across the state. The CPMRA facilitates the University's teaching and research mission by serving as a practical laboratory for faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students pursuing studies and careers in public affairs. The CPMRA is funded through various external grants and contracts from federal, state, local agencies, and foundation sources.

The Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies:

Director: Dr. Karen L. Dawisha

116 Harrison Hall, 529-3303

dawishkl@miamioh.edu

The [Havighurst Center](#) is devoted to joint research at Miami by scholars both from Russia and the other post-Soviet states and from American universities; to service and learning activities for the Miami student community to enrich their own understanding of this region; and programs designed to foster interdisciplinary

nary research on the most important questions relating to the future of this area.

OUR FACULTY

WALTER ARNOLD, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1984, Associate Professor. Comparative Political Analysis, Political Systems of Asia, International Politics.

ANNE E. BAKER, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame, 2011, Assistant Professor. American Politics, Institutions, and Policy, American Political Parties.

RYAN J. BARILLEAUX, Ph.D., University of Texas, Austin, 1983, Professor. American Politics, Presidency, Religion and Politics, Political Thinking.

CLYDE BROWN, Ph.D., University of Iowa, 1986, Professor. American Political System, Political Behavior, Interest Groups, Methods of Political Analysis.

MEL COHEN, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, 1983, Professor, Middletown Campus. American Politics, Comparative Politics, Western European Politics.

CYRIL K. DADDIEH, Ph.D., Dalhousie University, 1984, Professor. African Politics, Political Economy.

BRIAN F. DANOFF, Ph.D., Rutgers University, 2003, Associate Professor. Political Theory and Philosophy, American Politics.

ADEED DAWISHA, Ph.D., London School of Economics, 1974, Professor. Modern World Governments, Middle East Politics.

KAREN L. DAWISHA, Ph.D., London School of Economics, 1975, Professor and Director, Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies. Comparative Politics, Russian Politics, Post-Communist Politics.

STEVEN M. DELUE, Ph.D., University of Washington, 1971, Professor. Political Theory, Public Policy.

JOHN P. FORREN, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University, 2001, Assistant Professor, Hamilton Campus. American Politics, Public Law, Judicial Politics.

VENELIN I. GANEV, Ph.D., University of Chicago, 2000, Associate Professor. Eastern European Politics, Democratic Transitions, Constitutionality from Rule of Law.

DANIEL E. HALL, Ed.D., University of Central Florida, 1999, Professor, Hamilton Campus. Law and Judicial Politics, Criminal Justice.

PATRICK J. HANEY, Ph.D., Indiana University, 1992, Professor and Interim Chair. International Politics, American Foreign Policy.

AUGUSTUS J. JONES, JR., Ph.D., Washington University, 1980, Professor. Law and Judicial Politics, Criminal Justice.

CHRISTOPHER S. KELLEY, Ph.D., Miami University, 2003, Lecturer. American Politics, Media and Politics.

THIERRY LETERRE, Ph.D., University of Paris Pantheon Sorbonne, France, 1995, Professor and Dean, Dolibois European Center, Luxembourg. The History of Ideas, Political Philosophy, Security Studies.

MELANIE M. MARLOWE, ABD, Claremont Graduate University, Lecturer. American Politics, Constitutional Law.

BRYAN W. MARSHALL, Ph.D., Michigan State University, 1999, Professor, Assistant Chair and Chief Departmental Advisor. American Politics, Congressional Politics, Methods of Political Analysis.

WARREN L. MASON, Ph.D., University of Minnesota, 1967, Professor emeritus. Comparative Political Analysis, Western European Political Systems.

MARK H. MORRIS, Ph.D., Miami University, 2004, Clinical Faculty. Public Administration, American Government. Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs.

LAURA J. NEACK, Ph.D., University of Kentucky, 1991, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies. International Relations, Comparative Foreign Policy.

KIRSTEN NUSSBAUMER, Research Associate, Department of Political Science and the Thomas W. Smith Project on Liberty, Democracy, and Citizenship.

REBECCA J. OLIVER, Ph.D., Northwestern University, 2006, Assistant Professor. Comparative Politics, Western Europe.

JOHN M. ROTHGEB, Ph.D., University of Kentucky, 1980, Professor. International Politics and Foreign Policy, Methods of Political Analysis in International Relations.

PHILIP A. RUSSO, JR., Ph.D., University of Massachusetts, 1978, Professor and Director, Miami University Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs. Public Administration, Public Policy Analysis.

ABDOULAYE SAINÉ, Ph.D., University of Denver, 1989, Professor. African Politics, International Politics, Political Economy.

MONICA C. SCHNEIDER, Ph.D., University of Minnesota, 2007, Assistant Professor. American Politics, Campaigns & Elections, Methodology, Political Psychology.

WALT VANDERBUSH, Ph.D., Northwestern University, 1993, Associate Professor. Latin American Politics, Comparative Politics.

CONTACT INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS FOR FACULTY CAN BE FOUND ON THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE WEBSITE.

<http://www.units.miamioh.edu/politicalscience>.



GETTING ACADEMIC ADVICE

General Academic Advising

Welcome to the Department of Political Science. The first step to successful academic advising is yours: take the initiative and ask questions. Academic advice at Miami University can come from a variety of places.

There are a range of materials that can help you understand the requirements of the Miami Plan, your major, minor, and study(ing) abroad opportunities. The Miami Bulletin and The Guidebook for New Students are two great resources that students should consult and keep handy.

First Year Advisors are available in the living learning communities to provide assistance in course selection in one's first year. Your Degree Audit Report (DARS) has a lot of information that can help with academic advising (please bring a copy of your DARS with you, or a 'what-if DARS' that the college advising office can run for you, when you seek academic advice). There are divisional advisors, such as the advisors of the College of Arts and Science (Room 146 Upham), who can help with a range of general questions about the Miami Plan, your academic program, and planning for the future.

The Interim Chair of the Department, Dr. Patrick J. Haney, (haneypj@miamioh.edu, 529-4321), can assist you with questions as well as Dr. Bryan Marshall (marshabw@miamioh.edu, 529-0161), Assistant Chair and Chief Departmental Advisor.

Each department of the university has a "Chief Departmental Advisor" who can help answer general questions about majors and minors. Dr. Adeed Dawisha (dawisha@miamioh.edu, 529-2332) is the Chief Departmental Advisor for Diplomacy and Global Politics; for Public Administration, the Chief Departmental Advisor is Dr. Philip Russo (russopa@miamioh.edu, 529-2008).

The Department website is the primary source for information and answers to questions you may have.

<http://www.units.miamioh.edu/politicalscience>

Basics of Course Planning for Your Major

You probably learned a lot about the requirements of the Miami Plan for Liberal Education when you attended summer orientation. Divisional advisors can perhaps be best at helping you plan your strategy for completion of the Miami Plan. Your faculty advisor in the department can best help you plan what courses will most challenge you and help you meet your academic needs and goals.

While every student is different and student schedules will vary widely, we recommend that you consider the following as you begin your major program. All requirements for the majors, minors, and thematic sequences, as well as other useful information are discussed in this handbook.

Political Science Majors

If you are majoring in political science, you should take POL 241 first, if possible. Then you should move on to take at least two other courses at the 200-level; these courses introduce different subfields of political science and are prerequisites for courses you will then take at the 300- and 400-level later (e.g., POL 241 is the prerequisite for upper-level courses in American politics). We strongly encourage you to take these introductory courses in your first and second year. Please note that the POL major gives students great freedom in course selection after the introductory level; we urge you to talk about what most interests you and what courses will best meet your needs with your faculty advisor.



Diplomacy and Global Politics (DGP)

Majors in DGP should begin by taking POL 271 (World Politics), POL 221 (Modern World Governments), and POL 241 (American Political System). These courses are prerequisites for the courses you will later take. You may then begin taking some of your related hours as well as other political science courses required of DGP majors. Again, your faculty advisor can help plan your individual strategy.

Public Administration (PA)

Public Administration majors should begin by taking POL 241 and then POL 261, the introduction to public administration and a prerequisite for upper-level courses in this area. We also encourage PA majors to take ECO 201 (microeconomics) and 202 (macroeconomics) as early as possible in your major program. Students can then begin taking courses at the 300-level and above.

Advising for the Major

Once you have declared one of the three majors offered by the Department, you will be assigned a faculty advisor who can assist you as you plan your major program and select courses. This advisor can also be helpful with questions you may have about the rest of your academic program of study at Miami. You are strongly encouraged to contact your advisor and set up a meeting to introduce yourself and to talk about the kinds of courses that will be most beneficial for your academic goals. If you would like to have a different advisor than the one assigned to you, whether because of your changing academic or career goals or for any other reason, you should consult the Department's Chief Departmental Advisor. We will try to accommodate your request. You should also feel free to talk about your plans with other faculty members with whom you have worked with in your courses.

All faculty members post scheduled office hours each semester. Office hours for our faculty and staff are also available on the Department website. You might have to schedule an appointment at a time of mutual convenience if you are unable to meet with your advisor during their scheduled office hours.

What assistance can you expect from your advisor?

1. Your advisor should be accessible during office hours and specific appointment times.
2. You should expect assistance with questions you have about courses and requirements in your major.
3. In addition to the requirements of the Department of Political Science (POL), your advisor may be able to provide you with some assistance in understanding the requirements of the University (Miami Plan Requirements) and the College of Arts and Science (CAS). An advisor may be able to make suggestions for selecting University, College, and Department requirement courses which will result in a more integrated program for you than if you just pick courses from the lists. You should also consult with an advisor in the College of Arts and Science on these issues (146 Upham).
4. Your advisor should be able to help you develop your career goals and identify ways of achieving those goals, in conjunction with help from advisors in Arts and Science and the Career Services Office (200 Hoyt Hall). Each year the College advising office offers a program jointly with Career Services; watch for the posters for this great program, which is aimed especially at second and third year students. (For further comments see this HANDBOOK under the section "Planning for Careers.")
5. Finally, and most importantly, your advisor is ready to help you seek out further sources of information concerning questions which neither of you can answer at the moment.

The Department of Political Science strongly recommends that you consult with your advisor at least once a year. It is especially important to review your plans about midway through your sophomore year and again at the beginning of your senior year. Experience has shown us that these are the times when students are most likely to be making decisions critical to their graduation. A timely review of these decisions can be quite helpful helping you to avoid mistakes in the future.

Your Major Advisor, contact information, and office hours for faculty and staff can be found on the Departmental website:

<http://www.units.miamioh.edu/politicalscience>



ORGANIZATIONS, ACTIVITIES & SCHOLARSHIPS

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

An important way to become engaged in the major or minor is to get involved in one of the student organizations on campus. Listed below are several student organizations or groups in which many of our students are involved.



AMICUS CURIAE PRE-LAW SOCIETY (AC) PHI is among the student organizations affiliated with the Pre-Law Programs in the College of Arts and Science. Membership in this group is open to any interested student who shares the aim of preparing and informing pre-law majors about a career in law. Amicus Curiae meets regularly and sponsors such activities as Mock Law Classes, LSAT preparation sessions, and Law Career Day (when representatives of leading law schools come to provide information about their schools to prospective applicants). Advisor: Ms. Maria Vitullo, vitullmp@miamioh.edu, 529-0877.

COLLEGE DEMOCRATS, MIAMI UNIVERSITY (College Democrats): The mission of College Democrats is to represent the Democratic Party by fostering a liberal environment on campus through political dialogue, outreach, and advocacy. They hold weekly meetings, organize events and programs to spread awareness, and much more. Advisor: Dr. Brian Danoff, danoffbf@miamioh.edu, 529-0160.

COLLEGE REPUBLICANS (CRs): College Republicans meets weekly to discuss current political issues and inform the student body about the conservative movement. Relevant speakers, events, and volunteer opportunities are provided in order to engage students in the mission of CRs. Advisor: Dr. Ryan Barilleaux, barillrj@miamioh.edu, 529-2005.

The FORENSICS SOCIETY (SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM) is Miami's competitive speech and debate program. They compete against other universities in public speaking, oral interpretation and debate. The team has over a 100 year history of national success with over 25 national champions. Advisor: Dr. Todd Holm, tholm@miamioh.edu, 529-2278.

The JAMES LEWIS FAMILY MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM is an intercollegiate competition among schools who are members of the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA), founded in 1985. Today, over 230 schools nationwide, some of which have as many as five teams, are members of AMTA. Advisor: Dr. Dan Herron, herrondj@miamioh.edu, 529-1574.

The Miami University JANUS FORUM provides a place for all members of the campus community to come together and discuss opposing views freely and passionately. They provide a forum where students can explore the multitude of views that exist, and then arrive at their own opinion, knowing not only what they believe, but also why they believe it. The Janus Forum focuses on themes of American Constitutionalism, liberty, civic responsibility, political

economy and the role of the public sector. Co-Advisors: Mr. Eric Buller, bullere@miamioh.edu, 529-1953, and Ms. Melanie Marlowe, marlowm2@miamioh.edu, 529-1693.



The MIAMI ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MAPA) is a student organization committed to the advancement of public administration study at Miami University and to providing a forum for the discussion of issues relevant to the administration of the public sector. The Association affords the student an opportunity to interact with others interested in public management, obtain counseling and advice regarding the course of study as a public administration major, and be exposed to a wide range of professional activities.

In the past, MAPA has co-sponsored a number of events and activities including scheduling and course advising sessions, internship seminars, speakers, both professional and academic, trips to the local chapter of ASPA in Cincinnati or to the national conference, and social outings. Advisor: Dr. Philip Russo, russopa@miamioh.edu, 529-2008.



MIAMI
UNIVERSITY
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The MIAMI UNIVERSITY MODEL UNITED NATIONS (MUMUN) provides a forum where students may learn about the objectives and functions of the United Nations. Through concentrated interactions within the structure of a simulated United Nations, delegates can acquire unique perspective on international relations. Throughout, the MUMUN adheres to its

purpose of participatory education in a manner which is both intellectually stimulating and enjoyable. Advisor: Dr. Carl Dahlman, dahlmac@miamioh.edu, 529-5027.

The MODEL ARAB LEAGUE (MAL) is similar to the Model UN but with a focus on countries in the Middle East. Delegates represent individual countries and address current issues pertaining to relations among member states. Advisor: Mr. Saleh Yousef, yousefsi@miamioh.edu, 529-9282.



PI SIGMA ALPHA is the national political science honorary society for students who have at least 10 hours in political science, of which at least 3 hours must be at the 300-level or above. In addition, they must have at least a 3.0 GPA in political science.

The chapter acts as a service agency, carrying out various departmental functions from time to time. Students who meet the requirements are encouraged to join and become better acquainted with other majors and with their professors. There is an initiation fee. Advisor: Dr. Brian Danoff, danoffbf@miamioh.edu, 529-0160.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS



Several scholarships and awards are presented annually by the Department to students who have distinguished themselves in various ways as political science majors.

The GARY BEST MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP was established by the Department of Government (Political Science) in 1966 to confer high honor upon a student of distinguished scholarship and professional promise. This award pays tribute to the memory of a good friend and colleague, who served as Assistant Professor of Government (Political Science) at Miami from 1961 until his death in 1964. This award honors outstanding scholarship, excellence in teaching, and personal merit reflected in his undergraduate education at Bradley, in his doctoral studies at Northwestern, and in his career as a scholar at Oregon, Stanford, and Miami.

The IRMA KARMOL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, established by her children, was first awarded in 1983. The award is given to an outstanding student recommended by the Department of Political Science. Mrs. Karmol, at the time of her death in 1979, was serving her third term in the house of the Ohio General Assembly. A former Miami marketing major, social

worker, and teacher, she was the ranking Republican on the human resources section of the House Finance-Appropriations Committee and the House Energy and Environment committee.

The HOWARD WHITE AWARD was established in honor of the chairman of the Department of Government (Political Science) at Miami University from 1927 to 1958. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the American Political Science Association from 1938-1941 and president of the Midwest Conference of Political Scientists from 1942-1946. In 1959 he participated as a delegate to the Atlantic Congress in London commemorating the 10th anniversary of NATO, and was involved in the Fifth NATO Parliamentarian's Conference in Washington the same year.

The ATLEE POMERENE PRIZE is given in honor of Atlee Pomerene, Lt. Governor of Ohio and U.S. Senator. He was largely responsible for framing the historic Webb Pomerene Act (exempting exporters from the Sherman and Clayton Acts) and played a major role in punishing the offenders and rectifying the mischief in the Teapot Dome scandals. Later he became Chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (1933) and chaired the Ohio Convention which ratified the repeal of the 18th Amendment.





The ENGEL PRIZE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE was established in 1997 through the generosity of Alan and Sondra Engel. Alan Engel was a member of the Department of Political Science from 1960-1997, when he retired at the rank of Professor. He also served as Assistant Chair of the Department 1975-83. He was very active in university faculty governance and served for many years as one of Miami's premier pre-law advisors. From 1978-95, he variously served as member or chair of the Oxford Civil Service Commission. Each year, the Department selects one Junior and one Senior to receive this award. Each recipient is chosen for showing "outstanding promise in the field of law."

The MAHER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS are given every year to a student majoring in political science and/or zoology. In some cases, only one award will be given alternating between political science and zoology. The program was established with a gift from alumna Kathleen Maher Zouhary in 1980. Students who wish to apply for Undergraduate Research Grants do so through the Office for the Advancement of Research and Scholarship.

The SARA C. GLOSIK SCHOLARSHIP is endowed by family, friends, and sorority sisters in memory of Sara Glosik who died an untimely death at the age of twenty in a car accident Easter weekend of 2002. Sara was a junior at Miami from Brecksville, Ohio, majoring in Politi-

cal Science and Finance. She was involved in a number of campus activities, including the lecture board and the multicultural council. She was also an active member of Pi Beta Phi Sorority.

The DAVID S. McLELLAN AWARD recognizes juniors whose overall academic record and work in the Department of Political Science has been outstanding. Born in 1924, David S. McLellan, the son of Scottish immigrants, possessed a sharp intellect and remarkable fortitude that produced a noted scholar of international relations and a widely admired teacher who touched the lives of countless of students. Dr. McLellan's path-breaking research on operational codes of political leaders resulted in critically acclaimed biographies of Secretaries of State Dean Acheson and Cyrus Vance. His career at Miami began in 1971 where he retired from teaching in 1990.



CURRICULUM

The Political Science Department organizes its course offerings into five fields. Each of these fields has its own number suffix in the course numbering system. You can thus identify the fields by name and number.

Number suffix and field:

- 01-19 Political Theory and Methodology
- 20-39 Comparative Political Systems
- 40-59 American Political Systems
- 60-69 Public Administration and Policy Analysis
- 70-89 International Relations (except for 277, 377, 477, independent readings).

A single digit number that indicates the level of the course precedes the field number. Thus, Political Science 261 (Introduction to Public Administration) describes a course that is more advanced than one at the 100-level, and it places the subject matter within the area of Public Administration and Policy Analysis. The third digit in a course number is just to distinguish one course from another; for example, POL 352 can be taken before 351, or you can take 352 and never take 351. The third digit does not indicate a relationship between courses.

While students are not restricted to courses in any field and may enroll in courses in all areas, there are pre-requisites for certain upper-level (300 and above) courses. It is also not necessary to take courses in numerical order where different fields are involved or even with respect to the different subjects within the same

field. For example, 201 Modern Political Ideologies need not precede 271 World Politics. The following are pre-requisites for upper-level courses:

- POL 241 (American Politics) for all upper division courses in American Politics
- POL 201 (Modern Political Ideologies) for POL 302 and POL 303
- POL 221 (Modern World Governments) for upper division courses in Comparative Politics
- POL 261 (Public Administration) for upper division courses in Public Administration
- POL 306 (Applied Research Methods) for POL 406
- POL 271 (World Politics) for all upper division courses in the International Relations

If in doubt about the sequence of courses, consult your advisor or the instructor of the course.



General Requirements

There are three sets of requirements that you must fulfill in order to graduate from Miami University. The first set is the Liberal Education Re-

quirement (subjects which all students at Miami must complete). The second set is the academic division (one of the six colleges or schools in the University—in your case, the College of Arts and Science). Finally, each major establishes a set of requirements you must meet in order to graduate (in this Department three majors are offered: Political Science, Diplomacy and Global Politics, Public Administration). Current Department requirements for our majors and minor are detailed on the following pages. The requirements of the University and of the College of Arts and Science are detailed in the Miami University General Bulletin, as are descriptions of all courses. Because requirements change over time, you should consult your Degree Audit Report (aka DARs) to be certain about the requirements that apply to you.



Requirements for Majors and Minors

The Department of Political Science does NOT allow Political Science majors to pursue another major in the Department. A double major between Public Administration and Diplomacy and Global Politics is allowed, but will not meet the Miami Plan's thematic sequence requirement as a double major that is in the same department. We **strongly** discourage a Diplomacy and Global Politics - International Studies double major, due to all the “double counting” that is involved.

The Major in Political Science

The major in political science requires a course in American politics in order to ensure that all graduates have a working knowledge of the U.S. political system, and the two courses that introduce various subfields within the discipline. Beyond those minimal requirements, the major in political science allows the student flexibility to structure a program of study in political science and related courses which will enhance the intellectual experience of the student and will allow preparation for better understanding the world we live in, for law school, other professional and graduate education opportunities, and a variety of careers.

A. Political Science courses (34 semester hours minimum)

- POL 241 American Political System (4)
[Take this course first]
- [Then, take:] At least 2 from among the following:
 - POL 201 Political Thinking (4)*
 - POL 221 Modern World Governments (4)*

- POL 261 Public Administration (4)*
- POL 271 World Politics (4)*

*Prerequisites for certain 300- and 400-level courses.

- In consultation with a faculty advisor, choose at least 19 additional hours from other POL courses at the **300** level and above, with at least one course selected from two of the five major fields. (Hours may include the senior Capstone. Students who entered before Fall 2013 are not required to take a POL capstone, but you may take one. Students who entered Fall 2013 or after, see below***)
- Additional hours from POL courses at the 200+ level to complete the 34 hour requirement (100-level POL courses do NOT apply to major).
- Other requirements: 2.0 GPA in POL; all courses must be taken for a grade; at least 15 of the 34 hours must be taken at Miami.

B. Related courses (18 hours minimum)

- Select from: AMS, ATH, BLS, BWS, BUS, COM, ECO, GEO, GTY, HST, ISA, ITS, JRN, LAS, MGT, PHL, PSY, REL, SOC, WGS, AES 221, AES 222, AES 431, AES 432, ENG 432, NSC 202, NSC 311, NSC 402, or other courses as approved by the Department.
- At least 12 hrs must be at the 200+ level.
- Other requirements: 2.0 GPA in all related courses; all work must be taken for a grade; at least half of the coursework must be at Miami.

*** STUDENTS ENTERING FALL 2013 OR AFTER MUST MEET THE CAS WRITING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENT:

Students seeking the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science must meet the College of Arts and Science writing in the major requirement by completing the following courses: (1) Take at least one of the required 200-level courses in a "Writing" or "W" section; (2) Take at least one of the POL 300-level courses in a "W" section; (3) and complete one of the required POL Capstone courses (all of which meet the Writing requirement).

Requirements can vary based upon the bulletin year of entry to Miami. Students should consult their DARs and their faculty advisor to confirm their requirements.



The Major in Diplomacy and Global Politics

This program of concentration is designed primarily for students interested in understanding more about comparative and international politics. It is a major appropriate for those interested in international careers. It is also the kind of broad, liberal arts program that many pre-law students will want to consider. Additionally, it provides a solid background for graduate study in comparative politics and international relations.

I. Core Requirements (minimum 33 hours)

1. Core courses--All of these:
 - POL 221 Modern World Governments (4)
 - POL 241 American Political System (4)
 - POL 271 World Politics (4)
2. Diplomacy and international relations
--two of these:
 - POL 326 Comparative Ethnic Politics (3)
 - POL 346 Global Gender Politics (3)
 - POL 373 American Foreign Policy (3)
 - POL 374 Foreign Policy Analysis (3)
 - POL 376 US National Security Policy (3)
 - POL 381 Global Governance (3)
 - POL 382 International Law (3)
 - POL 386 Global Competition (3)
 - POL 387 Comparative Security Issues (3)
3. Politics in global regions--at least TWO courses from TWO regional clusters below:
 - a. Eurasia and East Asia
 - POL 328 Politics of Central Asia (3)
 - POL 331 Communism and Soviet Politics, 1917-1991 (3)
 - POL 332 Post-Soviet Russian Politics (3)
 - POL 335 Politics of East Asia (4)
 - POL 375 International Relations of East Asia (3)
 - POL 440 Havighurst Colloquium (4)
 - b. Africa, Middle East, and Latin America
 - POL 336 Politics of the Middle East (3)
 - POL 337 Politics of Latin America (4)
 - POL 338 Contemporary African Politics (3)
 - POL 339 Nationalism, Islam and Democracy in Arab Politics (3)
 - POL 370B African Politics & Society through Literature (3)
 - POL 378 Latin America: The Region and the World (3)
 - POL 438 Africa in the Global Economy (3)
 - c. Europe: East and West
 - POL 321.L Comparative European Politics (4)
 - POL 333 Politics of Western Europe (4)
 - POL 334 Politics of Eastern Europe (3)
 - POL 423 European Union: Politics and Policies (4)
 - POL 425 British and Irish Politics (3)
4. Required capstone: Student must complete one of the following:
 - POL 419 Civil Society and Modern Politics (3)
 - POL 424 Transatlantic Seminar (4-6)
 - POL 439 North American Politics: Unity and Diversity (3)
 - POL 471 The International System (3)

NOTE: With approval of advisor, students may apply relevant coursework taken in an approved study abroad program as substitute for one or two courses on politics in global regions.

- POL 487 Individual Lives and International Politics (3)
- POL 489 Conflict Management in a Divided World (3)

5. At least 17 hours earned at Miami; a grade point average of at least 2.0 is required; all courses must be taken for a grade.

II. Related Requirements (minimum 22 hours)

1. Cognate courses—all of these:
 - a. ECO 201 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
 - b. ECO 202 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
 - c. STA 261 Statistics (4)
2. Advanced foreign language study: at least 6 semester hours in a foreign language at the 300 level or higher (not in translation).
3. Study abroad: 12 semester hours earned in one or more study-abroad programs approved by the Department of Political Science (not more than 6 semester hours earned in study abroad program can be applied to other major requirements).
4. At least 9 semester hours for Part II requirements must be earned at Miami University; a grade point average of at least 2.0 is required; all courses must be taken for a grade.

STUDENTS ENTERING FALL 2013 OR AFTER MUST MEET THE CAS WRITING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENT: Students seeking the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science must meet the College of Arts and Science writing in the

major requirement by completing the following courses: (1) Take at least one of the required 200-level courses in a "Writing" or "W" section; (2) Take at least one of the POL 300-level courses in a "W" section; (3) and complete one of the required POL Capstone courses (all of which meet the Writing requirement).

Requirements can vary based upon the bulletin year of entry to Miami. Students should consult their DARs, with their faculty advisor, to confirm their requirements.



The Major in Public Administration

The Public Administration major is designed for undergraduates interested in studying and understanding the issues of governance and management of the public sector, and more specifically about the link between politics and public policy implementation. It is appropriate for those interested in public service careers in the federal government, state government, and/or local government including: city and county management, public finance administration, public personnel administration, public policy analysis and program evaluation, and the non-profit sector.

This major prepares students for continuation of their education in professional and graduate schools of public administration, public policy analysis, and related fields. It also serves as a course of pre-legal study.

At least half of the required semester hours in the Public Administration Core and half of the required semester hours in the Related Hours must be from Miami. Required hours in the Core and Related Hours must be taken for a grade. A GPA of at least 2.00 is required in the Core as well as in the Related Hours courses.

At least 40 semester hours including:

1. Public Administration core requirement (all 17 hours required):

- POL 241 American Political System (4)
[Take this course first]
- POL 261 Public Administration (4)
[After 241, take this course]
- POL 306 Applied Research Methods for Public Administration (3)
- ECO 201 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
- ECO 202 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)

*(POL 261 is the prerequisite for 300-400 level Public Administration courses)

2. The core elective/ at least 18 hours including:

** For both requirement A & B below, courses appropriate to the major, but not listed as core electives, may in some cases be counted toward the major with the written approval of the student's public administration advisor.

A. At least 12 hours from this list

- POL 307 Public Opinion Laboratory (2)

- POL 351 Criminal Justice (4)
- POL 362 Public Management, Leadership, and Administrative Politics (3)
- POL 363 Administrative Law (3)
- POL 364 Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations (3)
- POL 365 Governance and Accountability (4)
- POL 368 State and Local Government and Politics (4)
- POL 460 Seminar on Public Administration and Policy Analysis (4)
- POL 461 Public Leadership and Public Affairs (1-3)
- POL 467 Public Budgeting (3)
- POL 468 Public Personnel Administration (3)

B. Not more than 6 hours from the following professional related courses can be counted

- ACC 468 Accounting for Governmental Organizations (2)
- ACC 469 Accounting for Nongovernmental Not-For-Profit Organizations (1)
- AMS 302 Transnational America (3)
- COM 339 Introduction to Organizational Communication (3)
- ECO 331 Public Sector Economics (3)
- ECO 406 Environmental Economics (3)
- ECO 435 Urban and Regional Economics (3)
- ENG 313 Technical Writing (3)
- GEO 451 Urban and Regional Planning (3)
- GTY 365 Social Policy and Programs in Gerontology (3)
- HST 379 U.S. Consumerism, 1890-Present (3)
- IES 431 Principles and Applications of Environmental Science (3)
- IES 450 Environmental Law (3)
- JRN 312 Public Affairs Reporting (3)

- SOC 454 Formal Organization (3)

3. Seniors must take the two capstone courses **CONCURRENTLY**:

***Requires Senior standing, completion of the core requirements (1) and 15 hours of 2A and 2B from above.

- POL 406 Public Policy Analysis Lab (2)
- POL 466 Public Policy Analysis (3)

4. Internships: Public administration internships (POL 340) for majors are coordinated through the Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs, 2 Harrison Hall. Internships provide an added dimension to your educational experience. Internship credits do not fulfill any requirements for the Public Administration major. For information, consult the director of the Center.

STUDENTS ENTERING FALL 2013 OR AFTER MUST MEET THE CAS WRITING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENT: Students seeking the Bachelor of Arts in Political Science must meet the College of Arts and Science writing in the major requirement by completing the following courses: (1) Take at least one of the required 200-level courses in a "Writing" or "W" section; (2) Take at least one of the POL 300-level courses in a "W" section; (3) and complete one of the required POL Capstone courses (all of which meet the Writing requirement).

Requirements can vary based upon the bulletin year of entry to Miami. Students should consult their DARs, with their faculty advisor, to confirm their requirements.

THE MINOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

If you are not majoring in political science, this minor offers you an opportunity to satisfy an interest, strengthen your degree, or enhance your preparation for a career or further education. This minor is not open to students with a major in the Department of Political Science. Your DARs may not automatically list the minor as satisfying the Thematic Sequence requirement, but it will meet the requirement at the time of graduation.

The Political Science Minor (21 hours):

- A. POL 241 American Political System (4) **[Take this course first]**
- B. Take at least one of the following, which are prerequisites to corresponding 300-400 level courses:
 - POL 201 Political Thinking (4)
 - POL 221 Modern World Governments (4)
 - POL 261 Public Administration (4)
 - POL 271 World Politics (4)
- C. At least 9 POL hours at 300+ level (Students are encouraged to meet with an advisor in selecting courses and to be mindful of prerequisite requirements.)
- D. Additional POL hours at the 200+ level to complete 21 hours.
 - (100-level POL courses do NOT apply to minor, but POL capstones do apply)
- E. Other requirements: Minimum 2.0 GPA in all POL hours, all POL courses taken for a grade, at least 12 hours applied to minor must be taken at Miami.

THEMATIC SEQUENCES IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

POL1 / Comparative Analysis of Foreign Policy

Explores the study and substance of foreign policy. The sequence begins by analyzing the broader international and theoretical contexts of foreign policy and then moves into finer analysis of particular issues confronting national governments in the construction and pursuit of their foreign policy objectives. Completes the sequence with a country or region-specific course that examines in greater detail theories, contexts, and issues explored in earlier courses.

This course:

- POL 271 World Politics (4)

One of these:

- POL 374 Foreign Policy Analysis (3)
- POL 387 Comparative Security Issues (3)

One of these:

- POL 373 American Foreign Policy (3)
- POL 375 International Relations of East Asia (3)
- POL 376 U.S. National Security Policy (3)
- POL 378 Latin America: The Region and the World (3)

POL3 / National Political Institutions

Enables you to understand the political system in which you live, how it operates or fails to do so, where and how citizen influence is applied, and how to assess proposals for reform. Take POL 241 first, and then select three additional courses from the options listed. Sequence of the four courses.

This course:

- POL 241 American Political System (4)

Three of these:

- POL 343 American Presidency (4)
- POL 344 U.S. Congress (3)
- POL 352 Constitutional Law and Politics (4)
- POL 356 Mass Media and Politics (3)



POL6 / Public Management and Leadership

Gain an understanding of the importance and workings of governmental agencies, their influence on society and daily life, and their prospects for promoting general welfare. Confronted with both theoretical issues and practical problems, you are encouraged to be a real-world problem solver through an understanding of the “fourth branch” of government, the bureaucracy.

This course:

- POL 261 Public Administration (4)

Two of these:

- POL 362 Public Management, Leadership, and Administrative Politics (3)

- POL 364 Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations (3)
- POL 365 Governance and Accountability (4)
- POL 368 State and Local Government and Politics (4)
- POL 467 Public Budgeting (3)
- POL 468 Public Personnel Administration (3)

POL 7/ Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (cross-listed with HST 3)

This Thematic Sequence examines Russian, East European and Eurasian history and politics from a multidisciplinary perspective. The Sequence allows students to study the history and politics of Russia and the former Soviet republics, from medieval times to today. Drawing from a range of disciplines and approaches, students have the opportunity to explore historical patterns, and political movements and parties from the 10th century to present. By considering this interaction, students gain meaningful insights into the development of this region as well as acquiring useful perspectives on western society. Because many of these courses are cross-listed, students from many different majors will be able to take the sequence by enrolling in the course through a department other than their major. Take one course from each tier.

One of these:

- REL/RUS 133 Imagining Russia (3)
- ATH/HST/POL/REL/RUS 254 Introduction to Russian and Eurasian Studies (3)

One of these:

- ATH/GEO/RUS 306 Peoples & Cultures of Russia (3)
- HST 324 Eurasian Nomads and History (3)
- HST 374 Russia to 1855 (3)

- HST 375 Russia and the U.S.S.R. from 1855 to the Present (3)
- HST 428/528 Russia's War and Peace (3)
- REL 235 Religions of Russia and Eurasia (3)
- POL 331 Communism and Soviet Politics, 1917-1991 (3)

One of these:

- ATH 384 Anthropology of Capitalism: Russia (3)
- GEO 307 Geography of Russia (3)
- POL 328 Politics of Central Asia (3)
- POL 332 Post-Soviet Russian Politics (3)
- POL 334 Politics of Eastern Europe (3)
- ITS 402O Transition to Democracy (3)
- GEO 408/508 Geography of the Silk Road (The Heart of Asia) (3)
- HST 436 Havighurst Colloquium (3)

Note: These thematic sequences are not open to majors in the Department of Political Science.

MIAMI PLAN FOUNDATION COURSES IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

- POL 101 Politics and National Issues (3)*
- POL 102 Politics and Global Issues (3)
- POL 142 American Politics and Diversity (4)
- POL 159 U.S. Identity Politics (3)
- *AP American Government credit awarded with this course

CAPSTONE COURSES OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

- POL 419 Civil Society & Modern Politics (3)
- POL 439 North American Politics: Unity and Diversity (3)
- POL 459 The American Political System (3)

- POL 466 Public Policy Analysis (3), POL 466 is required for the PA major and satisfies the capstone requirement for PA majors.
- POL 471 The International System (3)
- POL 487 Individual Lives and International Politics (3)
- POL 489 Conflict Management in a Divided World (3)

Other capstone courses may be offered; check each semester's course schedule for a list of approved capstones.



DEPARTMENTAL HONORS & INTERNSHIPS

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Students with an overall grade point average of 3.5 and above, and a 3.7 GPA in the POL, DGP, or PA major, who are at the end of their third year or beginning of their fourth year, are invited to declare their intent to pursue Departmental Honors in Political Science to be completed during their fourth year. Students who may be finishing their degree in three years may also apply for their final year. Students must have at least nine hours in political science coursework at a 300 level or above. To declare their intent to pursue honors, students must identify a faculty sponsor, a topic, and fill out a form signed by the faculty sponsor. The forms can be found in the main office and must be completed by September 1st of a student's fourth or final year in order to be eligible for the program.



To complete Departmental Honors, students must do the following:

1. Complete the POL, DGP, or PA major with at least a 3.7 major GPA;
2. Complete the following:
 - a. A thesis paper, under the guidance of a POL faculty member. This paper must be read by a second faculty in POL (to be selected by the student with the assistance of his or her primary sponsor) and both faculty members must sign that the work of the thesis is honors quality. This paper may be one that is a significant extension of an internship experience, presented at a professional conference, completed as part of the Dean's Scholar or Undergraduate Summer Scholar program, or counted for the University Honors Program. Completion of the aforementioned programs does not guarantee Departmental honors.
 - b. One 2-credit hour independent study (POL 477, Departmental Honors) with the faculty member who is your primary sponsor. Internship hours or hours in another department's honors program may count towards these Independent Study hours, with permission of your primary advisor.
3. (Optional) Participate in the University Undergraduate Research forum in spring semester.

NOTE: Contact Dr. Monica Schneider, schneimc@miamioh.edu, 125 Harrison Hall, to

complete the appropriate paperwork to apply for Departmental Honors.

CREDIT / NO CREDIT COURSES

The regulations for using credit/no credit registration are found in Part II, Section 208 of the Miami University Student HANDBOOK. Remember that credit/no credit courses may NOT be used to meet the minimum requirements for majors or minors within the Department and non-Miami Plan courses require the permission of the instructor for you to take as credit/no credit. The University Council has adopted the following warning, upon the recommendation of a sub-committee which had investigated the operation of credit/no credit at Miami and throughout the U.S.

WARNING: Nationwide studies have shown that credit/no credit grades on your transcript will be a negative factor in evaluation of your application for admission or employment by most professional schools (law, medicine, etc.), by many graduate schools, and by some employers and undergraduate schools. Do not enroll for courses on a credit/no credit basis until you are sure that such enrollment will not interfere with your career goals.



INDEPENDENT READINGS

You may, at some point in your undergraduate career, wish to pursue a narrowly defined subject in more depth than is possible within a single course in the curriculum, or an instructor may suggest that you pursue in more depth a topic which you have brought up in class. For those situations, members of the faculty may be willing to supervise you in Independent Readings in Political Science (POL 277, 377 or 477, depending on year in college).

When you want to engage in supervised independent study, you should prepare a proposed course of study and present it to a faculty member who specializes in the area of your proposed study. The faculty member, if he or she is able to undertake supervision of independent readings that semester, will suggest additions and modifications to your proposal and with you will establish a schedule of meetings for discussing your ongoing reading project.

Independent Readings in Political Science are subject to the following regulations:

1. You must have a GPA of at least 3.0 in at least 15 semester hours of political science and be a political science, diplomacy and global politics, or public administration major.
2. You must have completed basis work in an area before you propose to do independent readings in some extended facet of an area.
3. The proposed independent study must not cover the same material as an existing course.
4. You must prepare a written proposal for your Independent Readings in Political Science before securing the professor's consent to supervise your project.

5. You will need both the instructor's and the Department Chair's signatures on a university Independent Studies Form. You must submit a written presentation (paper or examination) in order to receive credit in independent reading.
6. POL 277, 377 or 477 are variable credit (1-4 semester hrs.; maximum total of 12 semester hrs.). You may not take more than 4 semester hours of Independent Readings in Political Science in any one semester nor count more than 4 semester hours in Independent Readings toward the major.



7. No faculty member may supervise more than 3 students in Independent Readings per semester.

ACADEMIC INTERNSHIP CREDIT

Students interested in obtaining credit for an internship must read the rules in this handbook, meet the qualifications specified, obtain a faculty sponsor and approval of the Political Science Internship Coordinator and submit a completed and signed "Internship Planning Guide" (available in the Department office and on the Department website before permission will be granted.

<http://www.units.miamioh.edu/politicalscience>,

Academic Internships can provide an added dimension to the educational experience of undergraduates and provide training in job-related skills. Internships may be with governmental or legal agencies, political parties, public office holders, political campaign staffs, civic organizations, interest groups, voluntary agencies, or other non-profit agencies. Some internship possibilities have been identified by the Department and are available to qualified students. More often, students identify their internship possibilities on their own that must then be formally developed between the host agency staff and the faculty members who direct internships.



All internships are subject to the following regulations:

1. The POL 340 internship is reserved for majors in the Department of Political Science who have attained at least junior standing.
2. All internships are credit/no credit and thus will count toward a student's 128 hours to graduate but not toward the completion of the major. From 1 to 12 semester hours may be granted for POL 340 in any one semester. No more than 16 semesters hours of internship credit may be applied toward the baccalaureate degree.
3. Internships must be approved prior to registration by the supervising faculty member and the Chair or Chief Departmental Advisor.
4. Internship credit may not be obtained for university service or activities. As a general guide, 40-50 hours of work on site would constitute about 1 hour of academic credit (1 credit hour = 16 hours of class time plus 32 hours of out of class time).
5. An internship application must be submitted along with a copy of a letter from the host agency supervisor that discusses the internship responsibilities, agrees to manage the internship, and agrees to submit a letter of evaluation of the internship to the faculty sponsor at the completion of the experience.
6. Please remember that the university will bill you for any credit hours for which you enroll, including internship hours in the summer, at the prevailing rate.
7. Students must be enrolled in the internship course at the same time as they are completing the internship (that is, for example, one may not sign up for internship credit in the

Fall term for an internship completed over the summer).

8. Upon completion of the internship activity, the student must present to the supervising faculty member an analytical statement of the experience in light of the relevant literature in the field, as well as a statement from the supervising agency as to the student's performance. Both must be found acceptable by the supervising faculty member before credit is granted.



NOTE: For further information about Political Science Internships (POL 340), you should contact one of the Political Science Internship Coordinators, Dr. Philip Russo, russopa@miamioh.edu, 118 Harrison Hall, or Dr. Mark Morris, morrismh@miamioh.edu, 2 Harrison Hall.

PLANNING BEYOND GRADUATION

PLANNING FOR LAW SCHOOL

Law schools demand three things from applicants:

1. a diploma from an accredited institution of higher education.
2. demonstrated academic proficiency in earning that diploma (i.e., a good grade point average).
3. relatively high score on the Law School Admission Test, usually taken in the fall of the applicant's senior year.

In addition, some law schools require, and all law schools recommend some accounting courses. Beyond that, there probably is no single course which must be taken, but any course which will help develop a student's logical skills or expressive skills (both written and oral) will be helpful. The question of precisely how these things can be accomplished must be answered individually, for there is no general prescription. Since a practicing attorney must draw upon a wide variety of knowledge, a good general background in the liberal arts, including a wide sampling of the social sciences, is likely to be as useful as any; but a student who happens to have a strong interest in some other curriculum should not feel barred from a pursuit of that interest.

Visit the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) website at www.lsac.org. Many of your questions regarding the LSAT and law school can be

answered here. The best available source of admission data on law schools is the OFFICIAL GUIDE TO U.S. LAW SCHOOLS which is prepared by the Association of American Law Schools and the Law School Admission Council.

The primary contact people for pre-law advising in our Department are Dr. Augustus Jones and Ms. Melanie Marlowe. When you have your LSAT scores and some idea of what your cumulative GPA is likely to be, the Department's pre-law advisors may be able to assist you in deciding to which schools to make application. Prior to that, your regular advisor will be able to help you with your questions. Maria Vitullo is the pre-law advisor in the College of Arts and Science, and someone you should consult. You can contact Ms. Vitullo at 159 Upham Hall, 529-0877 (prelaw@miamioh.edu), or visit the web at: <http://www.cas.miamioh.edu/prelaw/>.

PLANNING FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL

If you're thinking of graduate school in political science, it's a good idea to talk to a political science faculty member who specializes in the particular subfields of the discipline which you are interested in pursuing. They will be able to advise you about the specific nature and quality of the programs in your area of interest. Also, check the faculty list to see whether any have attended schools in which you are particularly interested.

Good general advice, as you prepare for graduate school, would include the suggestion that

you will need a relatively high GPA in order to demonstrate your competence at academic work. Most graduate schools will also want to see your scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) that you should plan to take no later than the fall of your senior year. Check the websites of the graduate programs to which you plan to apply to see which parts of the GRE you should take.

Your capstone experience should help provide more practice in writing papers, making oral presentations, and thinking critically, but consider taking other seminars when possible, as well as pursuing Departmental honors. An added benefit of seminars is that they are small enough that the instructors can know your work in enough depth to write the detailed letters of recommendation, which are critical in graduate school admissions. The same is true of the professor with whom you work on an independent research project.

General advice about courses is difficult to provide. While it probably does not matter much whether your political science courses cover all the subfields of the discipline or are concentrated in the one or two subfields you are interested in, you should demonstrate your intellectual rigor by taking plenty of your work at the 300 and 400 levels.

Many, if not most, graduate programs require quantitative skills. It's a good idea to prepare yourself for those requirements by including statistics and calculus in your undergraduate curriculum. Among our political science courses you should be sure to include a course on research methodology such as POL 306: Applied Research Methods. A good reference tool for you to consult is *Earning a Ph.D. in Political Sci-*

ence, published by the American Political Science Association.

PLANNING FOR CAREERS

With several hundred majors in its programs of Political Science, Diplomacy and Global Politics, and Public Administration, the Department of Political Science ranks among the most popular undergraduate fields of study at the University today. If the experience of these students matches that of preceding graduates, they look forward to excellent career prospects. For those concerned about the usefulness of political science as a career preparation, we think there is considerable reassurance to be found in the record of our graduates.

What is that record? Or, to put the question in its more usual form: "What do you do with a political science major?" That has understandably become the recurrent query of a number of prospective students who want to know more about where a major in political science can lead. From our surveys of recent graduates we can provide some concrete answers.

The more familiar view of political science is the one which associates it with three career choices: teaching, government services, and law, but political science can lead in very different career directions. Our graduates report such varied activities as graduate study in M.B.A. programs, military services, communications, sales and hospital administration. Employment in the private sector ranks as a common choice of many graduates.

Clearly, political science has a wide range of applications and provides a useful preparation for a variety of career options. While it is an appropriate base for advanced professional study

and for government service, it also often serves as a springboard into business, industry, and such related careers as journalism, communications, research, publishing, and interest group work.

The political science major provides an excellent grounding in the social sciences, coupled with a solid liberal education. There is substantial evidence that such learning is valued in a wide variety of career areas. Increasingly, we see a pattern of hiring and recruitment that is not narrowly defined in terms of a required major in some select area. The organization that is interested in our graduates is primarily interested in the quality of the student.

This is not to say that all graduates are indistinguishable from each other. It is only to suggest that the potential of a specific major may be more in its ability to indicate that a student can think critically, write well, and be adaptable under a variety of circumstances than in its links to specific careers. We strongly encourage students, therefore, to broaden their perspectives as to the range of possible options available to them, and to acquire appropriate areas of skills and specialties.

The limitations of space preclude a listing here of all the possibilities to which a political science major might lead and the details of avenues to pursue them. A good way to explore those alternatives is to acquaint yourself with the extensive resources of the Office of Career Services, 200 Hoyt Hall. They are helpful and informed about career opportunities, and an early visit to their office is strongly encouraged. The Chief Departmental Advisor also has additional information on careers for political science majors. Also, keep an eye on the bulletin boards in Harrison Hall. The Office of Career

Services sponsors the "Spotlight on Jobs" program every year. You can also meet with a Career Advisor from [Career Services](#) in Harrison Hall, Room 214 on Mondays 1:00-3pm and Wednesdays 9:30am-1:00pm. Visit the Miami Career Services website for additional information and to schedule an appointment: <http://www.units.miamioh.edu/careers/>.

Besides investigating careers outside of a narrow range of choices, there are a number of other suggestions we might offer as helpful to those who are beginning to think about life after college. Following are some ideas that we think are particularly worth emphasizing:

- Give thought as early as possible to the question of your career. Obviously the sooner one knows a career direction, the easier it will be to make the necessary preparation and plan accordingly. While one can drift into some career choices at the eleventh hour, others require very careful attention along the way.
- Find out whom to talk to about the particular career possibilities you have in mind. You may also wish to talk to some practitioners in the field, but bear in mind that advice must be evaluated as to its currency.
- Give thought, in your course selections, to more than just the requirements and the obvious importance of a good grade point average. Consider also the benefits of acquiring some special skill or talent that other applicants for your career will not have. Strong writing skills, foreign language proficiency, computer programming and analysis, quantitative techniques, research methods, accounting, or perhaps a set of courses in a related area may strengthen your application.

- Other ways of enhancing your record include a unique internship experience, summer job experience, or workshop. In some fields, graduate training or advanced study is a must.
- Find out what examinations may be necessary for the career you are considering, such as the GRE or LSAT. And also talk to someone knowledgeable about the timetable that you must follow if you are to be a successful applicant.
- Where recommendations will be needed, you will want to ask those faculty members who know you and your academic work. Thus building relationships with the faculty will benefit you greatly.
- It is also important to familiarize yourself with any organization to which you are applying. You will learn a lot about where you are headed, you will ask more useful questions, and you are sure to impress your interviewer with your seriousness and intelligence.
- Flexibility is a great asset when it comes to careers. We hope you will think about different alternatives and different directions, and also do a bit of contingency planning. The most common and tragic mistakes often are associated with putting all one's hopes on a single application.

STUDY ABROAD

The Department of Political Science believes it is more important than ever that our students be knowledgeable about international issues, politics, and cultures. One important way to develop expertise in these issues is to study abroad. There are a wide range of programs

available for study abroad, whether for a semester-long or year-long experience; and whether through Miami University or through a program at another university. You can find more information on the Study Abroad web page: <http://www.studyabroad.miamioh.edu/>.

For more information about study abroad options or how studying abroad will contribute to your major, please talk to one of the Department's faculty study abroad advisors. Most study abroad plans can be incorporated into a student's academic program at Miami with some careful planning, so start early.

Note: Study abroad is required for all Diplomacy and Global Politics majors.

Finally, remember that the Department of Political Science is ready to help in whatever way we can.

