

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Experience Map



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University
of Windsor

POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLITICAL SCIENCE WITH FRENCH SPECIALIZATION

LAW AND POLITICS

EXPERIENCE.UWINDSOR.CA

POLITICAL SCIENCE

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATES

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Political Science

Study power—who holds it, how it is exercised, how you can influence and gain access to power, and how our lives are influenced by politicians, bureaucrats, and other politically important institutions (including the courts, the Constitution, domestic and international organizations, etc.) and individuals. This program introduces you to political, economic, social and environmental issues in Canada and around the world.

Political Science with French Specialization

This specialization will prepare you for a career in government and/or public services that require a good working knowledge of French and an understanding of Francophone culture.

Law and Politics

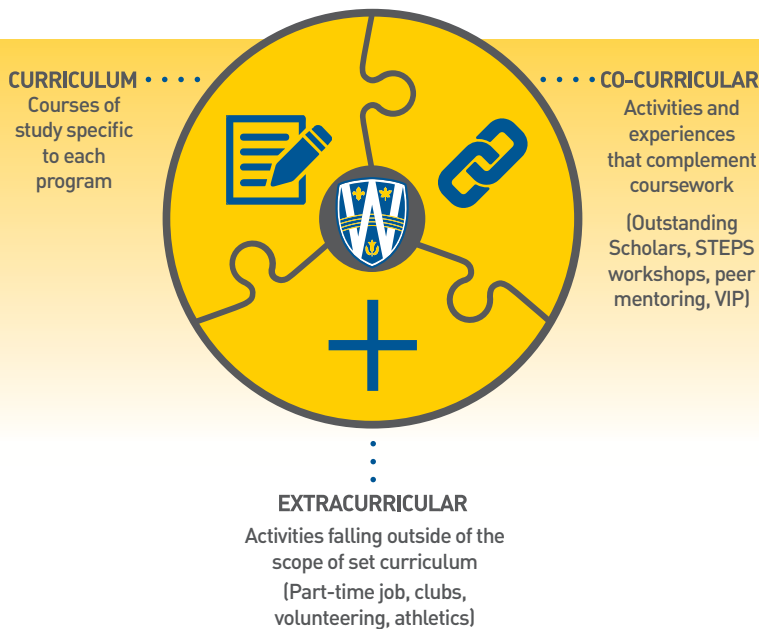
This unique and challenging program offers you the chance to learn about Canadian and international legal processes, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Constitutional law, ethics, legal reasoning and logic, and the art of argumentation. You will develop essential skills to prepare for law school and to be competitive for future articling positions and legal careers.

FUNCTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

- Describe and explain major issues and phenomena of political science
- Research and investigate political issues, synthesize data and information from varying sources and present descriptive and empirical evidence to support a central thesis
- Confidently assert political ideas and arguments, and defend them with sound reason and logic
- Effectively communicate ideas, arguments and evidence through clear, concise and coherent written work
- Explain the rights and responsibilities associated with Canadian and global citizenship
- Propose and evaluate alternative policy solutions to contemporary societal problems

French Specialization

Effectively communicate ideas, arguments and evidence in both official languages (French and English) through clear, concise and coherent written and oral work. Learn the unique place of Quebec and the importance of francophone culture and history in Canada.



BUILD YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Your UWindsor experience is more than attending classes. It is a combination of academics, co-curricular activities, and extracurricular involvement. By making the most of all three elements of your university experience, you will maximize your opportunities to build your skills, broaden your personal network, and clarify your long term academic and career goals.

CAREER PLANNING GUIDE

Intentional career planning will help you prepare for your next step after graduation. It is a fluid, dynamic, and continuous process, meaning you can move on or return to an earlier stage at any time. You can even work through simultaneous cycles, like one for your long-term dream job and another for a summer job.



Experience Map

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is meant to help you explore various opportunities throughout the course of your U Windsor experience. It is intended to help you link academics, co-curricular, extra-curricular and career planning activities by suggesting some of the options available to you. This is to help you see what you can do, rather than what you are required to do!

Academics



First Year

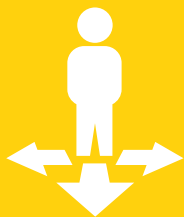
- Take required courses including Introduction to Canadian Government and Politics with mentorship component, Introduction to International Relations, and Introduction to Comparative Politics
- Review degree course requirements
- Enrol in a variety of Political Science courses to determine your core interests
- Meet with an academic advisor
- Receive peer mentorship from Political Science Help Centre
- Enrol in French language training classes I and II (French Specialization students)
- Enrol in Reasoning Skills class (Law and Politics students)

Experience



- Explore available Political Science internships or field placements*
- Apply for a co-curricular experience such as the Volunteer Internship Program (VIP)*
- Volunteer with local government or a non-profit organization
- Investigate research opportunities as part of the Outstanding Scholars program*
- Research student exchange opportunities for middle years, especially for French Specialization*
- Join a club like the Undergraduate Society for IR and Political Science, Model United Nations, UWSA, Mock Trial Association, or Pre-Law Society

Career



- Create a list of activities that you enjoy, areas in which you excel, and skills you have
- Meet with Career & Employment Services (CES) to develop a plan for your future years
- Consider taking an interest assessment to help you identify possible career paths
- Attend a CES workshop to learn how to find a summer or part-time job
- Become familiar with the mySuccess online job search tool
- Attend a CES resumé and cover letter workshop to get your resumé critiqued

Middle Years

- Take required courses and check in with academic advisor to make sure you are on the right path
- Take Introduction to Research Methods
- Explore research opportunities with professors★
- Consider taking courses in accordance with Certificate in Public Administration or Law and Politics
- Seek out internships and courses that offer field experience★
- Start taking courses required as pre-requisites for graduate/professional school
- Consider declaring a minor and/or specialization

Final Year

- Meet with faculty and academic advisor to go over degree requirements
- Complete all required courses in order to fulfill your degree audit
- Apply to graduate through MyUWindsor Portal
- Work with a faculty member on a research project or publication★
- Complete required courses for Public Administration or Law and Politics Certificate
- Take a field work, practicum or internship course to culminate your senior experience★

- Join a professional association in your field such as the Canadian Political Science Students' Association
- Join the Debate Team and/or Model United Nations to compete in local and international competitions
- Participate in UWill Discover undergraduate research conference★
- Attend a Political Science Speaker Luncheon Series presentation
- Apply for student exchange program★
- Expand your skills by taking on a summer, part-time or volunteer position
- Consider running for office in the Undergraduate Society for IR and Political Science and/or as student representative on the Departmental Council
- Consider applying to become a Political Science Mentor (in third or fourth year)

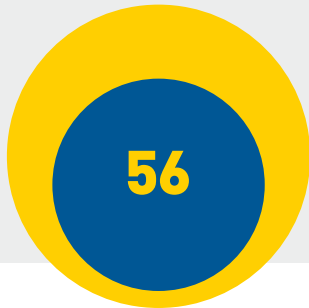
- Run for office on the Departmental Council or Undergraduate Society for IR and Political Science or a UWSA executive position
- Conduct field research with faculty member★
- Become a tutor for Students Offering Support (SOS)
- Join the UWindsor Model NATO or Model United Nations
- Work with a local organization through a field placement course such as the Public Service Management Internship Practicum★
- Consider applying to become a Political Science Mentor (in third or fourth year)

- Research career fields and occupations that are of interest to you
- Explore opportunities and meet employers through a job fair or employer information session
- Attend the Graduate and Professional Schools Fair to explore further educational opportunities
- Analyze the requirements for graduate or professional schools of interest
- Make an appointment with Career & Employment Services to explore career options
- Create a LinkedIn profile and have it critiqued
- Take part in informational interviews through sources such as Ten Thousand Coffees

- Consider applying to graduate or professional school and be aware of early application deadlines
- Meet with Career & Employment Services to prepare application documents such as a resumé, CV or personal statement
- Attend an Interview Skills Workshop and Job Search Tips Workshop
- Set up a mock interview for professional school or job applications
- Meet employers at the annual job fair in January
- Compose a portfolio of relevant academic and work experience

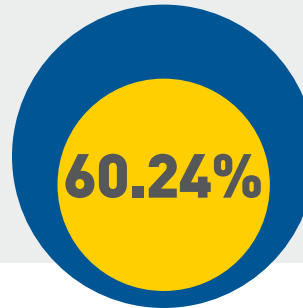
LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

2016



Number of University of Windsor graduates from Political Science in 2016.

2013



Percentage of Canadian university social and behavioural sciences graduates who continued their studies post-bachelor degree. (National Graduates Study 2013)



COMMON INDUSTRIES FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATES

- Academia
- Business: analysis, research, corporate communications
- Education: public schools, vocational/corporate training
- Government services
- Journalism: political correspondence and analysis
- Law and legal services
- Law enforcement
- Politics: political office, campaign management, polling and research, speechwriting
- Public policy think tanks and consulting: public/private sectors

CAREER TRACKS*

Accountant
Administrator
Border services official
Business advisor
Community organizer
Court monitor
Development analyst

Development officer
Health educator
Human resources manager
Immigration agent
Journalist
Law enforcement officer
Lawyer

Legal consultant
Marketing manager
Media analyst
Operations director
Policy analyst
Political aide
Professor

Project manager
Public official
Public relations officer
Reporter
Research co-ordinator
Sales manager
Teacher

* Additional education and/or training required for some of the above careers.

CAREER-READINESS COMPETENCIES



Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: Using strategic and creative thinking to make decisions and evaluate solutions

- Analyzing multiple dimensions of an issue in a number of relevant contexts to systematically investigate a problem
- Understanding how to apply new and/or unfamiliar information to various situations and settings
- Performing comparative and critical analyses of primary sources to support and/or reject various ideas, opinions, and proposals



Professionalism and Work Ethic: Demonstrating personal management practices and a high level of integrity and ethical behaviour

- Comprehending the thoughts and ideas of people from disparate times and places; appreciating the relevance of these ideas in both historical contexts and modern terms
- Understanding and applying global leadership principles sensitive to social, cultural, and political issues
- Setting priorities, meeting deadlines, and effectively managing time, data, and resources under pressure



Teamwork and Collaboration: Working as a productive member of a group and collaborating with others to achieve set goals

- Working effectively as part of a team by identifying your role and contributing, through leading, teaching, and encouraging others, to its success
- Supervising/overseeing a project from conception to conclusion while determining outcomes, making decisions, and delegating roles optimally
- Applying knowledge of the structures of decision-making and power to lead in various economic and social roles



Communication: Appropriate and effective articulation of ideas and information to a range of audiences

- Writing careful, clear, concise, and reasoned reports, essays and other professional documents
- Preparing engaging, creative, and informative presentations that appropriately target diverse audiences
- Developing, preparing, and delivering debate remarks and demonstrating oral critical argumentation skills



CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** on the main floor for help with academic assignments
- Improve study skills through the **Skills To Enhance Personal Success (STEPS)** program
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Explore mentorship opportunities through the **Connecting4Success (C4S)** and **Bounce Back** programs
- Apply to the **Volunteer Internship Program (VIP)** to get involved in the community
- Look into the **Work Study** program for on-campus employment opportunities
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career & Employment Services**
- Consult with the **EPICentre** if you are interested in starting your own business
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services, Lancer Recreation** and the **Student Counselling Centre**

Recruitment Office

Phone: 519-973-7014
Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860
Email: info@uwindsor.ca

Department of Political Science

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2348
Email: polsci@uwindsor.ca

Career and Employment Services

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 3895
Email: careerservices@uwindsor.ca
experience.uwindsor.ca



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