Political Science

The doctoral program in political science at Washington University is one of the top programs in the country. Graduate students take classes and engage in research with a faculty recognized nationally and internationally as among the most expert, active, and productive in the country.

Our graduate program is relatively small. We admit around eight to 10 students into the PhD program each year, and most of these complete the doctorate, generally in five to six years. There are approximately 40 graduate students currently in residence.

Washington University’s PhD program in Political Science is designed to prepare students for academic careers in research and teaching at major institutions across the country. While our program stresses the importance of political methodology (applied statistics) and formal theory (game theory and mathematical modeling), our program is designed to teach all students in these methods, regardless of their mathematical background.

We have active research groups in American politics and institutions, comparative politics, international political economy, positive and normative theory, and political methodology. It is important to emphasize that we do not regard these subfields as separate entities. Many of our faculty have research and teaching interests that transcend political science subfields, as well as traditional disciplinary boundaries. We have strong connections with other departments at Washington University, including economics, anthropology, the law school, and with various interdisciplinary research centers on campus.

Contact: Colleen Skaggs
Phone: 314-935-7455
Email: cskaggs@wustl.edu
Website: http://polisci.wustl.edu/graduate

Faculty

Chair

James Spriggs II (http://polisci.wustl.edu/james_spriggs)
Sidney W. Souers Professor of Government
PhD, Washington University

Associate Department Chair

Matthew Gabel (http://polisci.wustl.edu/Matthew_Gabel)
Professor
PhD, University of Rochester

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Justin Fox (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/justin-fox)
Associate Professor
PhD, University of Rochester

Director of Graduate Studies

Andrew Reeves (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/andrew-reeves)
Associate Professor
PhD, Harvard University

Endowed Professors

Randall Calvert (http://polisci.wustl.edu/Randall_Calvert)
Thomas F. Eagleton University Professor of Public Affairs and Political Science
PhD, California Institute of Technology

Lee Epstein (http://epstein.wustl.edu)
Ethel A.H. Shepley Distinguished University Professor
PhD, Emory University

James L. Gibson (http://polisci.wustl.edu/James_Gibson)
Sidney W. Souers Professor of Government
PhD, University of Iowa

Norman J. Schofield (http://polisci.wustl.edu/norman_schofield)
William Taussig Professor of Political Economy
PhD, Essex University

Steven S. Smith (http://polisci.wustl.edu/steven_smith)
Kate M. Gregg Professor of Social Sciences; Director of the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy
PhD, University of Minnesota

Professors

Brian F. Crisp (http://polisci.wustl.edu/pages.wustl.edu/crisp)
PhD, University of Michigan

William R. Lowry (http://polisci.wustl.edu/William_Lowry)
PhD, Stanford University

Itai Sened (http://polisci.wustl.edu/Itai_Sened)
PhD, University of Rochester

Associate Professors

Michael Bechtel (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/michael-bechtel)
PhD, University of Konstanz

David Carter (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/david-carter)
PhD, University of Rochester

Justin Fox (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/justin-fox)
PhD, University of Rochester

Clarissa Hayward (http://polisci.wustl.edu/Clarissa_Rile_Hayward)
PhD, Yale University
Francis Lovett (http://polisci.wustl.edu/Frank_Lovett)  
PhD, Columbia University

Ian MacMullen (http://polisci.wustl.edu/IanR_MacMullen)  
PhD, Duke University

Sunita Parikh (http://polisci.wustl.edu/Sunita_Parikh)  
PhD, University of Chicago

Andrew Reeves (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/andrew-reeves)  
PhD, Harvard University

Andrew Rehfield (http://polisci.wustl.edu/andrew_rehfeld)  
PhD, University of Chicago

Betsy Sinclair (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/betsy-sinclair)  
PhD, California Institute of Technology

**Assistant Professors**

Deniz Aksoy (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/deniz-aksoy)  
PhD, University of Rochester

Sarah Brierley (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/sarah-brierley)  
PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

Jacob Montgomery (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/jacob-montgomery)  
PhD, Duke University

Keith Schnakenberg (http://polisci.wustl.edu/faculty/keith-schnakenberg)  
PhD, Washington University

**Professors Emeriti**

Gary Miller (http://polisci.wustl.edu/GaryJ_Miller)  
PhD, University of Texas at Austin

John Sprague (http://polisci.wustl.edu/John_Sprague)  
Sidney W. Souers Professor Emeritus of Government  
PhD, Stanford University

**Degree Requirements**

**PhD in Political Science**

For more information regarding our doctoral program and the curriculum, please visit our Graduate Program webpage (http://polisci.wustl.edu/graduate).