

Dear Students,

Welcome to undergraduate studies in the Political Science department at Syracuse University. With over 300 majors, and a faculty of over 30 professors, the Political Science department is one of the largest undergraduate programs in the Maxwell School. Our faculty teach a wide variety of courses on subjects that include democratization in the Middle East, immigration and citizenship, the politics of globalization, media and politics, economic inequality, women in politics, and populism & conspiracy theory, to reference just a few of our recent course offerings. Political science faculty are experienced teachers and active researchers – often leaders in their field -- who can guide you as you explore the world of politics and hone your skills as a researcher, analyst, and writer.

The study of political science can provide you with a variety of skills and help you prepare for a range of possible futures. Political Science can serve as the core of a liberal arts education, helping you to master critical thinking, research, and writing skills while exposing you to some of the most important traditions of thought about politics and public life. It can prepare you for a lifetime of active and informed citizenship. And it can help you prepare a path to law school, graduate school, and careers in law, public service, electoral politics, public policy, journalism and communications, non-profit advocacy, international relations, and academia, among other fields.

To complete a major, students must pass 10 courses in political science, and choose an area of specialization by taking at least 3 courses in one of the following clusters: American Politics; Comparative Politics; Democracy & Political Mobilization; Global Governance & Foreign Policy; International War & Peace; Law & Politics; Political Economy; Political Theory; or Public Policy.

If you are interested in declaring a political science major, please see Candy Brooks in 100 Eggers Hall. She is available for walk-in appointments. You can also email us at: polsci@maxwell.syr.edu.

Thank you for considering political science, and we look forward to seeing you in our classes!