
POLITICAL SCIENCE

FACULTY

- Chairperson:** Professor Michael Kryzanek
- Professors:** Shaheen Mozaffar, George Serra
- Associate Professor:** Christopher Kirkey
- Assistant Professors:** Brendan Burke, George Candler, Mark Kemper

Department Telephone Number: (508) 531-1387

Website: www.bridgew.edu/depts/polisci/

DEGREE PROGRAMS

- BA in Political Science
Concentrations: American Politics, International Affairs, Legal Studies
- Master of Public Administration (MPA)
Concentrations: Financial and Personnel Administration, Municipal and Regional Development and Management, Nonprofit and Human Services Administration, Public Safety Administration

UNDERGRADUATE MINOR

- Political Science

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

THE POLITICAL SCIENCE PROGRAM

The Department of Political Science offers four programs of study in political science: a political science major (no concentration), a political science major (American Politics Concentration), a political science major (International Affairs Concentration) and a political science major (Legal Studies Concentration).

The political science major (no concentration) offers students an understanding of governmental structures and political processes in their own country and in other parts of the world. This program provides a foundation for graduate work in political science, public administration and international affairs, for the study of law, and for professional careers in teaching and in the public and private sectors.

The political science major (International Affairs Concentration) offers students an understanding of the structures and processes that govern political and economic relations among global actors. This program provides a foundation for graduate work in international politics, international business and economics, international law and organization, and for a professional career in these fields.

The political science major (Legal Studies Concentration) offers students a background for professional careers in the field of law. This program provides a foundation for law school and for paralegal studies.

The political science major (American Politics concentration) offers students a broad understanding of American politics. The concentration is designed to provide strong undergraduate scientific education in preparation for entry into advanced degree programs and professional careers in public service, private institutions and political organizations in the United States.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

The Department of Political Science offers the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science.

POLITICAL SCIENCE CORE COURSES

All political science majors, regardless of their concentration, **must complete** 21 credits by taking the following core courses:

- PO 172 Introduction to American Government
- PO 260 International Relations
- PO 274 Western Political Thought-Plato to the Present
- PO 275 Comparative Government
- PO 277 American Government: State and Local
- PO 350 Research Methods in Political Science
- PO 475 Senior Seminar in Political Science

General Education Requirements (GER)

A minimum of 120 earned hours is required for graduation. These earned hours include General Education Requirements as specified in the Undergraduate Academic Programs section of this catalog. For additional graduation requirements, see the Undergraduate Academic Policies section of this catalog.

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR (No Concentration)

A student choosing the political science major (no

concentration) **must complete** the above CORE courses and 15 credits (five courses) at the PO 300 or 400 level.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR
(American Politics Concentration)**

A student choosing the political science major (American Politics Concentration) **must complete** the above CORE courses and the following concentration requirements:

A minimum of one course *must* be selected from the following concentration requirements:

- PO 372 Legislative Process and Procedure
- PO 391 The American Presidency
- PO 398 The United States Federal Courts

In addition, a minimum of one course *must* be selected from the following:

- PO 375 American Political Parties and Interest Groups
- PO 379 Voters, Elections and Campaigns
- PO 380 Public Opinion and Mass Political Behavior

Students choosing the American politics concentration must select electives from the course menu below:

- PO 376 Urban Politics
- PO 389 Racial Politics in the United States
- PO 472 American Constitutional Development
- PO 474 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- PO 476 Women and Politics
- PO 479 Public Policy
- PO 498 Internship in Political Science

**POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR
(International Affairs Concentration)**

A student choosing the political science major (International Affairs Concentration) **must complete** the above CORE courses and the following concentration requirements:

- PO 384 United States Foreign Policy
- PO 473 International Organization

In addition, three courses selected from the following:

- PO 330 Asian Politics
- PO 361 International Political Economy
- PO 365 International Politics of the Environment
- PO 370 Canadian Foreign Policy: Actors and Issues
- PO 377 Canadian-American Political Relations
- PO 378 The Causes and Prevention of War in the International Political System

- PO 381 United States-Latin American Relations
- PO 382 Latin American Government and Politics
- PO 383 Comparative Political Systems
- PO 385 Government and Politics in the Middle East
- PO 386 Canadian Politics
- PO 387 Government and Politics of Africa
- PO 388 The Government and Politics of Eastern Europe
- PO 440 The Politics of Quebec
- PO 455 Totalitarian Political Systems: Dictators and the Reign of Terror
- PO 460 International Crisis: Bargaining, Decision Making and Outcomes
- PO 461 Contemporary International Relations
- PO 488 Politics and Development in the Third World

**POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR
(Legal Studies Concentration)**

A student choosing the political science major (Legal Studies Concentration) **must complete** the above CORE courses and the following concentration requirements:

- PO 285 Introduction to Law
- PO 472 American Constitutional Development

In addition, two courses selected from the following:

- PO/EC 340 Law and Economics
- PO 372 Legislative Process and Procedure
- PO 398 The United States Federal Courts
- PO 473 International Organization
- PO 474 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- PO 495 Administrative Law and Regulation

One additional elective at the PO 300 - 400 level.

DOUBLE MAJOR WITH ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, OR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OR SPECIAL EDUCATION

Students may choose a double major in Political Science and Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education or Special Education for licensure purposes. Appropriate advising materials with suggested course sequences are available.

POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR

A student may qualify as a Political Science minor by completing the following requirements:

- PO 172 Introduction to American Government
- PO 260 International Relations

PO 274 Western Political Thought–Plato to the Present
PO 275 Comparative Government

Three electives, at least one of which must be at the PO 300 - 400 level.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

An internship program in political science is available to all students, majors and non-majors, who meet the program criteria. A wide range of assignments are available with federal, state and local governments and nonprofit organizations. Assignment to the internship program is on the basis of application to and subsequent selection by the internship supervisor. Application procedures follow college policy (see section on *Internships* in this catalog). To be eligible for an internship, a Political Science major or minor must have already completed PO 172 and a 300 level political science course and must receive the consent of the internship supervisor. Non-political science majors and minors must have the approval of their major adviser and the political science internship supervisor and must have taken one political science course. Interns must have achieved at least a junior standing. Credits shall be limited to three unless more are approved by the Department of Political Science. It is recommended that those students with an interest in the program confer with the internship supervisor as soon as possible in the semester before their proposed internship.

HONORS PROGRAM

The Honors Program in Political Science provides highly motivated political science majors with opportunities to enhance their academic program through intensive scholarly study and research designed to be of assistance in post-graduate employment or in the pursuit of an advanced degree in political science. Contact the Department of Political Science for further information concerning eligibility and application.

PI SIGMA ALPHA

The Political Science Department has a chapter (the Pi Upsilon Chapter) of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society. Each year, the political science faculty selects and invites political science majors who are juniors and seniors and who have demonstrated outstanding academic accomplishments to join. Each initiate receives an inscribed certificate of membership.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Political Science offers the Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree. The MPA program provides professional education to prepare persons for leadership roles in public administration and public affairs at the federal, state and local levels with flexible career opportunities in both the public and nonprofit sectors.

Program Description

Coursework

The MPA program accommodates the need of both pre-career students and in-career professionals by offering alternative program requirements which take into account the student's academic and professional background. Students with a bachelor's degree and no professional work experience are expected to complete a 45 credit hour degree program (including six hours of professional internship), while in-career professionals are expected to complete a 39 credit hour program. Up to six hours of appropriate graduate coursework taken elsewhere may be transferred into the degree program. All accepted students must enroll under the direction of their adviser in GP 501 Graduate Program Planning, which is described under "Graduate Adviser and Program Planning" in the *Graduate and Continuing Education* section of this catalog.

The MPA Curriculum

Both pre-career and in-career students must complete a 24 hour core curriculum component of the degree program. These courses are:

- PO 501 Introduction to Public Institutions and Administration
- PO 505 Public Management
- PO 510 Introduction to Research in Public Administration
- PO 511 Program Evaluation and Policy Analysis
- PO 521 Public Finance
- PO 531 Public Personnel
- PO 532 Organizational Theory and Behavior for Public and Nonprofit Institutions
- PO 591 Capstone Seminar in Public Management

Concentrations

There are four areas in which an MPA candidate may concentrate; elective courses are available in each of the areas. As an alternative to earning a degree within a concentration area, students may pursue a generalist MPA track. For students seeking to earn a degree in a

concentration, a minimum of three elective courses must be taken in the substantive area. The substantive concentration areas are as follows:

Financial and Personnel Administration
Municipal and Regional Development and Management
Public Safety Administration
Nonprofit and Human Services Administration

An additional three hours must be taken in three one-credit professional development modules.

Admissions Information

Detailed information about admissions is provided in the *Graduate and Continuing Education* section of the catalog. To be admitted to the MPA program, an applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from a four-year accredited college or university. If the degree has not yet been awarded at the time of application, the successful applicant must be nearing completion of the bachelor's degree. The admissions process will also require an acceptable GRE score and an interview with the MPA program faculty. (Please note: to receive a clear admit status, MPA applicants must have a composite score of 900 or greater on the quantitative and verbal parts of the GRE General Test. To receive a conditional acceptance, MPA applicants must have a composite score of 700–899 on the quantitative and verbal parts of the GRE General Test.) Students should submit a resume and three letters of reference should come from professors or practitioners familiar with the student's academic ability. Students failing to meet the standard graduate admissions criteria may also be considered on a conditional basis of acceptance. Contact the Graduate School to receive a catalog and application material.

Exit Requirement

The MPA program offers some degree of flexibility for exit from this program. All students are required to fulfill an exit requirement which in most cases will require passing a written comprehensive examination. This one-day examination allows program faculty to test students' mastery of fundamental principles and issues covered in the core curriculum. Students must have completed at least 30 hours of the degree program to sit for the examination and will have two opportunities to pass the examination. In appropriate circumstances, such as a student interested in pursuing further graduate work at the doctoral level, a master's

thesis may be substituted for the comprehensive examination. The master's thesis will be directed by a committee of three faculty members and be covered under the guidelines and regulations of the Office of Graduate and Continuing Education at Bridgewater State College.

Distinctive Features of the Program

Professional development modules

The program requires that students register for a minimum of three 15 hour, one credit modules, offered each semester on topics of special relevance to public service. Normally these modules are taught on Saturdays during the semester.

Internships

A six-hour internship experience at the local, state, or federal level is required for all pre-professional students and will be available as an elective (3 or 6 hours) for those professionals who wish to enhance their background.

Scheduling

To meet the needs of in-career professionals, both at Bridgewater and at off-site locations, courses in the program are offered primarily in the evening, once a week for three hours. Occasional intensive weekend courses are also available, as well as a summer schedule of courses which meet twice a week for eight weeks.

For applications and additional information contact the Graduate School and specify your interest in the MPA program:

Office of Graduate and Continuing Education
Maxwell Library
Bridgewater State College
Bridgewater, MA 02325
(508) 531-1300