

## **Welcome to Political Science!**

### **Major Overview:**

Political science is one of Harpur College's largest and most popular majors. Students take courses in the sub-fields of American politics, political theory, comparative politics and international relations. The core courses address various topics in American or comparative political systems and institutions, international conflict and civil war, repression and foreign policy.

The curriculum deals with the systematic study of politics and government at both the domestic and international level, including philosophical questions, and more generally, the political behavior of individuals and groups. Besides a BA degree, students can pursue concentrations in politics and law or global and international affairs.

### **Courses:**

Courses recommended to students without AP credit in political science are:

First semester

- PLSC 113 - Intro to Comparative Politics and/or
- PLSC 117 - Intro to World Politics

Second semester

- PLSC 111 - Intro to American Politics and a political science elective

### **Post-Graduation:**

The political science major prepares students for graduate study, law school, as well as careers in journalism, business, government and lobbying to name a few. Graduates acquire skills that are applicable to a broad range of careers in both government and private organizations including an ability to understand complex arguments, think critically about human political behavior and apply broad concepts systematically to concrete situations. In addition, graduates acquire strong research skills that help them pursue advanced studies in the field to become researchers, professors and teachers.

The following list offers examples of possible career paths that students can pursue:

- Business consultant
- Campaign manager
- Congressional aide
- Editor
- Election supervisor
- Field office manager
- Campaign finance analyst
- Foreign services officer
- Intelligence agent
- International trade specialist
- Journalist
- Legal assistant

### **Additional Resources:**

To learn about resources for political science majors, click the links below:

[Honors Program](http://bingweb.binghamton.edu/~martinek/thesis.htm) [http://bingweb.binghamton.edu/~martinek/thesis.htm]

[Major requirements](http://www.binghamton.edu:8080/exist9/rest/Bulletin2014-15/xq/political_science_ug.xq?_xsl=/db/Bulletin2014-15/xsl/MasterCompose.xsl) [http://www.binghamton.edu:8080/exist9/rest/Bulletin2014-15/xq/political\_science\_ug.xq?\_xsl=/db/Bulletin2014-15/xsl/MasterCompose.xsl]

[National honors society](http://bingweb.binghamton.edu/~grobinso/pisig.html) [http://bingweb.binghamton.edu/~grobinso/pisig.html]

[College Democrats](https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/college-democrats) [https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/college-democrats]

[College Libertarians](https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/college-libertarians) [https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/college-libertarians]

[College Republicans](https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/college-republicans) [https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/college-republicans]

[Dorm Room Diplomacy](https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/drd) [https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/drd]

[Model United Nations Team](https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/model-united-nations-team) [https://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/model-united-nations-team]

[Other student groups](http://binghamtonsa.org/executive-vp/current-student-groups/) [http://binghamtonsa.org/executive-vp/current-student-groups/]

[Career and professional development](http://www.binghamton.edu/ccpd/) [http://www.binghamton.edu/ccpd/]

### **Research Areas:**

The department has formal ties with three internship programs: the SUNY Brockport Washington Program, the New York Assembly Session Internship and the New York State Senate Undergraduate Sessions Assistant Program. In the past,

students have interned in places such as the Binghamton offices of U.S. senators Clinton and Schumer; the Binghamton office of state Sen. Thomas Libous; the Broome County district attorney's office; Democratic and Republican Parties; several county executive's offices across the state; private law firms; and political campaigns at the local, state and national level.

For more information, click [internships](http://binghamton-oip.terradata.com). [http://binghamton-oip.terradata.com]

**Thank you!**

For more information contact the Political Science

Department at:

[sglemby@binghamton.edu](mailto:sglemby@binghamton.edu)

(607) 777-2946