Political Science: MA, PhD

Political Science is a research intensive and teaching oriented department, offering students a dynamic and engaging environment. Our faculty pursue a wide range of research interests, are widely published, and are active in obtaining grant funding from SSHRC and other sources. The department also has a strong track record in helping graduate students obtain research funding of their own, including SSHRC, OGS, and Trillium. Many of our faculty engage in field work in a number of regions, including Africa, Latin America, Asia, Oceania and the Pacific, the United States, Canada, Europe, and the Middle East.

MA Program: The MA program revolves around the theme of Rights, Justice, Citizenship, and Identity while allowing flexibility for students to pursue their various interests. Within the broader framework of Rights, Justice, Citizenship and Identity, the Department has particular strengths in Public Policy and Administration and Global Justice and Politics and offers a number of courses related to those topics.

Our broad range of course offerings and options to complete the degree (course-based, Major Research Paper or thesis) allows students to tailor their experience towards their future employment or academic goals.

PhD Program: The PhD program offers students the opportunity to pursue studies in six fields:

- Canadian Politics
- Comparative Politics
- Gender, Race, Indigeneity, and Sexuality
- International Relations
- Law and Politics
- Public Policy and Governance

Students are required to major in one field and minor in another.

The PhD program is designed both for students interested in pursuing academic positions and also for students interested in working in research capacities in the public, non-profit or private sectors.

The department also participates in a collaborative MA & PhD specializations in International Development Studies, with students obtaining a specialization in International Development Studies along with the degree in Political Science.

**Masters Application Requirements:**
- A four-year Honours BA degree with a minimum B+ (77-79%) GPA

**PhD Application Requirements:**
- A MA degree in Political Science with at least an A- GPA for consideration
- Methodology course is necessary for admission
- Students are expected to have an adequate working knowledge of a language in addition to English, if needed for their particular course of study
- Students with a MA in a field of Social Science other than Political Science are also encouraged to apply. If accepted, they will be expected to successfully complete additional qualifying courses during their first two semesters in the program

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:**
- Rights, Law and Justice
- Public Policy, Governance, and Administration
- International Development
- Gender and Identity
- Comparative and Global Politics

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**
- Policy Analyst
- Strategic Consultant
- Communications Specialist
- Lecturer
- Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) coordinator

**Application Deadline:**
- January 18, 2020

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Graduate Coordinator:**
Dr. Candace Johnson
519-824-4120 ext 52179
cjohnso@uoguelph.ca

**Graduate Program Assistant:**
Renée Tavascia
519-824-4120 ext 56973
rtavasci@uoguelph.ca
Departmental Graduate Faculty with Research Areas

Dennis Baker:
Law & politics, judicial decision-making, constitutionalism, criminal justice policy-making & federalism

Ryan Briggs:
Political economy of poverty alleviation, foreign aid projects, politics of electricity in low income countries

Janine A. Clark:
Middle East politics, including Islamist movements, Women & politics in the global south, social movement theory, neoliberalism, including decentralization & local governance, in the global south, research methods

Carol Dauda:
Gender & politics, sexuality & politics, generation (childhood in relation to adulthood) & politics, gender & public policy in liberal democracies, gender &/or sexuality & politics in Africa

Jordi Diez:
Comparative politics, Latin American politics, comparative public policy, social movements, gay & lesbian rights

Carmen Ho:
State provision of social welfare, health policies for women and children, international social policy factors in Southeast Asia

Candace Johnson:
Gender, women, feminist theory, contemporary political theory, human rights & development, health policy & politics & Latin American studies

Craig Johnson:
Urbanization, international development, land & resource governance, South & Southeast Asia, & climate change

Edward Koning:
Immigration, immigrant integration, welfare state & European politics

Theresa Lee:
Twentieth-century continental political thought, human rights & ethics, modern Chinese political thought & comparative political thought

Leah Levac:
Public engagement, marginalized publics & intersectional policy analysis

David MacDonald:
Comparative indigenous politics Canada, Australia, USA, New Zealand, Holocaust & genocide studies, US foreign policy, New Zealand foreign policy, international relations, international politics of western settler states, multiculturalism & racial & ethnic studies

Tim Mau:
Public administration, public management/leadership/local government

Andrea Paras:
Humanitarian NGOs, humanitarian intervention, human rights, religion & secularism & Tibetan exile politics

Troy Riddell:
Judicial politics, constitutional politics, criminal justice, rights & liberties

Byron Sheldrick:
Canadian political economy, law & politics, welfare state restructuring & social democracy

Julie Simmons:
Public policy, public administration, federalism & intergovernmental relations & democratic governance

Tamara A. Small:
Digital politics, Canadian politics, political communication, Canadian political parties & elections

Adam Sneyd:
Commodities, corporate social responsibility, political economy, poverty & Africa

“Continuing my education at the University of Guelph exposed me to a number of opportunities to develop research skills while connecting with the community. The support I’ve received from peers, staff, and faculty within the Political Science department has helped me achieve goals that seemed unimaginable this early in my academic career.”

Melanie Davis, MA POLS

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