

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.

uoguelph.ca/polisci

Program

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.



"My research focuses on the justice gap in sexual assault court cases, where legal professionals avoid the law-on-the-books, re-traumatizing and re-victimizing survivors during trial. My thesis will evaluate Canadian law school curriculum on sexual assault to explain this behaviour and make recommendations to remedy this gap in court."

– Samantha Powless, PhD candidate in Political Science

Students can pursue collaborative MA & PhD specializations in International Development Studies or One Health along with a degree in Political Science.

Admission Requirements

Masters Application Requirements:

- A four-year Honours BA degree with a minimum B+ (77-79%) GPA

PhD Application Requirements:

- MA degree in Political Science with at least an A- GPA for consideration
- Methodology course
- Adequate working knowledge of a language in addition to English, if needed for their particular course of study

Application Deadline:

Deadline to apply and upload all documents: January 18, 2022

Please apply at least two weeks prior to the above deadline to ensure sufficient time to upload your required documents. It can take up to five days after you apply before you gain access to upload.

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

Graduate Program Coordinator:

Dr. Edward Koning
519-824-4120 ext 58939
ekoning@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

Jordi Díez:

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

Minh Do:

Canadian law and politics, public policy, and Indigenous politics.

Steffi Hamann:

International Development, Political Economy, Comparative Politics, Food Security, sub-Saharan Africa

Mark S. Harding:

Law and politics, Canadian politics, rights documents, constitutional theory, political institutions

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

Kate Puddister:

Law and politics, Canadian politics, criminal justice

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



“The Guelph academic community has supported me throughout my undergraduate and graduate experience. I’ve made countless meaningful connections through my advisor, peers, faculty and staff interactions. These connections and opportunities would not have been possible without the community and people I’ve been lucky enough to work with and be around.”

– Asa Coleman, MA POLS+IDDEV Candidate

Adam Sneyd:

Commodities, corporate social responsibility, political economy, poverty & Africa

David Snow:

Law & politics, assisted reproductive technologies, public policy, and federalism

Ian Spears:

Conflict/conflict resolution, politics of Africa, Palestinian-Israeli conflict, development & violence & international relations

Deborah Stienstra:

Public services and people with disabilities, women’s experiences and economic restructuring, intersections between disability, race/ethnicity and Aboriginality, access and inclusion in telecommunications policy

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