

Political Science and Public Administration

Return to: College of Liberal Arts (<http://catalog.utep.edu/undergrad/college-of-liberal-arts/>)

Political science is a practical and interesting major or minor because it provides a strong academic preparation for many different occupations and career paths because politics connects to a range of policies and issues that affect society. Everything is political or affected by policy! Like other disciplines within the Liberal Arts, Political Science provides an excellent training in skills that employers seek, such as critical thinking, data analysis, and effective written and oral communication. See how some of our alumni highlighted by our College (<https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/about/what-can-you-do-with-a-liberal-arts-degree.html>) have used their degrees in private business or government. We are dedicated to providing an excellent education that will prepare students for a variety of careers and lifelong success. Our alumni go on to careers in many areas, such as the following:

- Lawyer
- Judge
- Paralegal
- Political Official/Representative
- Law Enforcement (Federal, State, Local)
- State & Local Government
- Journalism
- Diplomatic Service Government
- College Professor
- Graduate School (MA & Ph.D.)
- Non-profit organizations
- Business
- Community Organizing

We offer a major that includes the option of concentrations in certain subfields, a general minor, and specialized minors in Public Administration and Service or International Politics. Our general major offers students flexibility to take courses across all the areas of Political Science, whereas the optional concentrations focus on two or three subfields. Here are some examples of situations where students may choose a concentration:

- A student who is interested in going to law school might choose to concentrate his or her classes in three fields: Law and Politics, American Political Behavior and Institutions, and Political Thought and Theory.
- A student pursuing a career in the U.S. Foreign Service, the Servicio Exterior Mexicano, or other organizations involved in international affairs might choose to concentrate most classes in the fields of International Relations and Comparative Politics.
- A student who wishes to work for a governmental agency at the federal, state or local level in the United States might choose to concentrate most classes in the fields of Public Administration and American Political Behavior and Institutions.
- A student who plans to work for a governmental agency at the federal, state or local level in México might choose to concentrate most classes in the fields of Public Administration, Comparative Politics and International Relations.

Our minors afford similar flexibility. There is only one required course in the political science minor, and only two in the Comparative and International Politics minor. Each minor requires 6 standard courses (18 hours), the minimum allowed at UTEP.

Students majoring in other subjects who are interested in politics in the United States, along the border, or throughout the world will find our minors to be intellectually stimulating and worthwhile for many careers. Our minors can be particularly relevant for students majoring in anthropology, Chicano Studies, communications, criminal justice, economics and finance, history, Latin American and Border Studies, philosophy, psychology, sociology, social work, Spanish, and teacher education.

Come study with us! *¡Vengan a estudiar con nosotros!*

Chair

Gaspare Genna (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=ggenna>)
 Contact Information: ggenna@utep.edu (mtcortez@utep.edu); 915-747-6066
 Education: Ph D, Claremont Graduate University

Professor

Charles Boehmer (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=crboehmer>)
 Contact Information: crboehmer@utep.edu; 915-747-7979
 Education: Ph D, Penn State University

Gaspare Genna (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=ggenna>)
Contact Information: ggenna@utep.edu; 915-747-6066
Education: Ph D, Claremont Graduate University

Taeko Hiroi (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=thiroi>)
Contact Information: thiroi@utep.edu; 915-747-7983
Education: Ph D, University of Pittsburgh

J McDonald (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=jmcdonald2>)
Contact Information: jmcdonald2@utep.edu; 915-747-5557
Education: BS, Northern Illinois University; MS, Northern Illinois University; Ph D, Northern Illinois University

Gregory Schmidt (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=gdschmidt>)
Contact Information: gdschmidt@utep.edu; 915-747-7973
Education: BA, University of Texas at Austin; MA, Cornell University; Ph D, Cornell University

Cigdem Sirin Villalobos (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=csirinvillalobos>)
Contact Information: csirinvillalobos@utep.edu; 915-747-7971
Education: BA, Bogazici University; Ph D, Texas A&M University; Ph D, Texas A&M University

Kathleen Staudt (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=kstaudt>)
Contact Information: kstaudt@utep.edu; 915-747-7975
Education: BA, University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee; MA, University of Wisconsin; Ph D, University of Wisconsin

José Villalobos (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=jdwillalobos2>)
Contact Information: jdwillalobos2@utep.edu; 915-747-7978
Education: BA, University of Texas at San Antonio; Ph D, Texas A&M University

William Weaver (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=wweaver>)
Contact Information: wweaver@utep.edu; 915-747-8867
Education: Attended the Defense Language Institute as a soldier in the U.S. Army, Defense language Institute; BA, California State University, Sacramento; MA, University of Virginia; JD, University of Virginia; Ph D, University of Virginia

Associate Professor

Eric Boyer (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=ejboyer>)
Contact Information: ejboyer@utep.edu; 915-747-6145
Education: MPA, The Maxwell School of Syracuse University; Ph D, The George Washington University

John Bretting (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=jbretting>)
Contact Information: jbretting@utep.edu; 915-747-6582
Education: Ph D, University of Houston

Todd Curry (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=tacurry>)
Contact Information: tacurry@utep.edu; 915-747-7967
Education: Ph D, Western Michigan University

Rebecca Reid (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=rareid>)
Contact Information: rareid@utep.edu; 915-747-7970
Education: BA, Wofford College; BA, Wofford College; Credential, University of South Carolina; Certificate, University of Michigan; Certificate, UC Berkeley; Ph D, University of South Carolina; Ph D, University of South Carolina

Yingnan Zhou (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=yzhou5>)
Contact Information: yzhou5@utep.edu; 915-747-6216
Education: Ph D, University of Iowa

Assistant Professor

Ljubinka Andonoska (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=landonoska>)
Contact Information: landonoska@utep.edu; 915-747-7132
Education: BA, Faculty of Economics, St. Cyril & Methodij; MPA, Arizona State University; Ph D, Arizona State University

Melissa Baker (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=mnbaker>)
Contact Information: mnbaker@utep.edu; 915-747-5227
Education: Ph D, University of California Merced

Professor of Practice

Tracy Almanzan (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=tcalmanzan>)
 Contact Information: tcalmanzan@utep.edu;
 Education: JD, St. Mary's University

Assistant Professor of Instruction

Marcos Menchaca (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=mmenchaca>)
 Contact Information: mmenchaca@utep.edu;
 Education: BA, University of Texas at San Antonio; MS, University of Texas at Austin; Ph D, University of California, Los Angeles

Associate Professor of Instruction

Patrick Timmons (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=ptimmons2>)
 Contact Information: ptimmons2@utep.edu;
 Education: BA, The London School of Economics and Political Science; BA, London School of Economics and Political Science; BA, London School of Economics and Political Science; M.Phil., University of Cambridge; M. Phil., University of Cambridge; M. Phil., Trinity Hall; Ph D, University of Texas at Austin; Ph D, University of Texas at Austin; Ph D, The University of Texas at Austin; LLM, University of Essex; LLM, University of Essex; LLM, University of Essex; Diplomatura en Migrantes y Protección de Refugiados, Universidad de Buenos Aires; Diploma in migrant and refugee protection under international law., Facultad de Derecho, Universidad de Buenos Aires

Senior Lecturer

William Corbett (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=wjcorbett>)
 Contact Information: wjcorbett@utep.edu; 915-747-5227
 Education: BA, Pennsylvania State University; MPA, Pennsylvania State University; JD, University of Illinois; Associate Degree in Business Office Technology, New Mexico State University; AAS, New Mexico State University

Jesse Kapenga (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=jakapenga>)
 Contact Information: jakapenga@utep.edu;
 Education: BA, Earlham College; MA, University of Texas at El Paso

Abha Singh (<http://facultyprofile.utep.edu/default.aspx?ID=asingh>)
 Contact Information: asingh@utep.edu; 915-747-7981
 Education: MPA, New York University

Programs

Bachelor of Arts

- BA in Political Science (<http://catalog.utep.edu/undergrad/college-of-liberal-arts/political-science/political-science-ba/>)

Minor

- Minor in Political Science (<http://catalog.utep.edu/undergrad/college-of-liberal-arts/political-science/political-science-minor/>)
- Minor in Political Science: International Politics (<http://catalog.utep.edu/undergrad/college-of-liberal-arts/political-science/political-science-international-politics-minor/>)
- Minor in Political Science: Public Administration and Service (<http://catalog.utep.edu/undergrad/college-of-liberal-arts/political-science/political-science-public-administration-service-minor/>)

The University of Texas at El Paso
 Department of Political Science
 Benedict Hall 111
 500 W University
 El Paso, Texas 79968

E: pols@utep.edu

Phone: 915.747.5227
 Fax: 915.747.6616

Visit Department Website (<https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/political-science/>)