

Political Science

Made in Windsor.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLITICAL SCIENCE WITH FRENCH SPECIALIZATION

LAW & POLITICS

POLITICAL SCIENCE (BA)/CONCURRENT EDUCATION (BED)

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND POLITICAL SCIENCE



uwindsor.ca/political-science



**Political Science
Experience Map**



**University
of Windsor**

Highlights and Skills

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Political Science **G H C T** Get behind the headlines and learn how political power really works. Our political science program introduces you to the political, economic, social, and environmental issues in Canada and around the world. We offer a great mentorship program and opportunities to do research with faculty. Our active and engaged department is home to the Political Science Society, the Model UN Club, and arranges an annual trip to Europe through the EU Study Abroad course.

MIN. AVG.* 70% ONTARIO COURSE REQUIREMENTS
ENG4U required.

Political Science with French

Specialization **H T** Parlez-vous français? Get an edge over the competition for jobs in federal public service, with non-governmental organizations and in the private sector requiring knowledge of French and francophone culture. You'll take French language courses as well as political science courses taught in French. Study in France or Ottawa and have the option of taking the EU Study Abroad course. Do research with professors in a faculty that cares about your success.

MIN. AVG.* 70% ONTARIO COURSE REQUIREMENTS
ENG4U and Grade 12U French required. Strongly recommend entry from French immersion program or French high school.

Law and Politics **H T** Beyond a reasonable doubt, this is an elite program popular with elite students who have an average of 85% or above. Focusing on the legal aspects of philosophy, history, criminology, sociology, politics, and government, there aren't many other programs like it around. Use it to prepare for law school or an array of other careers. In this program you won't just be a number. It's a close knit department where your professors will know your name.

MIN. AVG.* 85% ONTARIO COURSE REQUIREMENTS
ENG4U required.

Political Science (BA)**G**/Concurrent Education (BEd)

Inspire students to be engaged citizens by combining your education degree with a political science BA. Teach courses at the intermediate/senior level in subjects like world issues, law, social studies, and more. Our poli sci department is welcoming, and our Faculty of Education connects you with real-world opportunities to refine your teaching skills.

MIN. AVG.* 75% ONTARIO COURSE REQUIREMENTS
ENG4U required. Admission to first year only.

Business & Political Science **H T** Meet at the intersection of Politics and Business. You will learn how policies and laws affect people, businesses and the world in this combined program. Develop your critical thinking and analytical skills to impact change both at the community level and in the corporate

boardroom. Understanding economics, policies and regulations is important in today's business world. You can take part in research on current issues with our faculty and receive guidance from our mentors.

MIN. AVG.* 70% in at least one grade 12 U math course (or equivalent) **ONTARIO COURSE REQUIREMENTS** ENG4U and one Grade 12 U Math

FUNCTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

- Describe and explain major issues and phenomena of political science
- Research and investigate political issues, synthesize data and information from varying sources and present descriptive and empirical evidence to support a central thesis
- Confidently assert political ideas and arguments, and defend them with sound reason and logic
- Effectively communicate ideas, arguments and evidence through clear, concise and coherent written work
- Explain the rights and responsibilities associated with Canadian and global citizenship
- Propose and evaluate alternative policy solutions to contemporary societal problems

G General - 3-year program **H** Honours - 4-year program **T** Thesis available **C** Combined Honours programs available * Minimum grade point average for admission to program. A higher average may be required.

Build your Skills and Experience

Your UWindsor experience is more than attending classes. It is a combination of academics, co-curricular activities, and extracurricular involvement. By making the most of all three elements of your university experience, you will maximize your opportunities to build your skills, broaden your personal network, and clarify your long term academic and career goals.



CURRICULUM

Courses of study specific to each program



CO-CURRICULAR

Activities and experiences that complement coursework (Outstanding Scholars, peer mentoring, VIP)



EXTRACURRICULAR

Activities falling outside the scope of set curriculum (Part-time job, clubs, volunteering, athletics)

Career Planning Cycle

Intentional career planning will help you prepare for your next step after graduation and beyond. It is a fluid, dynamic, and lifelong process. You can move on or return to an earlier stage in the cycle at any time.



Explore Opportunities Using This Chart

Explore a selection of opportunities recommended for students in your program. This chart shows some of your many options – you don't have to do everything on it or limit yourself to it. Engage in opportunities from each of the three categories to set yourself up for success.

High-Impact Practice (HIP)

A HIP is an enriching educational experience that can be life-changing and often includes learning outside of the classroom while encouraging meaningful interaction and collaboration, such as:

- Co-op, internship or field experiences
- Research with faculty
- Culminating senior experience
- Capstone courses
- Service-learning
- Learning communities
- Study abroad

Academics



Your Coursework



First Year

- Take required courses including Introduction to Canadian Government and Politics with mentorship component, Introduction to International Relations, and Introduction to Comparative Politics
- Review degree course requirements
- Enrol in a variety of Political Science courses to determine your core interests
- Meet with an academic advisor
- Receive peer mentorship from **Political Science Help Centre**
- Enrol in French language training classes I and II (French Specialization students)
- Enrol in Reasoning Skills class (Law and Politics students)
- Explore available Political Science internships or field placements 

Middle Years

- Take required courses and check in with academic advisor to make sure you are on the right path
- Take Introduction to Research Methods
- Explore research opportunities with professors with **Public Administration** or **Law and Politics Certificate** 
- Seek out courses that offer field experience 
- Start taking courses required as pre-requisites for graduate/professional school
- Consider declaring a minor and/or specialization



Final Year



- Meet with an academic advisor to go over degree requirements
- Complete all required courses for your degree
- Apply to graduate through **UWinsite Student Portal**
- Work with a faculty member on a research project or publication 
- Complete required courses for **Public Administration** or **Law and Politics Certificate**
- Honours students with an 80% average or above can apply to take our thesis classes and graduate 'with thesis'. This will make you highly competitive for (and competitive in) graduate work next year

Experience

Ways To Get Involved



- Volunteer with local government or a non-profit organization
- Investigate research opportunities as part of the **Outstanding Scholars** program 
- Research student exchange opportunities for middle years, especially for French Specialization 
- Join a club like the **Political Science Society, Model United Nations, UWSA, Mock Trial Association, or Pre-Law Society**
- Participate in the **Bystander Initiative** workshop to gain skills that will help you be an effective and supportive ally to prevent sexual assault on campus
- Apply for a co-curricular experience such as **VIP - Community Service Learning**

- Join the **Model United Nations** to compete in local and international competitions
- Participate in **UWill Discover** undergraduate research conference 
- Attend a **Political Science Speaker Luncheon Series** presentation
- Apply for student exchange program 
- Expand your skills by taking on a summer, part-time or volunteer position
- Consider running for office in the **Undergraduate Society for IR and Political Science** and/or as student representative on the **Departmental Council**
- Consider applying to become a **Political Science Mentor** (in third or fourth year)
- Join a professional association in your field such as the **Canadian Political Science Students' Association**

- Run for office on the **Departmental Council** or **Undergraduate Society for IR and Political Science** or a **UWSA** executive position
- Conduct field research with faculty member 
- Become a tutor for **Students Offering Support (SOS)** 
- Join the **UWindsor Model NATO** or **Model United Nations**
- Work with a local organization through a field placement course such as the **Public Service Management Internship Practicum** 
- Consider applying to become a **Political Science Mentor** (in third or fourth year)

Career

Plan Ahead For What's Next



- Create a list of things that you enjoy, areas in which you excel, and your skills
- Meet with a career advisor in **Career Development and Experiential Learning (CDEL)** for help developing a plan for your future years
- Consider a **Career Exploration Program** appointment to help you identify possible career paths
- Get involved with a part-time job, volunteer opportunity, campus group, or research assistantship
- Attend **CDEL workshops** to learn how to find a summer or part-time job and write a university-level resumé
- Chat with an advisor during **CDEL's Drop In** hours to get answers to your career and job search questions

- Research career fields and occupations with the help of a **CDEL** career advisor
- Explore opportunities and meet potential employers by participating in job fairs, industry networking events, and **CDEL's Job Shadow Experience**
- Explore further educational opportunities by attending the **Graduate and Professional Schools Fair** and researching admission requirements for programs that interest you
- Create a **LinkedIn** profile and have it critiqued by **CDEL**
- Take part in informational interviews and join online communities like **LinkedIn** and **Ten Thousand Coffees** to connect with people in your targeted profession or industry
- Search job postings to learn what skills, knowledge, and credentials you will need for potential careers

- If you are considering applying to graduate or professional school, be aware of early application deadlines
- Meet with **CDEL** to prepare application documents like a resumé, cover letter, CV, or personal statement for jobs and education programs you are applying to
- Attend **CDEL's workshops** on interview skills and job search strategies
- Set up a mock interview with a career advisor for professional school or job applications
- Take part in recruitment events and job fairs hosted by **CDEL** and other organizations
- Compose a portfolio of relevant academic and work experience
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**

Life After Graduation



During his four years studying in the Department of Political Science, Trevor was heavily involved in the campus and Windsor community. He served as a UWSA councillor and as president of USIRPS, the Undergraduate Society for International Relations and Political Science, in 2014-15. Trevor was also a member of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee and the Transit Windsor Board of Directors."

*Trevor Fairlie - BA (Honours) in Political Science,
Osgoode Hall Law School Graduate.*

Now articling at the Ontario Securities Commission (Enforcement Branch)

47 Number of
Graduates

(2020)

94% Employment
Rate of Graduates

*Employment rate of graduates 2 years following
degree completion (OUGS Social Sciences, 2019)*

Career Tracks*

Administrator
Border services official
Business advisor
Community organizer
Court monitor
Development analyst

Development officer
Human resources manager
Immigration agent
Journalist
Law enforcement officer
Lawyer

Legal consultant
Local government official
Marketing manager
Media analyst
Policy analyst
Political aide

Professor
Public official
Public relations officer
Reporter
Research co-ordinator
Teacher

**Additional education and/or training required for some of the above careers.*



Common Sectors For Graduates

- **Academia**
- **Business:** analysis, research, corporate communications
- **Education:** public schools, vocational/corporate training
- **Government services**
- **Journalism:** political correspondence and analysis
- **Law and legal services**
- **Law enforcement**
- **Politics:** political office, campaign management, polling and research, speech writing
- **Public policy think tanks and consulting:** public/private sectors

Career-Readiness Competencies



**Critical Thinking &
Problem Solving**



**Professionalism &
Work Ethic**



**Teamwork &
Collaboration**



Communication





Campus Resources

- Research undergraduate scholarships and bursaries through the **Student Awards and Financial Aid Office**
- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** for help with academic assignments
- Check out the **Bounce Back** program designed to improve academic performance as well as decrease feelings of stress and anxiety through both effective learning strategies and life skills acquisition
- Build leadership skills and find leadership opportunities at the **Leadership Hub**
- Get advice and support about your academic status by making an appointment with **Central Academic Advising**
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Look into the **Ignite: Work Study** program for on-campus employment
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career Development and Experiential Learning**
- Develop your entrepreneurial skills and learn how to start your own business at **EPICentre**
- Find support for Indigenous learners and broaden your understanding of Indigenous culture by visiting the **Aboriginal Education Centre - Turtle Island**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services**, the **Wellness Outreach Office** and **Lancer Recreation**
- Receive confidential mental health counselling delivered by trained professionals at the **Student Counselling Centre**
- **Prevent.Resist.Support.** Seek personal support or learn more about sexual violence prevention and resistance education through the **Office of Sexual Violence Prevention, Resistance & Support**
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**



experience.uwindsor.ca

Student Recruitment

Phone: 519-973-7014

Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860

Email: info@uwindsor.ca

Department of Political Science

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2348

Email: polsci@uwindsor.ca

Career Development and Experiential Learning

Web: uwindsor.ca/cdel

Email: careerservices@uwindsor.ca