

Department of Political Science: MA, PhD

Political Science is a research intensive and teaching oriented department, offering students a dynamic and engaging environment in which to pursue graduate studies. Faculty involved in the graduate program pursue a wide range of research interests, including: human rights and development, international relations, peace and conflict studies, constitutionalism and law, gender and identity, and public policy and administration. Our faculty members 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 Department of Political Science offers three programs of study leading to the MA degree. Graduate students in the Department of Political Science are accepted into one of the following options:

- MA in Political Science
- Guelph-McMaster Collaborative MA Program in Public Policy and Administration

Graduates of the MA in Political Science are engaged in a wide range of careers in academia, government and industry. Graduates of the Guelph-McMaster option enjoy successful careers in the public services of Canada, Ontario and other provinces, as well as local governments, and pursue careers in the private sector as well as the non-profit sector. A number of graduates have pursued PhDs and now teach in universities and colleges. The department also participates in a collaborative MA program in International Development with students obtaining a specialization in International Development along with the Political Science degree. IDS graduates hold positions in government in Canada and abroad with non-government organizations (NGOs), international organizations and private consultancies.

PhD Program

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

- Comparative Politics
- Public Policy and Governance

Within Comparative Politics, students can focus their studies thematically or regionally. The department has particular expertise in both the politics of the global south and advanced industrial countries. Within the field of Public Policy and Governance students can pursue studies in a wide range of areas, including health care, law, criminal justice, environmental policy, social policy, security policy, trade policy, federalism and intergovernmental relations, and multi-level governance. The department also participates in a collaborative PhD program in International Development, with students obtaining a specialization in International Development along with the PhD degree in Political Science.

Complete information on how to submit your application can be found at the Graduate Studies website: www.uoguelph.ca/graduatestudies.

Our graduate programs offer:

- Comparative politics
- Public policy, governance and administration
- International development
- The politics of the global south
- Gender and identity
- Women and politics
- Social policy
- Environmental studies
- International trade
- Political economy
- Canadian politics
- International relations

Our students say:

“The program is both challenging and rewarding, with the knowledgeable faculty, in roles as course facilitators or supervisors, balancing the need for breadth, depth and the student’s interests to create a memorable, meaningful and altogether rewarding experience that I wouldn’t trade for anything.”

Matthew Wadsworth, PhD Candidate

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Faculty Research & Supervision Areas

More information about our graduate faculty can be found at:

www.uoguelph.ca/polisci/people

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

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

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

Maureen Mancuso – Comparative politics developed countries, political corruption & political ethics, American government, legislatures & empirical research

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

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



What our graduates say:

“The faculty are passionate about both their teaching and research; they are willing to make time to speak to students. The courses are designed to challenge and stimulate each individual, and the material engages each area of the subject matter.”

Vanessa Dupuis, Guelph-McMaster MA

CONTACT INFORMATION

Graduate Coordinator:

Tamara Small
t.small@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Program Assistant:

Renée Tavascia
rtavasci@uoguelph.ca

Chair:

Byron Sheldrick
sheldric@uoguelph.ca

Department of Political Science

University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario
Canada N1G 2W1
519-824-4120 Ext. 56973