



MERRIMACK COLLEGE

# SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

## POLITICAL SCIENCE



The Political Science major at Merrimack College provides students with a rich, rigorous, and wide-ranging educational experience. Our program creates an intellectual environment in which students acquire knowledge of the discipline, develop their academic skills, think critically about the world around them, and prepare to become thoughtful and productive members of society. As Political Science majors, our students research a political situation or phenomenon, analyze it from multiple perspectives, and communicate their findings effectively. Our students excel, and often pursue either a double-major or a minor in a related field of interest, such as Business Administration, Pre-Law, Criminology, Economics, Environmental Studies and Sustainability, or Women’s and Gender Studies.

### ENGAGING COURSEWORK

The Political Science curriculum is designed to cumulatively integrate the following learning objectives: acquiring knowledge and skills, developing an appreciation for intellectual inquiry, and promoting active learning.

A selection of program coursework includes:

- POL 1100 Politics of the United States
- POL 1500 Comparative Politics
- POL 1900 International Politics
- POL 2122 Law and Society
- POL 3130 Campaigns and Elections
- POL 3151 American Constitutional Law
- POL 3171 Music and Politics
- POL 3525 Politics of the Middle East

Political Science majors complete 38 credits (10 courses) through both required and elective curriculum. Political Science minors complete 18 credits through 2 required courses and 3 electives.

### REWARDING CAREER PATHS

A foundation in Political Science helps students to develop research and analytic skills and build competence in both oral and written communication. These skills are valued in a wide spectrum of career paths. Our graduates go on to successful careers in politics and government, as well as, private and public sector organizations in the fields of business, law, finance, journalism and teaching among others. Merrimack graduates also have a solid record of graduate school and law school acceptances.

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Internship Opportunities:** Students in the Political Science major have many opportunities to learn beyond the classroom, gaining invaluable experience and building their resumes. Our Public Service Internships are offered in the fall, spring and summer and allow students hands-on academic experiential learning.

**Washington Semester:** In addition to the numerous study abroad programs offered at Merrimack, students may study during their junior year at the American University Washington Semester Program. Merrimack’s Joseph Lombard Scholarship is awarded to a deserving student to support a semester of study in Washington, DC.

**Pre-Law Program:** The Pre-Law minor is an interdisciplinary law minor for students who are interested in attending law school, who plan on pursuing legal related careers, or who want to learn more about different areas of the law relevant to their professional careers.

**Moot Court:** Merrimack’s Moot Court teams compete at regional and national competitions. Students gain hands-on experience debating constitutional issues and network with faculty and alumni lawyers in preparation for the competitions.

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**QUESTIONS?**

Contact **Dr. Harry Wessel, Department Chair and Associate Professor of Political Science** at:

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