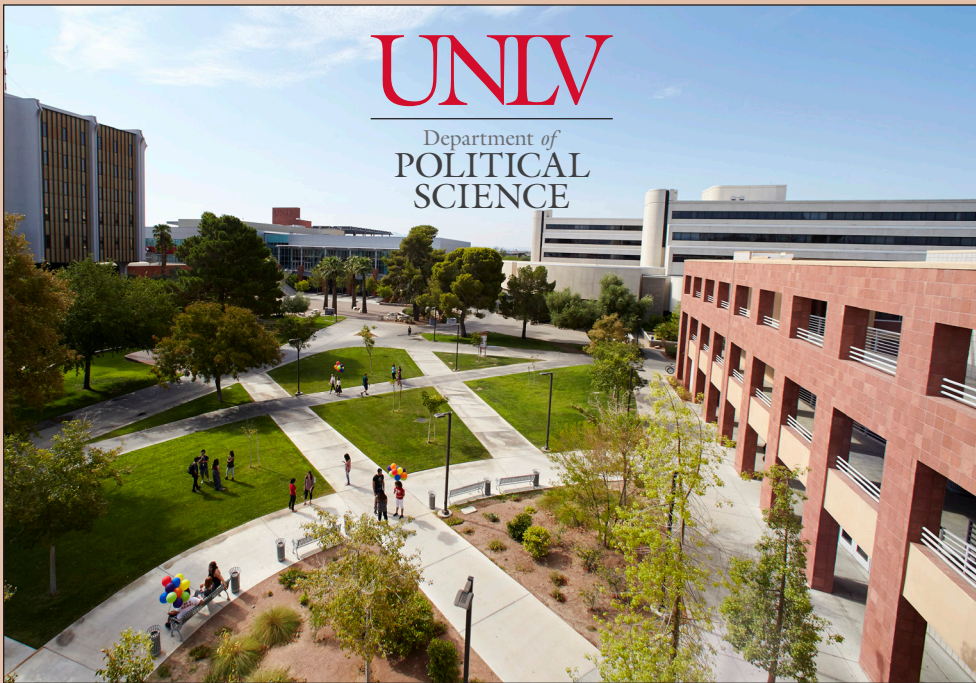


PhD in Political Science



The Department of Political Science at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) offers a PhD program with concentrations in American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.

The program prepares graduates for careers in academics, government, and business and industry. The program emphasizes collaborative research opportunities, rigorous methods training, and hands-on teaching experiences.

Located in the heart of Las Vegas — one of the most diverse, vibrant, and globally connected regions in the world — UNLV is a thriving urban research institution of 29,000 students and 3,200 faculty and staff. Founded in 1957, the main campus is home to more than 225 undergraduate, masters, and doctoral degree programs.

The campus is located a short drive from the Las Vegas Strip, Lake Mead and Hoover Dam, the hiking trails of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, and the ski runs of 12,000-foot Mount Charleston.

Admissions

Applications are processed through the Grad Rebel Gateway located on the UNLV Graduate College webpage. Applicants are required to provide the following:

- Transcripts verifying a BA or equivalent from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 3.30 or MA or equivalent from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 3.50 and, in either case, the completion of at least 12 credits of course work at the upper-division or graduate level in Political Science
- Graduate Record Examination General Test scores with minimum scores of 160 on the verbal and 148 on the quantitative sections
- A personal statement explaining why the applicant wants to enter the doctoral program and a description of the applicant's preparation for advanced graduate studies
- Three letters of recommendation (academic references preferred)
- A writing sample such as chapters from a master's thesis, an honors or senior thesis, or an original research paper

For additional information about the application process and requirements, please visit the program catalog webpage and the UNLV Graduate College Registration Guide.

Curriculum and Requirements

The program requires the completion of a minimum of 60 credits beyond the BA or 48 credits beyond the MA and, in either case, a minimum grade point average of 3.0 for all course work.

Core requirements (18 credits):

- Research Design and Methodology
- Advanced Quantitative Methods
- Proseminars in American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory
- Research tool (e.g., foreign language or advanced methodological training)

Fields of Study (18 credits):

- Students choose two fields of study and complete three courses in each field

- Fields of study offered in the program are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory
- Successful completion of written comprehensive examinations in each field

Elective Study (Maximum of 12 credits)

- Fulfilled through courses in departments outside Political Science or through independent study with faculty members

Dissertation Preparation (12 credits)

- Completion of a dissertation of original research on a topic of interest

For additional information about the program and its requirements, please visit the Department of Political Science webpage.

Faculty

Bowers, Michael (1984), Professor; BA, Cameron University; MA, PhD, University of Arizona. Courts and law, and civil rights and liberties

Bowling, Jeremy (2018), Assistant Professor-in-Residence; BA, MA, Eastern Illinois University; PhD, University of Missouri, Columbia. Political Economy, Foreign Policy Analysis, Cooperation Theory

Damore, David (2000), Professor; BA, University of California, San Diego; MA, University of Georgia; PhD, University of California, Davis. American politics, campaigns and elections, and research methods

Fott, David (1992), Professor; BA, Vanderbilt University; AM, PhD, Harvard University. Political theory and American political thought

Gill, Rebecca (2008), Associate Professor; BA, James Madison College at Michigan State University; PhD, Michigan State University. Public law and comparative judicial behavior

Howard, Tiffany (2008), Associate Professor; BA, Florida A&M University; MA, PhD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. International relations and security, and refugee and immigration policy

Jensen, Christian (2012), Associate Professor; BA, Lawrence University; MA, American University; PhD, University of California, Los Angeles. Comparative politics (Europe, with particular emphasis on institutions)

Kopalyan, Nerses (2016), Assistant Professor-in-Residence; BA, MA, PhD, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. International relations, polarity studies, theories of international relations, international security and terrorism

Kuenzi, Michele (2004), Associate Professor; BA, Grinnell College; MPA, Wayne State University; PhD, Michigan State University. Comparative politics (sub-Saharan Africa) and public opinion

Landis, Steven (2017), Assistant Professor; BA, Eastern Michigan University; MA, PhD, Pennsylvania State University. Conflict Processes, Environmental Security, Research Methods

Lee, Dan (2015), Assistant Professor; BS, University of Wisconsin, Madison; MA, PhD, Duke University. American politics, Congress, parties, and electoral politics

Lutz, Mark (2006), Associate Professor; BA, University of Chicago; MA, PhD, University of Toronto. Classical and recent political theory, citizenship, religion, and philosophy of law

Maltby, Elizabeth (2017), Assistant Professor; BA, Grinnell College; M.A., PhD, University of Iowa. Public Policy, Race and Politics, American Politics

Miller, Kenneth (2019), Assistant Professor; BA, Cleveland State University; MA, University of Akron; PhD, University of Texas at Austin. Campaign Finance, Political Parties, Legislative Politics, Campaigns and Elections, Political Communication

Phelps, Martha Elizabeth (2019), Assistant Professor-in-Residence; BA, University of California Santa Cruz, MA, Norwich University; PhD, University of Miami. Security Studies, Military Privatization, Post-Conflict Reconstruction, Pedagogy of Higher Education, Teaching and Learning

Strand, Jonathan (2001), Professor; BS, University of Wisconsin, Platteville; MA, PhD, University of Nebraska, Lincoln. International relations, political economy, and global governance

Tamadonfar, Mehran (1987), Professor; BA, MA, University of Tehran; PhD, University of Colorado, Boulder. Comparative politics (Middle East and North Africa), comparative law, and international politics

Tuman, John (2001), Professor and Chair; BA, University of California, Berkeley; MA, University of Chicago; PhD, University of California, Los Angeles. Comparative politics (Latin America) and international relations

Wang, Austin (2018), Assistant Professor; BA, MA, National Taiwan University; PhD, Duke University. East Asia, Political Behavior, methodology

Helpful Websites

Department of Political Science
<http://www.unlv.edu/politicalscience>

UNLV Graduate College
<https://www.unlv.edu/graduatecollege>

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https://unlv-gradcollege.force.com/Portal_Login