School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

Master of Arts in Political Science

UTD

Program Description

The Master of Science in Political Science degree program offers advanced instruction in social science literature, theories and methodologies as they relate to politics, citizenship, governance and legal and political analysis.

Taught by internationally recognized faculty at the University of Texas at Dallas, the Political Science master's program allows students to gain a strong understanding of the field as well as expertise in specific disciplinary areas and subfields, such as:

- Political economy and development
- Comparative politics, courts and institutions
- Constitutional law and human rights
- International relations
- Civil conflict and conflict management
- Campaigns, elections, and legislative processes
- Democratic theory and public choice
- Election law and electoral systems

With expertise in public policy and processes—and with the opportunity to specialize in one of two concentrations (Law and Courts or Legislative Studies)—graduates of the Political Science master's program are able to apply political science theories and concepts to many disciplines and career paths while also developing competencies in field-specific analysis, evaluation and research design.

Benefits

The Political Science master's program ensures that students gain a broad understanding of their discipline, apply their knowledge and analytical skills to create effective and novel solutions to practical problems and communicate and work effectively in collaborative environments.

Other benefits include:

- *World-Class Faculty*: The program is led by faculty of the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences who are widely cited experts in their respective fields.
- *Comprehensive Curriculum*: Courses in the Political Science master's program will introduce students to new ideas, technologies and competencies while preparing them to succeed in both public and private sectors.
- *Facilities*: Students have full access to four state-of-the-art computer laboratories housed in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences. All computers are network linked and hold full suites of leading survey, qualitative, spatial and statistical analysis software, including Qualtrics, NVivo, ArcGis, ENVI, EViews, R, STATA, and SAS.
- *Location*: Situated in the greater Dallas region—recently rated by *Forbes* magazine as the #1 "Best City for Jobs"—UT Dallas provides students with easy access to employers and internship opportunities, not to mention a large and supportive alumni population.

Career Opportunities

The Political Science master's program prepares students for public service in government and non-profit organizations and agencies, as well as positions in academe, business and legislative politics, such as:

- Law-related careers
- Policymaking
- Political consulting
- Government and legislative positions
- Journalism

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Students in the program develop expertise in empirical approaches to understanding data, which are in high demand among public and private sector employers.

Marketable Skills

Students in the MS in Political Science develop a competency in one of the fields of Comparative Politics and International Relations; Political Institutions and American Politics. They will also demonstrate the ability to apply political science theories and concepts to the study of citizenship, governance and politics. They develop competency in analysis, evaluation, and research design relevant to political science research and analysis. Graduates will acquire the following skills:

- basic data analytic skills
- critical thinking
- advanced written communication skills

Application Deadlines and Requirements

Please take note of all application deadlines and visit the Apply Now webpage to begin the application process. See the Political Science program website for additional information.

Applicants to the Political Science master's degree program should have:

- A baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited institution of higher education.
- A grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 out of a 4.0 scale.
- Test Scores: A combined verbal and quantitative score of 300 on the GRE.
- Letters of Recommendation: Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation from individuals who can judge the candidate's potential for success in the master's degree program.
- Admissions Essay: Applicants must submit a one-page essay outlining personal background, education and professional objectives.
- International applicants must submit a TOEFL score of at least 80 on the internet-based test. Scores must be less than two years old. See the Graduate Catalog for additional information regarding English proficiency requirements for international applicants.