

Political Science



EMORY
LANEY
GRADUATE
SCHOOL



The systematic study of politics is one of the oldest scholarly disciplines, with an intellectual lineage that includes Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Locke, and Tocqueville. Political scientists approach the study of politics from a variety of theoretical, normative, and methodological perspectives, all oriented toward understanding and explaining political life.

At Emory, we engage in a broad range of approaches to the study of politics, but share a strong commitment to systematic, methodologically rigorous research. The goal of our graduate program is to train political scientists to engage in research and teaching.

Faculty

Our greatest strength is our faculty. Nearly 30 internationally recognized faculty cover a wide range of scholarly interests, including international conflict, international political economy, American and comparative judicial politics, congressional politics, elections, urban public policy, political philosophy, the politics of authoritarian regimes, the politics of Southeast Asia, gender and politics, Islam and politics, and the European Union. The department has achieved national stature; Emory has been ranked as a top twenty department by a number of measures of faculty research productivity.

In the faculty section of our website you'll find a complete list of our faculty members, with links to individual pages with information about teaching, research, and more; visit www.polisci.emory.edu.

Students

The doctoral program in Political Science is small and selective, emphasizing close interaction between faculty and students. Typically about fifty students are enrolled at various stages of study, and seven or eight new students are accepted each year.

The relatively small size of the graduate program ensures a very high faculty-to-student ratio, which allows for the development of close and fruitful mentoring relationships. In the graduate section of our website, you can see what sorts of projects our students are involved in: visit www.polisci.emory.edu and follow the links for current and past dissertation topics as well as research papers presented by our students.

DISCOVER

the unexpected

Our program is primarily designed for the student seeking an academic career. From 2004-2009, fourteen of the sixteen Emory graduate students and new Ph.D.s on the academic job market accepted tenure-track job offers. A recent ranking in *PS: Political Science and Politics* places Emory among the top 20 political science graduate programs in the country. Faculty members are always seeking ways to make our students better qualified and more attractive on the job market, and we have a formal placement program to assist graduates in finding suitable positions.

Over the past several years, Emory students who have desired positions at major research institutions have found positions at such schools as University of Chicago, University of Michigan, Brown University, University of Texas, University of Colorado, University of North Carolina, Rice University, Indiana University, University of Massachusetts, University of Washington, and many more. Students seeking positions at liberal arts colleges and universities have found positions at schools such as Smith College, Georgetown, Illinois Wesleyan University, Middlebury College, Linfield College, Lycoming College, McMurry University, and many more.

Every student admitted to the Ph.D. program is offered a five-year fellowship. Standard awards require students to work during the academic year assisting with faculty research and teaching. Stipend awards represent a commitment of support for five years of study, contingent upon a student maintaining normal progress toward the Ph.D. degree. Stipend levels for the current academic year may be found on the department's website at www.polisci.emory.edu.

Program of Study

The department offers a full-time Ph.D. program; students may elect to receive the M.A. degree when they are admitted to Ph.D. candidacy. We do not offer a terminal Master's degree.

The principal requirements for a degree are coursework, written comprehensive examinations in major and minor fields of specialization, and a successfully defended dissertation. All Ph.D. students also participate in the Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity (TATTO) program of the Graduate School. Students admitted with an M.A. degree may be exempt from some requirements.

Coursework and Research Preparation

All students take a two-course sequence in research methodology and three of the four program core courses in American Government, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. Elective courses are chosen in accordance with students' research interests. Second-year students write an independent research paper under the direction of a faculty member. Third-year students participate in a two-semester dissertation colloquium.



Fields of Study and Examinations

The graduate curriculum in Political Science incorporates five fields; three are available as major fields—American government and politics, comparative politics, and international relations—and any of the five can be a minor field. During their third year, students take two written comprehensive examinations in the major field and one in the minor field.

- **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**
Sub-fields: Congressional and Executive Politics; Constitutional Law and Judicial Behavior; Public Opinion and Elections; Public Policy Processes; State, Local and Urban Politics; Politics of Social Cleavage
- **COMPARATIVE POLITICS**
Sub-fields: Comparative Political Institutions; Comparative Mass Behavior; State: Society Relations; Comparative Political Economy, Public Policy, and Development
- **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**
Sub-fields: International Political Economy; International Security and Conflict
- **POLITICAL THEORY**
Sub-fields: Modern Political and Social Thought; Democratic Theory; Political Theory and International Politics
- **METHODOLOGY OF EMPIRICAL RESEARCH**
Sub-fields: Qualitative Methods; Statistical Analysis; Formal Theory

The Dissertation

Upon completion of the comprehensive examinations, students prepare a written proposal for the doctoral dissertation and defend it before the faculty of the program. Students normally begin dissertation research during the fourth year of study, working closely with a committee. Defense of the completed dissertation before the committee completes the requirements for the Ph.D.

Training in Teaching

All graduate students in political science are required to participate in the Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity (TATTO) program offered through the Graduate School. Usually at the beginning of their third year of study students attend a summer course on teaching. After completing this course, students serve one or two semesters as teaching assistants in an introductory level undergraduate class, leading discussion sections, advising students, and grading exams. Students then spend a semester as teaching associates, co-teaching an advanced undergraduate course with a faculty member in his or her area of specialization. Students who successfully complete these phases of TATTO and who have been admitted to Ph.D. candidacy are eligible to compete for the prestigious Dean's Teaching Fellowships, which provide sixth-year support and full responsibility for teaching one course during the academic year.

Research Facilities

Provisions for study and research at Emory are excellent. The Emory Library system contains over 2.7 million volumes, is a government documents depository, and provides state-of-the-art facilities for use of electronic and digital information sources. The University is a member of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR); students have full access to the data sets available through the Consortium and are able to participate in the special summer courses on quantitative methods offered at the University of Michigan. Students have unlimited access to the Emory University Information Technology Division, where programmers and consultants are available to assist students with their computing needs. The Department of Political Science maintains a data analysis center with computers available for course and research uses.



Emory has many centers for research and teaching that provide interdisciplinary communities focused around issues ranging from urban politics in Atlanta to international politics. Among the ones typically of interest to political scientists are:

- **THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (OUCP)** provides a point of entry for groups, organizations, and agencies seeking a University partner or assistance for a specific project, program, or initiative. OUCP works with community organizations and Emory faculty and graduate students to link the academic expertise at Emory with the needs of the community. Each year, a number of graduate students serve as OUCP fellows, often combining dissertation research with work for and with community organizations. OUCP is directed by political science professor Michael J. Rich.
- **THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF LAW, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS** at Emory University includes faculty and graduate students with common interests in the interplay of law, politics, and economics. The center is designed to cross traditional scholarly boundaries. Affiliated member interests include law and economics, judicial behavior, and institutional politics among others. The Center is directed by political science professor Clifford Carrubba.
- **THE INSTITUTE FOR CRITICAL INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (ICIS)** brings together a number of programs to promote collaborative work that involves students and international scholars from diverse world areas and across disciplinary boundaries. ICIS provides an effective structure for linking high-profile scholarly events and research seminars on campus, area studies programs, study abroad initiatives, and foreign language training.
- Emory is affiliated with the **CARTER CENTER**, established in 1983 by former President Jimmy Carter and committed to nonpartisan scholarship and policy implementation. The Carter Center is engaged in high profile policy initiatives across the world, including election monitoring, human rights projects, and more. Its ongoing study and research by resident and visiting fellows, public forums, and special publications enhance the academic program of the Political Science program.

The Laney Graduate School actively assists students in finding outside fellowship and grant support for dissertation research. The Graduate Student Council maintains a fund to help underwrite travel expenses incurred by students presenting papers at conferences. In addition, as resources permit, the Department of Political Science provides funds to graduate students for research expenses, summer research assistantships, language study, and participation in the ICPSR and other summer research workshops.

Contact Information

For complete information on our program and the link to the online application system please visit our website at www.polisci.emory.edu.

Write, call, or email:
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Requests for Additional Information:

RECRUITMENT AND ADMISSIONS

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Atlanta, GA 30322

404-727-6028

(ask for the Political Science program)

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<http://www.graduateschool.emory.edu>

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