

# POLITICAL SCIENCE (HBA)

## Department of Political Science

**Politics** is about power and Political Science studies the power struggles that lead to policies and issues such as rising tuition and the war in Iraq. Political Science students can explain how bureaucracies work; how great powers rise and fall; the difference between an effective public policy and a misguided one; how to design an unbiased opinion poll; and the factors that shape international decision-making. Political Science students also factor into their analyses philosophical questions, such as who ought to rule? What is legitimacy? Are liberty and equality compatible?

Our department offers students the chance to customize their degrees to their personal interests, to explore the latest topics in politics with the latest teaching methods, and to learn from internationally renowned scholars.

## MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we've pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using **My Program Plan** found at [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans)

### Programs of Study (POSt)

- Specialist Program ERSPE2015 Political Science (Arts)
- Major Program ERMAJ2015 Political Science (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN2015 Political Science (Arts)

### Check out...

- Combined Specialist Program ERSPE0751 Economics and Political Science (Arts)
- Combined Specialist Program ERSPE1045 History and Political Science (Arts)

### What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

**Careers for graduates:** Public policy analyst; Social policy program officer; Foreign service officer; Immigration and revenue officer; Legislative analyst; Political aide; Lobbyist; Editor; Press officer; Public relations specialist; Communications officer; Human resources specialist; Public opinion analyst; Lawyer.

**Workplaces:** Government; International organizations; Law firms; Private firms/business; Research organizations.



# POLITICAL SCIENCE

## MAJOR Program Plan

## HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using [My Program Plan](#). Update your plan yearly.



	1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR	2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR
PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS*	<p>Enrol in ISP100H5 and any two of the following courses: POL111H5, 112H5, 113H5, 114H5, 115H5 and 116H5.</p> <p>Choose a program of study (Subject POST) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the <b>Degree Explorer</b> and the <b>Academic Calendar</b> to plan your degree.</p> <p>Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a <b>utmONE</b> course. Build community and gain academic support through <b>LAUNCH</b>. Join a RGASC <b>Peer Facilitated Study Group</b>.</p>	<p>Enrol in courses POL200Y5, POL215H5 and POL216H5. Over the course of your degree, attain 1.0 credits from two of three fields of study in Political Science. View the <b>Academic Calendar</b> for additional degree requirements.</p> <p>Throughout your undergraduate degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use the <b>Degree Explorer</b> to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.</li> <li>see the <b>Office of the Registrar</b> and the <b>Political Science Academic Advisor</b> for one-on-one assistance.</li> </ul>
BUILD SKILLS	<p>Attend the <b>Get Hired Fair</b> through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</p> <p>Attend the <b>Experiential Education Fair</b>.</p> <p>Enrol in the RGASC's <b>PELS program</b> to enhance your English language skills</p>	<p>Use the <b>Career &amp; Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLNx)</b> to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Work on-campus through the <b>Work-Study program</b>. View position descriptions on the CLNx.</p>
BUILD A NETWORK	<p>Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the <b>Political Science &amp; Pre-Law Association (PSLA)</b> and attend the <b>PSLA Professor Meet &amp; Greet</b>.</p> <p>Use the <b>Co-Curricular Record (CCR)</b>. Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</p>	<p>Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don't be shy! Learn <b>Tips On How to Approach a Professor</b> available through the <b>Experiential Education Unit (EEU)</b>.</p>
BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET	<p>Engage with the many programs offered by the <b>International Education Centre (IEC)</b>, whether you are an international or domestic student. Consider joining the <b>Canada Eh?</b> day trips or <b>English Language Conversation Circles</b> to deepen your global mindset.</p> <p>First-year international students can also take advantage of <b>THRIVE'IN</b>, a one-day conference dedicated to helping you start your UTM journey successfully.</p>	<p>Participate in <b>International Education Week</b> and engage in programs like <b>Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS)</b> to build on your leadership and communication skills in global citizenship.</p> <p>Learn about and prepare for a future <b>UTM Abroad Experience</b> through the IEC to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own!</p>
PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE	<p>Attend the <b>Program Selection &amp; Career Options</b> workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.</p> <p>Check out <b>Careers by Major</b> at the CC to see potential career options.</p>	<p>Explore careers through the CC's <b>Job Shadow Program</b>.</p> <p>Considering <b>further education</b>? Attend the CC's <b>Graduate &amp; Professional Schools Fair</b>. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.</p>

\*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR	4 <sup>TH</sup> OR FINAL YEAR
<p>Attain at least 2.0 credits at the 300 level.</p> <p>Consider applying for the <b>Research Opportunity Program (ROP)</b> course POL399Y. Visit the EEU website for <b>ROP Course Prerequisites</b>.</p> <p>Attend the RGASC's <b>Program for Accessing Research Training (PART)</b> to enhance your research skills.</p>	<p>Gain real-world experience within the field of Political Science while earning 1.0 credit towards your program and degree by applying for the Political Science POL405Y5 Internship course. Learn more on <b>UofT Political Science website</b>.</p> <p>Log on to ACORN and request graduation.</p>
<p>Interested in current events and raising student awareness of key issues? Write for <b>The Medium</b> — the source of news for UTM students. Why not run for PSLA Office and build your skills while getting involved?</p>	<p>Skills are transferrable to any job, regardless of where you develop them. Need to strengthen your presentation skills? Consider a role as a RGASC <b>Facilitated Study Group Leader</b>.</p>
<p>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter or blogs).</p> <p>Learn about local issues! Consider a CSE <b>Alternative Reading Week (ARW)</b> to become engaged with the local community.</p>	<p>Join a professional association. Check out the <b>Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA)</b>.</p> <p>Attend the <b>UTM Public Affairs Lecture</b> offered by the Political Science department. Go to a conference such as the <b>CPSA Annual Conference</b>.</p>
<p>Expanding your intercultural awareness and developing intercultural skills will help you in your academics, personal growth and are highly sought out by employers.</p> <p><b>Earn credits overseas!</b> Apply to study for a summer term, or year at one of 170+ universities. Speak to the IEC for details about <b>Course Based Exchange</b>, funding and travel safety. Attend Global Learning Week to learn about the various opportunities available to you!</p>	<p>Engage in programs like <b>ISTEP</b> and <b>THRIVE</b> to support your transition out of the University!</p>
<p>What's your next step after undergrad?</p> <p>Entering the workforce? Evaluate your career options through a CC <b>Career Counselling appointment</b>. Create a job search strategy — book a CC <b>Employment Strategies appointment</b>.</p> <p>Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC)</p>	<p>Market your skills to employers. Get your <b>resume critiqued</b> at the CC. Attend the CC workshop <b>Now That I'm Graduating What's Next?</b></p> <p>Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC's <b>Mastering the Personal Statement workshop</b>.</p> <p>Ready to transition from the classroom to the workplace? Check out the <b>Recent Graduate Opportunities Program (RGOP)</b>.</p>

Revised on: 08/18/2023

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.



# POLITICAL SCIENCE

## Skills developed in Political Science

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

**Communication:** present ideas and data clearly; mediate and negotiate conflicts; public speaking; and listen critically.

**Research & quantitative methods:** interpret data; develop research designs and models; program and systems analysis; utilize survey research methods; and compare/contrast ideas and information.

**Analysis:** interpret issues and data; understand components of complex problems; offer relevant perspectives; and synthesize themes from complex issues

**Planning & development:** make projections; organize people/ equipment/ ideas; logistical thinking; conceptualize and implement projects; and decision making.

## Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- UTM Political Science & Pre-Law Association (PSLA)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit the **Student Groups and Societies Directory**

## Services that support you

- **Accessibility Services (AS)**
- **Career Centre (CC)**
- **Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)**
- **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office (EDIO)**
- **Experiential Education Unit (EEU)**
- **Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)**
- **Indigenous Centre (IC)**
- **International Education Centre (IEC)**
- **Office of the Registrar (OR)**
- **Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)**
- **Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)**
- **UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)**

## Department of Political Science

Maanjiwe nendamowinan, 5th Floor  
University of Toronto Mississauga  
3359 Mississauga Rd  
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-3921

[advisor.pol.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:advisor.pol.utm@utoronto.ca)

[www.utm.utoronto.ca/political-science](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/political-science)

## FUTURE STUDENTS

### Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at [utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook](http://utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook).

**NOTE:** During the application process, applicants will select the Social Sciences admissions category, but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

### Sneak Peek

What causes war? How can peace be achieved and sustained? Learn the conceptual and theoretical tools needed to address international relations through POL209H5. Ever wondered how “politics” is constructed and practiced in different countries? Compare the politics of countries and world regions through POL218H5 and POL219H5.

Our faculty members have a diverse and exciting range of research interests and specializations, from international relations to political economy, from environmental politics to the study of conflict and genocide. We pride ourselves on the broad and stimulating range of courses we offer our students.

### Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270  
University of Toronto Mississauga  
3359 Mississauga Rd  
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400

[www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students)

