POLITICAL SCIENCE

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Government is to educate students in the areas of government, politics, and international affairs, and by this means to foster more knowledgeable, informed, and active citizenship, as well as more enlightened future political leadership, in the communities to which they belong.

Student Learning Outcomes

UWF Government graduates should be able to do the following:

Content

- Describe political institutions around the world and identify the separation of powers in democratic regimes, including the executive, legislative, and legal branches of governments.
- Recognize political behavior around the world, such as the voting behavior and campaigns, the different electoral systems, and the status, advantages, and limitations of civic participation in different political and cultural contexts.
- Trace the study of political theory, specifically the good life, the nature of justice, the development and character of political power, the form and quality of various systems of government, the competing depictions of human nature and its consequence for political life.
- Recognize the context of political thought across different regimes, political cultures, and historical periods.

Critical Thinking

- Compare and evaluate methods used to research sources of policy decisions.
- Apply quantitative, qualitative, and normative methods to identify best solutions for societal problems.

Communication

- Develop and practice information literacy and analytical skills particularly relevant to academia, public sector employers, non-profits, and NGOs.
- Translate undergraduate studies into professional skills.
- Develop and practice information literacy and analytical skills particularly relevant to academia, public sector employers, non-profits, and NGOs.
- Create and deliver effective oral presentations.
- Execute effective written communications in different modes appropriate to the discipline.
Use visual communication (e.g., graphs and charts) effectively.

**Integrity/Values**
- Pursue the use of legitimate scholarship and appropriate citation in keeping with standards of academic integrity.
- Identify the similarities and differences between individual moral and political obligations.
- Foster a free exchange of ideas.

**Project Management**
- Design and execute an appropriate work plan, using outlines and timelines, to complete project obligations.
- Anticipate and overcome obstacles in project completion.

**Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes**
In our Political Science program, students demonstrate learning in a variety of ways, including quizzes, examinations, contributions to class discussion, term papers and oral presentations. Required coursework provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate content knowledge across the major. A required upper-division research methods course provides an opportunity to demonstrate academic integrity, critical thinking, communication, and project management.

**Jobs Prospects for Political Science**
- Elected Official
- Public Relations
- Civil Servant
- Lawyer
- Lobbyist or Government Liaison
- Journalist
- Campaign Manager
- Policy Analyst
- Political Activist
- Military
- Think Tank
- Nonprofit Administrator
- Researcher
- Teacher

**Find Out More about Political Science:**