

PROGRAM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Web Site: <https://twu.edu/political-science/>

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The Department of Social Sciences and Historical Studies (<https://twu.edu/social-sciences-historical-studies/>) offers programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Master of Arts degrees with majors in either history or political science; and the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in criminal justice. Special emphases in political science/politics, and legal studies are available. The department also offers a minor in history, political science, or criminal justice as well as programs leading to teacher certification at various levels. The department provides pre-law advising for students (see pre-law).

For information concerning the Master of Arts degree, and the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.), see the Graduate Catalog (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/>).

For detailed information about any programs in the department, write or e-mail:

Chair, Department of Social Sciences and Historical Studies
Texas Woman's University
Box 425889
Denton, Texas 76204-5889

No grade lower than C can be counted toward completion of any major or minor in this department.

Undergraduate Degrees Offered

- Minors (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/minors/>)
- B.A. in Political Science (Legal Studies) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/legal-studies-ba/>)
- Accelerated B.A./M.A. in Political Science (Legal Studies) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/accelerated-political-science-ba-ma-legal-studies/>)
- B.S. in Political Science (Legal Studies) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/legal-studies-bs/>)
- Accelerated B.S./M.A. in Political Science (Legal Studies) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/accelerated-political-science-bs-ma-legal-studies/>)
- B.A. in Political Science (Politics, Policy, and Public Service) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/political-science-ba-politics-policy-public-service/>)
- Accelerated B.A./M.A. in Political Science (Politics, Policy & Public Service) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/accelerated-political-science-ba-ma-politics-policy-public-service/>)
- B.S. in Political Science (Politics, Policy, and Public Service) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/political-science-bs-politics-policy-public-service/>)

- Accelerated B.S./M.A. in Political Science (Politics, Policy & Public Service) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/accelerated-political-science-bs-ma-politics-policy-public-service/>)

Internship Experience

All majors and minors in the Department are encouraged to add a history or political science internship to their classroom curricula. Internships allow students to expand and apply traditional learning through real-life experiences in the local, national, and global workplace. They also provide an opportunity for students to network with professionals in the field and clarify choices when making career decisions.

Teacher Certification

The Department of History and Government offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate programs resulting in state teacher certification at the middle school level. Each of the options listed for certification must be completed in compliance with requirements set by the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

All students desiring teacher certification must comply with all certification requirements as outlined by the College of Professional Education (<http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/professional-education/>). Contact the Department of History and Political Science (<https://twu.edu/social-sciences-historical-studies/>) for details of teacher certification plans.

Pre-Law

Law schools have no prescribed pre-law curriculum, program, or major. According to the American Bar Association Section on Legal Education, there are important skills and values, and significant bodies of knowledge that you can acquire prior to law school that will provide a sound foundation for a legal education. These include analytic and problem-solving skills, critical reading abilities, writing skills, oral communication and listening abilities, general research skills, task organization and management skills, and the values of serving faithfully the interests of others while also promoting justice. If you wish to prepare adequately for a legal education, and for a career in law or for other professional services that involve the use of lawyering skills, you should seek educational, extra-curricular, and life experiences that will assist you in developing those attributes.

A degree in Political Science or History will provide a strong liberal arts foundation to develop these skills, values, and life experiences, and thus to be better prepared for law school and law-related careers.

Students who major in Political Science with an emphasis in Legal Studies will take courses that develop their abilities to think critically, write and speak effectively, and solve problems, in a legal context. They will also have a broad range of electives dealing with the law-making process, public policy, and the history of our legal system. Of special value are opportunities to intern with law firms, corporate legal departments, government agencies, and non-profit public interest groups. The major in Political Science (Legal Studies) requires 30 semester credit hours as outlined above. For more information, consult the advisor for Political Science (Legal Studies), or the History and Political Science website (<https://twu.edu/social-sciences-historical-studies/>).