

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Bachelor of Arts | Bachelor of Science

A political science degree for advancing democracy and social justice

The political science major develops students' leadership skills, and offers the specialized knowledge required to advance good governance and to address some of the most important issues in the world. In our Experiential Liberal Arts education model, rigorous coursework provides the political theory and research methods that you will then apply to a diverse array of settings outside the classroom. Through study abroad, student/faculty research, co-ops, and student-led groups and activities, you will be prepared to pursue any path related to your interests and goals, including graduate school, a career in any level of government, or the private or public sectors. Optional concentrations allow you to focus your studies on a particular theme within the political science field, such as American political institutions, international relations and diplomacy, law and legal studies, or security studies.

Preparing future political leaders

Co-op Opportunities

In the co-op program you can develop your communication and advocacy

skills. Graduate with up to 18 months of professional experience on your resume. Past co-op placements include:

- Ropes and Gray law firm
- Pioneer Institute for Public Policy
- Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General
- U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren
- International Institute of Counterterrorism (Israel)
- Wellington Management
- Boston Municipal Research Bureau
- The New England Council
- MIT-Energy Initiative
- Massachusetts Division of Banks
- NATO Defense College (Italy)

Research Opportunities

You will have the opportunity to work directly with full-time faculty and Northeastern research centers on innovative and interdisciplinary research, community service, and civic engagement. Students get to expand on their course material through research with faculty support and access to various Northeastern resources such as the Global Resilience Institute and the Kitty Michael Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy.

Northeastern International Relations Council

The award-winning Northeastern International Relations Council fields competitive teams of undergraduate students at international Model UN, Model Arab League, and Model NATO events. IRC members learn firsthand the challenges of international diplomacy while developing strong public speaking and negotiation skills.



Featured Courses

- Comparative Politics
- Modern Political Thought
- Model United Nations
- Public Opinion, Voting, and Elections
- LGBT Issues in Public Policy
- International Law
- Public Policy and Administration
- U.S. Civil Liberties
- Growth and Decline of Cities and Suburbs
- Arab-Israeli Conflict
- International Security



I wanted to do something for the betterment of humanity and even though math and science were always my best subjects, I really wanted to work with other people in intense team settings. Political science seemed like the right way for me to learn how to become a more effective change agent while working in dynamic groups of people and working on issues that I am passionate about.”

Mason Gersh '18, political science and international affairs combined major



Maggie King '20

Political Science

International Affairs



Maggie decided to pursue a combined degree in International Affairs and Political Science after a service learning trip to Tanzania and studying abroad in Hungary.



In her first semester, Maggie helped found a chapter of the Roosevelt Institute, a national think-tank that trains emerging leaders in policy writing at Northeastern.



Maggie is currently working as a legislative intern in the U.S. House of Representatives.

cssh.northeastern.edu/student/maggie-king

N Northeastern College of Social Sciences and Humanities

As a leader in the Experiential Liberal Arts, Northeastern's College of Social Sciences and Humanities combines experiential learning with the rigorous study of culture, society, policy, and ethics. To explore the past and shape policies for a better tomorrow, we practice humanics: the integration of traditional liberal arts capacities with quantitative tools and new digital proficiencies. In fields ranging from English and economics to philosophy, criminology and public policy, we focus on the key issues of today: how to shape public spheres, how to build resilient and sustainable communities, and how to engage with cultures past and present.

N Northeastern University

Founded in 1898, Northeastern is a global research university and the recognized leader in experience-powered lifelong learning. Our world-renowned experiential approach empowers our students, faculty, alumni, and partners to create impact far beyond the confines of discipline, degree, and campus.

Our locations—in Boston; the Massachusetts communities of Burlington and Nahant; Charlotte, North Carolina; the San Francisco Bay Area; Seattle; London; Toronto; and Vancouver—are nodes in our growing global university system. Through this network, we expand opportunities for flexible, student-centered learning and collaborative, solutions-focused research.

Northeastern's comprehensive array of undergraduate and graduate programs—in on-campus, online, and hybrid formats—lead to degrees through the doctorate in nine colleges and schools. Among these, we offer more than 140 multidisciplinary majors and degrees designed to prepare students for purposeful lives and careers.