

## Contact

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<http://www2.umaine.edu/polisci/welcome.html>

## Admission Requirements

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (*including biology*)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- 2 Foreign Language (*same language or two years of American Sign Language-ASL*)
- Academic electives (*to equal at least 17 total credits*)

*To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.*

## Major Requirements

### Political Science

- POS 100 American Government
- 36 credits Political Science courses  
*distributed as follows:*
- 6 credits American Politics
- 6 credits Comparative Politics
- 6 credits International Politics
- 6 credits Political Theory
- 12 credits Political Science Electives
- 21 credits of above must be upper level courses

### International Affairs/Political Science

- 27 credits Political Science
- 6 credits Anthropology
- 3 credits Women's Studies
- 6 credits History
- 6 credits Modern Language (*1 year beyond intermediate proficiency*)

*120 Minimum total credit hours required for graduation*

## College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

## Program Description

The political science major is recommended for those students who anticipate employment in national, state or local government; or in administrative positions in business; or social studies; or who intend to pursue professional or graduate study in law, public administration, political science or related social science areas.

The international affairs major provides students an opportunity to study in the broad areas of international affairs and to help satisfy the need for trained personnel in government service, international organization and international business. The University of Maine offers a major in international affairs with concentrations in the disciplines of anthropology, environmental issues or women's studies, history, modern languages and political science. A student choosing this major is required to take certain prescribed courses from among those offered in each of these disciplines. An academic advisor in the field of major emphasis will work closely with the student.

The Department of Political Science offers unique opportunities for learning outside the traditional classroom, such as independent study projects, research with faculty and internships with state, national and international agencies. The department also offers students the opportunity to participate in its Congressional Internship Program in Washington, D.C. In its fifth decade, the program allows students to work for a member of the state of Maine delegation on Capitol Hill during the spring semester. The department also cooperates with the Washington Center.

Other internship experiences have included: Support Staff, U.S. Federal District Court; Campaign Assistant; Economics Internship, Eastern Maine Development District; Labor Relations Analyst, Department of Transportation; Assistant to Director of Finance, Department of Administration; Staff Assistant, former Senator William Cohen; Judicial Aide, Bangor Sheriff's Office; Controller's Aide, Mayor's Office.

## Career Opportunities

Employment opportunities for graduates exist in federal, state and local government; business; law; the military; and education. Graduates have followed a variety of career paths employing their liberal arts education and a more advanced knowledge of government and politics.

## General Education Requirements\*

- ENG 101 College Composition
- 18 credits Human Values & Social Context area (*a single course may satisfy more than 1 sub-category, but a total of 18 credits must be completed*)
  - Western Cultural Tradition
  - Social Context & Institutions
  - Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives
  - Population & the Environment
  - Artistic & Creative Expression
- 2 courses Designated Writing Intensive (*1 must be within the major*)
- 2 courses Biological or Physical Sciences (*must include at least 1 laboratory course*)
- 1 course Ethics (*emphasis on discussion of ethical issues in 1 course or series of courses*)
- 6 credits Mathematics (*including statistics & some computer science, only 3 credits in computer science can count toward this requirement*)

## **General Education Requirements\* (continued)**

1 capstone An approved experience in which the student integrates the components of his or her undergraduate training to perform at a professional level. The capstone experience is usually completed during the senior year in consultation with the student's academic advisor.

*\*All UMaine students must complete these general education requirements, which are counted in the total credit hours required for graduation and may be contained in the Major Requirements previously listed.*

## **Specialized Information**

The Department of Political Science awards several scholarships annually: the Tibor J. Bebek Memorial Scholarship, awarded to outstanding students in political theory; the John Helmke Memorial Scholarship, awarded to an outstanding Political Science major; the Judith Grant Memorial Scholarship, awarded to an outstanding student planning to study law; the Graton Constitutional Essay Contest, which provides three monetary awards for written essays; the Walter S. Schoenberger Scholarship Fund, awarded to students majoring in International Affairs/Political Science, and, the Eugene A. Mawhinney Scholarship Fund, awarded to deserving undergraduate students majoring in political science.

### **Academic Programs 2008-2009**

Please refer to the web site (<http://factsheets.umaine.edu/>) for the most updated version of the fact sheets.

This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.