Political science is concerned with the systematic study of
government and the political process. Within the discipline, scholars
analyze the development, distribution, and uses of political power;
determinants and consequences of various forms of political
behavior and sources of political conflict; ways in which conflicts
are both intensified and resolved; and the relationship between
the individual and the state. Political science is a discipline of
special interest to scientists and engineers who must understand
the political system within which they live in order to evaluate their
influence upon that system. It is of interest as well to those students
who are considering careers in public service or university teaching
and research.

The Department of Political Science has a research-oriented faculty
that welcomes both undergraduate and graduate students in
ongoing research. The department, which offers degree programs
at the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels, covers the fields
of American politics and public policy, comparative politics,
international relations and foreign policy, and political philosophy
and social theory.