



Knowledge and Skill

Today, it is important for all citizens to be familiar with a system of government that affects virtually every facet of life. The study of political science shows how governments operate and how politics is practiced. It is a diverse discipline and involves the study of both governments and related institutions at the local, state, national and international levels. The program is flexible, and students are encouraged to tailor their studies in anticipation of specific careers, graduate school or law school.

Choose UST

For more information on admission to the University of St. Thomas, contact the Office of Admissions at 713-525-3500 or visit our website at www.stthom.edu/admissions.

If you are interested in learning more about the Political Science program, contact:

Political Science Department
713-525-3859
politicalscience@stthom.edu

The University

The University of St. Thomas is truly a Shining Star in the heart of Houston.

- **The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College:** Among 22 U.S. Catholic colleges and universities recommended by the Cardinal Newman Society, and among 28 such institutions worldwide
- **Range of choices:** Degree programs focused on business, sciences, liberal arts and education at the undergraduate and graduate levels
- **Specialty areas:** High acceptance rate in medical and dental schools for Pre-Med and Pre-Dental students
- **Personal instruction:** Average class size of 17
- **Personal approach:** Faculty know students by name
- **Nationally ranked:** Ranked 34th among universities offering master's degrees in the Western region by the *U.S. News & World Report* 2013 edition of "America's Best Colleges"
- **Nationally ranked:** Ranked by *The Princeton Review* as Best in the West in its Best Colleges: Region by Region online profile found at www.princetonreview.com
- **Study abroad:** The University of St. Thomas periodically ranks among the top 20% of U.S. universities whose students study abroad
- **Catholic tradition:** Houston's only Catholic university, founded by the Basilian Fathers in 1947



UNIVERSITY
ST. of THOMAS

Educating Leaders of Faith and Character

3800 Montrose Blvd.
Houston, TX 77006
www.stthom.edu

The University of St. Thomas is a private institution committed to the liberal arts and to the religious, ethical and intellectual tradition of Catholic higher education.

Political Science



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College Initiative Begins Here

Political Science

For more than 50 years, the Political Science Department has provided educational opportunities for University of St. Thomas undergraduate and graduate students who have gone on to become leaders in the worlds of politics, business, law and education. Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science take courses in the following areas:

- American Government
- Quantitative Methods
- Political Theory
- Public Administration
- Public Law & Policy

Degree Plan

The Political Science Department offers a major and a minor, as well as a joint major option:

- **Major** – A major in political science is a Bachelor of Arts degree with 36 credit hours of coursework, 24 of which must be upper-division (3000/4000-level courses). Study abroad and internships are also encouraged.
- **Minor** – A minor in political science requires 18 credit-hours of coursework. In addition to the introductory courses, a faculty advisor will guide students in the selection of 12 additional hours, with three hours from each of the following areas: judicial, political theory, political participation and public administration.
- **Joint Major** – A joint major allows students to integrate political science with perspectives from related fields such as Catholic Studies, Communication, Environmental Science & Studies, History, International Studies or Philosophy.

Concentrations

As part of the political science major, the department offers concentrations in public administration and public law and policy. Students interested in law school preparation should consult the department's Pre-Law Advisor.

The Department's Mission

The mission of the Political Science Department is to cultivate in students knowledge and appreciation of the rich conceptual and theoretical content of the political science discipline and nurture their ability to apply insight to analysis of political theories, systems and policies. Its purpose is to provide high quality instruction in the discipline to prepare majors for success in graduate school, business and public service.

Political Science Career Paths

- Law
- Business
- Journalism
- Public and International Affairs
- Federal Government
- State and Local Government
- Teaching
- Interest Groups
- Campaigns Management



Student Involvement

- Alpha Alpha Alpha
- UST Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha
- National Political Science Honor Society

Students will be invited to join Pi Sigma Alpha after completing 15 credit hours in political science with at least a 3.0 GPA in the political science courses. Students are recognized at an annual luncheon and receive a certificate. A one-time lifetime membership fee is required.

- UST College Republicans
- UST College Democrats

These student-driven clubs are open to all students on campus regardless of their major. The clubs host events such as lectures, voting drives, election watch parties and fundraisers. Students interested in joining either club can contact members at collegerepublicans@stthom.edu and ustcollegedems@gmail.com.