Join Our Community of Scholarship and Research

In Villanova’s graduate program in Political Science you will find a wide range of courses in American government, international relations, comparative politics, and political philosophy. You will explore and discuss key contemporary issues within the context of current scholarly debates in political science and also from an historical perspective. Villanova has one of the few free standing M.A. programs that does not cross-list its courses for undergraduates and it is not part of a doctoral program (although many of our graduates go on to prestigious doctoral programs). We cater to students with a solid background in politics and a keen interest in the broad substantive questions defining contemporary U.S. and international politics today.

Why Should You Consider Villanova?

• **Advance Your Career:** Our graduates attend top doctoral programs (such as Cornell University, Brown University, New York University, Emory University and others); attend law school (such as Georgetown University, George Washington University and Villanova University); and pursue careers in public service in the State Department, F.B.I., E.P.A., numerous nonprofits and teaching. And, all students and alumni have access to Villanova Career Services.

• **Enjoy an Intimate Learning Environment:** Small classes of 10 to 15 students with experienced, engaged faculty.

• **Study with a Diverse Student Body:** Interact with people from all regions of the United States and abroad; some students come straight from their undergraduate experience and others work and complete their degree or certificate part time.

• **Experience a Rich and Supportive Intellectual Environment:** Graduate faculty hold doctoral degrees from well respected institutions and support students in their work. Villanova is located close to several other well-respected institutions including Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr College, University of Pennsylvania and Temple University, placing Villanova at the heart of a vibrant intellectual community as well as close to Philadelphia and its many cultural opportunities.

• **Enjoy Flexibility:** Complete a master’s degree, a graduate certificate or just take a few courses for career enhancement. Study on a full- or part-time basis. We offer summer courses allowing full-time students to complete degree in just 16 months.

• **Enjoy Affordable Graduate Education:** Villanova’s tuitions rates are competitive and you may apply for graduate assistantships or tuition scholarships (February 1 application deadline). All primary- and secondary-school teachers received special reduced tuition rates in Graduate Liberal Arts & Science courses.
Choose Your Course of Study
This program allows you a great deal of flexibility in completing the M.A. degree or one of the many graduate certificates available. The graduate program director is available to meet with you to advise you on a course of study.

Master of Arts in Political Science
The brief requirements for the M.A. degree are as follows: complete one course from each of the three areas of concentration (American Government, International Relations and Comparative Politics, and Political Philosophy); complete a course in research concepts and approaches; and then build the rest of your curriculum to suit your interests and goals. You have the option to complete 10 courses and take a comprehensive oral examination, or complete eight courses and write a thesis in order to complete your master’s degree.

Graduate Certificates
You may choose to earn a graduate certificate by completing five courses in one of three areas of concentration:
- American Government
- International Politics

If you are interested in public service, you may choose to complete a graduate certificate through the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program:
- Public Administration
- Nonprofit Management

A complete listing of degree and certificate requirements can be found at gradpsc.villanova.edu.

Explore Our Curriculum
You will enjoy a broad range of courses covering the three areas of concentration. You also will have the opportunity to enroll in courses that various affiliate faculty in public administration, sociology and philosophy teach in program. You may also take up to six credits outside of political science. For a complete list of course offerings visit gradpsc.villanova.edu.

Distinguished Faculty
Our diverse faculty offer a variety of philosophical and practical approaches to political science and boast a wide range of scholarly interests.

David M. Barrett, PhD, Notre Dame
National Security Policy, Intelligence Policy, The Presidency

Camille Burge, PhD, Vanderbilt
Public Opinion, Race & Politics, Political Psychology

Jennifer Dixon, PhD, Berkeley
International Security, Genocide and Mass Killings, Memory Politics

Lowell S. Gustafson, PhD, University of Virginia
Latin America, International Political Economy, International Relations Theory

John R. Johannes, PhD, Harvard
American Government, Congress, Political Reform

Matthew R. Kerbel, PhD, University of Michigan
Political Communication, The Presidency, Methodology

Marcus Kreuzer, PhD, Columbia University
Parties/Electoral Politics, Europe, Methodology, Democratization

Eric Lomazoff, PhD, Harvard
Constitutional Law, American Political Development

Daniel Mark, PhD, Princeton
Political Theory, Jurisprudence, Politics, Law & Religion

Olukunle Owolabi, PhD, Notre Dame
Colonialism, Development, Democratization, Africa, Caribbean

Mark L. Schrad, PhD, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Russian Politics, International Law and Organization

Thomas W. Smith, PhD, Notre Dame
Ancient Political Theory, Liberal Political Theory

A. Maria Toyoda, PhD, Georgetown
Asian Politics, Political Economy, Methodology

Catherine E. Warrick, PhD, Georgetown
Middle East, South Asia, Gender and Islamic Politics

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