

Political Science

The Political Science Department at Guilford College prepares students for engaged citizenship. We do this by equipping our graduates with the knowledge, creative and analytical skills, values and experiences necessary to fulfill their responsibilities as members of an effective and diverse civil society. At Guilford College, political science is an integral part of the liberal arts curriculum. Perceived as both an art and a science, the discipline allows students to study political behavior in its ideological, cultural, historical, and institutional settings. The curriculum provides students with a broad knowledge of both domestic and foreign political institutions, processes, and issues.

Why Guilford College?

Consistently rated nationally by *The Princeton Review* as well as being one of the 40 colleges in *Colleges that Change Lives* by Loren Pope, Guilford College inspires each student to achieve excellence through an engaging community, rooted in Quaker values, which nurtures creativity and social responsibility.

What can a Guilford education offer you?

- An urban setting near other colleges & universities with an area student population of over 27,000 students
- A consortium agreement with University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro College, Bennett College, North Carolina A&T State University, Elon University and High Point University provides students with access to courses free of charge
- A college mission statement & core values based on, and consistent with, Quaker testimonies. Guilford's core values are: Community, Diversity, Equality, Excellence, Integrity, Justice & Stewardship.
- A challenging academic program which emphasizes not only academic tracks and the learning process, but also the interconnection between curricular and co-curricular pursuits
- A diverse student population, providing a stimulating peer environment
- Excellent study abroad programs in China, England, France, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Scotland, Spain, and Wales

The academic program in Political Science

The Bachelor of Arts degree is offered in Political Science

Minors are offered in Political Science and International Political Economy.

Required courses for the Political Science major

Required Core Courses

- PSCI 101 The American Political System
- PSCI 103 International Relations
- PSCI 105 Comparative Politics
- PSCI 106 Classics in Political Thought
- PSCI 230 Politics of Problem Solving

Elective Courses

- Any two PSCI courses, internships, independent studies
- Any two 300-level or above PSCI courses

Required Capstone Experience

- PSCI 460 Senior Independent Project OR PSCI 470 Senior Thesis

Total credit hours required for A.B. degree in political science: 40 credits

Majors may want to focus their elective credits in an area of particular interest in order to provide more in depth knowledge of one of the particular sub-disciplines of political science--American Politics/Public Policy and Administration; International Relations/Comparative Politics; or Political Theory/Political Analysis. The core courses serve as a foundation for upper-level courses within each of the four tracks

Special Features

Students have an opportunity to study political science in a variety of different ways once they establish a secure foundation of skills and knowledge. Individualized course plans and one-on-one advising will allow each student to design a four-year plan that reflects their interests and learning objectives. Some examples of individualized study plans have focused on international political economy, public policy, Asian politics and environmental politics.

Students have the opportunity to study politics with their professors in depth. Political science majors accompany their professors abroad to study Chinese politics or environmental policy in Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands as well as engages in long-term projects focused on principled problem-solving through engaged citizenship on such projects as a Model UN and senior thesis.

Internship Opportunities

Many students elect to do an internship related to their political science studies. Students may participate in internships located in Greensboro, such as private law offices and local government agencies. Students may also elect to participate in The Washington Center or The Capitol Experience internship programs in Washington, DC or state-based internship programs such as the Institute of Government and the North Carolina Government programs. We strongly encourage students to engage in internships. Among the locations where students have recently interned include:

- Greenpeace Office in San Francisco, CA
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Mayor's Office, London
- Guilford County Extension Service
- Senator Richard Burr, Washington, DC

Political science and teacher education

Political science majors interested in certification to teach social studies in public schools need to double-major in political science and education studies. Students should consult advisers in both departments to be certain that all requirements are satisfied.

Where do graduates go?

Political science majors have a reputation on campus as overachievers and this reputation is supported by the many different careers, professions and social change in which our graduates continue to demonstrate leadership. Political science alumni serve as labor organizers, city planners, congressional staff members, educators, lobbyists, campaign managers, business consultants, and policy specialists in government, agencies, non-profits and international organizations. Furthermore, the Political Science Department is also committed to preparing students for professional and graduate programs in law, political science, and public policy and administration. Several recent graduates have been accepted to the most competitive programs in these fields both in the United States and in abroad programs.

Faculty

Ken Gilmore, associate professor, chair; kgilmore@guilford.edu

Kent John Chabotar, president and professor

George X. Guo, associate professor

Kyle Dell, assistant professor

Maria Rosales, assistant professor

Robert Duncan, continuing part-time lecturer

For additional information about Political Science at Guilford College visit www.guilford.edu/academics

