Political science addresses the important questions facing society at every level, from local to global. How do wars start, why do they keep happening, and how can we end them? How do U.S. laws get negotiated and passed? Where did the red state / blue state divide come from? Is democracy the best form of government? Is an ideal ruler even possible? And what is globalization and why are so many people demonstrating against it?

Political scientists tackle these big, real-world problems and policies that affect how you live your life, how your descendants will live their lives, and what sorts of freedoms and responsibilities they will have. Politics and policy are how we build a better civil society and determine our place in it.

If you are interested in world peace, national government, law and justice, international affairs, elections and political parties, and how society defines the public good, then Political Science is your major!

**Optional Concentrations:**
- Government Affairs & Civic Engagement
- Foreign & National Security Affairs
- Law & the Courts
- Political Theory
- Race, Ethnicity & Gender Politics
- Leadership & Public Policy

**Knowledge and Skills Gained as a Political Science Major:**

**Knowledge:**
- Knowledge of political science, including theory, American politics, comparative politics, and international relations; knowledge of major themes and analytical techniques in the field
- An international perspective on political science research, the nature of change in the global political community, and the complex character of processes such as globalization
- An understanding of human cultural and political variability in the United States and the global community, and an appreciation of others’ viewpoints and culture-specific attitudes, ideals, and practices
- The intellectual framework for vigorous participation in civil society and public debate over the nature of the “good society”

**Skills:**
- Ability to examine written material and oral presentations critically
- Ability and desire to engage with social and political problems, to acquire relevant data, and use insight, knowledge, reasoning, and technical skills to analyze that data and develop logical solutions
- Ability to effectively communicate ideas and information verbally, visually and in writing
- International and culturally sensitive perspective that assesses and evaluates information fairly and objectively
Career Opportunities:

By nature, Liberal Arts majors make great employees in any field because of their ability to communicate effectively, think critically and solve complex problems. These timeless skills make them attractive to employers in all walks of society. Specifically though, Political Science majors often pursue careers in:

- Government
- Public Sector Jobs
- National Security
- Journalism and Media
- Law
- Diplomacy & International Affairs
- Business
- Human Rights
- Education
- Military

Student Opportunities:

- Phi Gamma Mu - International Political Science Honor Society
- Phi Alpha Delta - Pre-Law Fraternity
- Darlene & Orville D. Menard Scholarship
- Student internships in local and national governments, law firms, non-profits, and private companies, including the Omaha Mayor’s office and Union Pacific

Political Science Major at a glance:

- Number of majors: 200
- Degrees offered: B.A., B.S.
- Concentrations: Yes (optional)
- Credit hours needed: 36
- Minors offered: Yes (15 credits)

For more information:

For program information, contacts and course requirements visit:

www.unomaha.edu//psci/

Dr. Jody Neathery-Castro, Chair
jneathery@unomaha.edu
402.554.2624