How do activists advocate for greater human rights across country borders? How do states work through or around international organizations, such as the United Nations, to accomplish their goals? Can we trust public opinion polls to measure peoples’ opinions? Why do some countries become successful democracies, while others struggle with autocratic rulers? Drexel University’s Department of Politics empowers students to ask and answer political questions, understand the limitations of data, and implement their own research projects.
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
Political science students explore the theory and practice of politics through an exciting variety of courses in public policy, environmental politics, international organizations, human rights, and law and society. Students receive a strong foundation in research methods and are encouraged to pursue a curriculum that fits their interests. The department offers three possible tracks, which serve as guides for students to structure their studies according to their career goals.

American Politics and Policy
American Politics and Policy considers the relationships between public opinion, legislative representation, and policy-making in democratic polities, including the United States. Courses cover American political processes, areas of public policy, and democratic theory, representation and participation. This track is most appropriate for students interested in law school, graduate school in American politics, or careers in electoral politics and campaigns, public administration, or government.

International Politics
International Politics incorporates both traditional comparative politics and international relations, as well as comparative political theory. Courses explore the politics of marginalized people, interstate war and civil war, international organizations, and the politics of specific countries or regions (e.g. Latin America or the European Union). This track is most appropriate for students who wish to attend law school to focus on international law, or graduate school to pursue studies in international relations. It is also valuable for students pursing careers in international business, the Foreign Service, or international organizations like the United Nations or the World Bank.

Law and Politics
Law and Politics examines the relationships between judicial institutions and other political and social actors, both nationally and internationally. Courses include American constitutional law and judicial politics, the comparative politics of legal institutions across countries and regions, and the legal strategies of social movements. This track is most appropriate for students considering law school, and for those who seek careers in judicial politics and civil society organizations.

ENHANCE YOUR DEGREE

Accelerated Degrees. For qualified students, we offer a BA-to-JD admission process that allows students to matriculate into the Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law at the start of their senior year. To be considered for this program, students must apply and be accepted as prospective freshmen during the admission process to Drexel.

Minors. All of our tracks reserve enough free electives for students to take a minor. We recommend one of the following: a foreign language, economics, history, sociology, or criminology and justice studies. All of these options make graduates highly marketable.

DREXEL CO-OP
Through Drexel’s cooperative education program, students embark on up to three, six-month periods of employment, exploring their career options, strengthening their résumés and building a professional network in the process. Whether working with attorneys, nonprofit organizations, state or local government, or academic researchers, our students gain the professional exposure needed to launch a meaningful career.

EXTRACURRICULAR ENGAGEMENT
Some of the best educational moments come from informal interactions with professors and peers. We create courses and programming that allow students to grow together throughout their academic journey, and create opportunities for them to take advantage of everything Drexel University and the City of Philadelphia have to offer. We also offer departmental advising, which means our students work with the same academic adviser throughout their time in the program.

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