DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Leadership
J.D. Bowen, Ph.D.
Department Chair
Matthew Nanes, Ph.D.
Graduate Studies Coordinator
Robert Cropf, Ph.D.
Co-Coordinator of the Public and Social Policy Ph.D. Program
Steven Rogers, S.J., Ph.D.
Undergraduate Studies Coordinator
Nori Katagiri, Ph.D.
International Studies Coordinator

Overview
Saint Louis University’s Department of Political Science is home to outstanding faculty members and engaged and thoughtful students who are eager to serve in solidarity with others to address sources of injustice in the community and the world.

The discipline of political science provides analytical tools to better understand the structures of power that produce inequality and oppression and the knowledge to build systems more likely to heighten liberty. Through graduate and undergraduate programs in political science and international studies, the department trains students to meet the challenges of public service, take active roles as citizens, and address critical issues in the world today. Faculty research examines questions of citizenship, representation, law, race and gender, urban and international development, national security, democratization and other topics vital to communities and countries worldwide.

The political science department’s undergraduate and graduate programs provide students with an effective combination of knowledge, theory, and practical research and analytical skills to prepare them to contribute to society. Inspired by the Catholic-Jesuit heritage, the department is committed to cultivating students’ abilities to think deeply, carefully and well about relations of power so that they can become engaged citizens who can grapple with some of the most important social justice problems of the time, from racism at home to war, persistent underdevelopment, and oppression abroad.

Our faculty members are passionate about teaching and mentoring students, and students get hands-on experience working with faculty engaged in cutting-edge research that addresses pressing national and international issues. SLU’s location in the heart of St. Louis opens up opportunities for students to understand first-hand the challenges of American cities through field research and internships. SLU’s campus in Madrid, Spain, and many other study-abroad opportunities open up the rest of the world. Coursework and co-curricular experiences broaden students’ perspectives and prepare them for careers beyond SLU.

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