The Department of Political Science offers graduate study leading to the
doctor of philosophy in political science. The department admits students
only for the Ph.D. program, but a master’s degree may be obtained en
route to the Ph.D.

The Ph.D. is earned through a combination of coursework and dissertation.
The program is designed to provide students with both a general training
in political science and the opportunity to specialize in their areas of
interest.

The subfields of political science found in our department are American
politics (https://polisci.wisc.edu/american-politics/), comparative politics
(https://polisci.wisc.edu/comparative-politics/), political theory and
philosophy (https://polisci.wisc.edu/political-theory/), international
relations (https://polisci.wisc.edu/international-relations/), and political
methodology (https://polisci.wisc.edu/political-methodology/).
The department has a national and international reputation for
the high quality of its faculty and the diversity of their approaches
and interests. It has long been recognized for an acceptance of
varied approaches to the study of politics and for its collegiality. The
Political Science Department shares faculty with the Robert M. La
Follette School of Public Affairs (http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/),
the Law School (http://www.law.wisc.edu/), and the Department
of Gender and Women's Studies (http://womenstudies.wisc.edu/).
The presence of programs and centers such as the African Studies
Program (http://africa.wisc.edu/), the Center for European Studies
(https://europe.wisc.edu/), the Center for Jewish Studies (http://
jewishstudies.wisc.edu/), the Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central
Asia (CREECA) (http://www.creeca.wisc.edu/), Integrated Liberal Studies
(http://ils.wisc.edu/), the International Studies major (B.A (https://
guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-
international-studies/international-studies-ba/), and B.S. (https://
guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-
international-studies/international-studies-bs/)), Latin American,
Caribbean and Iberian Studies (http://www.lacis.wisc.edu/), and others is
also beneficial to our graduate students, providing opportunities for the
advancement of interdisciplinary approaches in student research.