

School of Social Sciences



DEVELOPING
TOMORROW'S
LEADERS
TODAY

Department of Political Science

The **DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE** is ranked among the top 35 political science programs in the nation. It offers more than 100 courses each year to nearly 1,000 undergraduate majors and 65 graduate students. Annually, 250 degrees are conferred, preparing students for careers in law, public service, business, journalism, consultancy, research and teaching.

Political science majors are among the most gifted, accomplished, and successful undergraduates on campus.

- Three of the seven students awarded the prestigious Harry S. Truman Fellowship at UCI were political science majors.
- Twelve of the last seventeen recipients of the university's highest award to graduating seniors, the UCI Alumni Association's Lauds and Laurels Award, have been political science majors.
- Eight of the last eleven recipients of the university's award for outstanding freshman have been political science majors.
- Political science majors have delivered the student commencement address in sixteen of the last nineteen years.

The Department of Political Science has a reputation for excellence in teaching as well as for multidisciplinary, cutting-edge research.

- Three faculty are members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- Three faculty are recipients of the Academic Senate's Distinguished Faculty Award for Research.
- Three faculty have received the Academic Senate's Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching.
- Two faculty have received the Academic Senate's Distinguished Assistant Professor Award for Teaching.
- The department has received the Dean of Undergraduate Studies Departmental Teaching Award.
- Faculty members traditionally hold key executive positions in the American Political Science Association, International Studies Association, International Society of Political Psychology, and the Midwest Political Science Association.

Faculty interests range from analyzing central questions of political science related to policy-making, political structures, participation, conflict, change and development, power and authority, and interstate relations. Areas of study include: *American Politics; International Relations; Political Theory; Comparative Politics; and Public Law.*

To recruit and retain students of excellence, the School of Social Sciences supports an interdisciplinary approach to the study of law for undergraduates through the School of Social Sciences Law Forum and Law Forum Journal.

School of Social Sciences Law Forum:

Targeting undergraduate students considering careers in the legal field, this program is an intellectual and practical exploration of modern law through a mix of new and existing undergraduate courses; a series of lectures by practicing attorneys and distinguished UCI faculty; and hands-on legal research, internships and community projects.

The UCI Law Forum Journal is a publication dedicated to campus-wide legal scholarship by UC Irvine undergraduate students. Designed to encourage undergraduates to engage in research that will enhance the legal knowledge and develop critical writing and editorial skills, the Journal is edited and administered by a selected staff of Law Forum student members.

Naming Opportunities include:

- UCI Law Forum Lectureship Series: \$15,000
- UCI Law Forum Visiting Fellow: \$10,000
- UCI Law Forum Journal: \$5,000

Contact Us Today

Carol Spencer,
Director of Development
(949) 824-1312 ■ cspencer@uci.edu

Rosemarie Swatez,
Associate Director of Development
(949) 824-2511 ■ rswatez@uci.edu

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Investing in People

To recruit and retain undergraduate students of excellence, the political science department recognizes the need to establish programs that develop individual scholarly interests and community and academic leadership. Student success requires community leadership and investment. The Department is seeking support for the following current and proposed undergraduate programs.

Political Science Department Undergraduate Research Award

To promote a hands-on understanding of political research and enrich the undergraduate experience, the Research Award Program provides direct student support for both undergraduate and faculty-student designed research projects.

- Research Awards: Range from \$1,500 to \$5,000

Political Science Department Undergraduate Paper Prize

To prepare community leaders for a broad range of career opportunities, the political science department requires a number of extensive writing assignments throughout the undergraduate program. The proposed Department Undergraduate Paper Prize would recognize and encourage excellence in academic and research related writing assignments.

- Political Science Department Undergraduate Paper Prize: \$2,500

UC Washington, DC Center Internship Scholarship Awards

To enrich the undergraduate experience and knowledge base in political science, students can elect to participate in a quarter-long, unpaid internship program in Washington, DC. Students complete a ten unit internship seminar featuring group meetings and tutorial sessions related to the student's internship placement; a comprehensive research project; a part-time field placement position; and one upper-division elective course taught by a UC Faculty-in-Residence at the UCDC Center.

- Scholarship Awards: Range from \$1,500 to \$5,000

Public Affairs Internship Scholarship Awards

The Public Affairs Internship Program matches qualified political science undergraduate majors with internship opportunities in local government agencies, state legislators, public interest groups, political campaign organizations, and political groups.

- Scholarship Awards: Range from \$1,500 to \$5,000

Political Science Department Lectureship

To encourage a broad-based understanding of the many facets of political science and entrust program ownership and community leadership, undergraduate political science majors would be invited to participate in selecting a subject matter and visiting professor for a student-driven lectureship series.

- UCI Political Science Student-Driven Lectureship: \$15,000