POLITICAL STUDIES

Applicants are accepted under the general regulations of the School of Graduate Studies. Applicants to the M.A. program must have a 4-year undergraduate degree in political science or equivalent with a minimum B+ average; applicants to the Ph.D. must have an M.A. in political science or equivalent with an A- average.

Further information regarding program requirements may be found in the Graduate Handbook, available on the Department’s website.

Relevant Facilities

**The Centre for the Study of Democracy and Diversity (CSDD)**
The Centre was established as the Centre for the Study of Democracy in 1993 with a broad set of objectives related to research, education, and policy to support democratic development. Under its new mandate as the Centre for the Study of Democracy and Diversity, its objectives have been expanded to incorporate a specific stream of activities focused on research, education, and international assistance to promote and support democratic development in ethnically and culturally diverse societies. ([https://www.queensu.ca/csdd/](https://www.queensu.ca/csdd/))

**Canadian Opinion Research Archive (CORA)**
The Canadian Opinion Research Archive makes available commercial and independent surveys to the academic, research and journalistic communities. Founded in 1992, CORA contains hundreds of surveys including thousands of discrete items collected by major commercial Canadian firms dating back to the 1970s. The CORA website ([https://www.queensu.ca/cora/](https://www.queensu.ca/cora/)) includes readily accessible results from these surveys, tracking Canadian opinion over time on frequently asked survey questions, as well as tabular results from recent Canadian surveys, and more general information on polling. Individuals conducting research for non-commercial purposes are able to get access to the CORA electronic holdings and conduct searches of the database. Researchers are able to conduct the full range of bivariate and multivariate analysis on data through the Nesstar interface.

**The Institute of Intergovernmental Relations (IIGR)**
This institute was established to provide a centre for research into the problems of intergovernmental relations in Canada and elsewhere. The Institute is pleased to support the work of graduate students with an interest in federalism keeping in mind that the Institute does not offer courses or grant degrees. ([https://www.queensu.ca/iigr/home](https://www.queensu.ca/iigr/home))

**The Centre for International and Defence Policy (CIDP)**
The Centre was established in 1975. It is an interdisciplinary research centre located in the School of Policy Studies. The Centre's research interests focus on defence policy, homeland security policy, and Canada's international policy. The Centre offers no courses, but welcomes the active involvement of graduate students who have complementary research interest. ([https://www.queensu.ca/cidp/](https://www.queensu.ca/cidp/))

**The School of Policy Studies**
Departmental staff occasionally contribute to the teaching program of the School of Policy Studies. During the Spring Session (April-June), the School offers seminars in public policy in which there is sometimes room for Politics students. Special enrolment permission should be sought from both the Graduate Chair and the School. ([https://www.queensu.ca/sps/](https://www.queensu.ca/sps/))

**Financial Assistance**
The department is able to offer a number of teaching assistantships, which involve assisting professors in undergraduate courses. For details, consult the Graduate Chair.