Western Michigan University’s Political Science programs prepare graduate students for careers in academia, government, policy advocacy and the non-profit sector, both in the US and around the world. We offer:

- Ph.D., M.A. and M.I.D.A. (Masters of International Development Administration) programs,
- The opportunity to gain skills in research, teaching, and/or development management,
- A strong placement record, and
- The chance to be part of a diverse community of students from around the world.

Faculty expertise is both broad and deep. Faculty are theoretically and methodologically eclectic, and have an extensive record of grants, publication, teaching, and field research. Most faculty consider working with graduate students to be among the best features of their jobs.

The Ph.D. program offers specialization in three fields: American politics, comparative politics and political theory. Research and teaching are equally emphasized. Most Ph.D. students receive assistantship funding.

The M.A. program prepares students for careers in government, the private sector and higher education (community college teaching). Students have the option of taking a field exam or writing a thesis.

The interdisciplinary M.I.D.A. program trains students to work in development management, usually in the non-profit sector or government. There are several optional concentrations within the program. Students may also choose to combine the M.I.D.A. program with service in the US Peace Corps (if US citizens).
Political Science (M.A., M.I.D.A., Ph.D.)

Teaching, Research, and Program Focus Areas
The Ph.D. and M.A. programs focus on American politics, comparative politics, and political theory. The M.I.D.A. program emphasizes development management. Faculty specializations include regulation, public policy, voting behavior, judicial politics, environmental politics, campaigns and elections, and institutions (American politics), political economy, democratization, civil society, women and politics, and ethnic politics (comparative politics), modern democratic theory, contemporary theory, political economy and the development of the discipline (political theory), political development, monitoring and evaluation, gender and development, and political ecology (international development).

Admissions
Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. If combined with application for funding (assistantships), the deadline is February 1. The GRE is required for M.A. and Ph.D. admissions. Students should submit a CV and statement of purpose along with the application, transcripts, three letters of recommendation, and exam scores (M.A. and Ph.D. only). PhD applicants should also submit two writing samples. For additional application information and materials visit the program website: wmich.edu/politics

Graduate Assistantships/Associateships
Assistantship funding is available on a competitive basis to students in all three programs. The deadline to apply is February 1.

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Western Michigan University
One of the top-100 public universities in the United States, Western Michigan University offers many nationally known graduate programs, including 29 doctoral and 64 masters degrees. More than 20 percent of its 25,000 students are enrolled in graduate course work.

Kalamazoo
With a population of more than 325,000, Kalamazoo is the sixth largest metropolitan area in Michigan and among the 150 largest in the country. Kalamazoo is rated one of the 25 best cities in the country for young college graduates, and is located midway between Chicago and Detroit.