

POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

MAJOR MAP

THE FURMAN ADVANTAGE DEVELOPS:

- ◆ IDENTITY & PURPOSE
- ◆ AGENCY & INTEGRITY
- ◆ INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY & CREATIVITY
- ◆ CIVIC & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

THE STUDY OF POLITICS BUILDS...

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: Students enrolled in Politics courses are challenged to think critically and work together during classroom simulations that mirror complex real-world political scenarios. The assignments and classroom activities challenge students to analyze, strategize, and collaboratively find solutions, enhancing their abilities to solve problems effectively. Their participation in The Justicia Project, Mock Trial, and Tocqueville programs further strengthens these skills and ensures that students are well-equipped to tackle complex challenges effectively.

Communication Skills: Students enhance their communication skills through various programs, including our annual Introduction to Political Analysis research presentations and Furman Engaged, where they present their internship insights, study away experiences, and research findings. The Senior Research Seminar also provides opportunities to present papers at the South Carolina Political Science Association's annual meeting. Student-led and faculty-guided discussions in Pizza & Politics and Tacos & Tocqueville further develop students' abilities to articulate complex ideas and engage in meaningful dialogue on diverse topics.

Teamwork/Collaboration: Students can engage in team competitions through the Mock Trial program or collaborate on initiatives like DinsVote to increase voter registration. The Justicia Project offers practical legal experience under the guidance of licensed attorney faculty. These extracurriculars complement classroom activities, where students frequently engage in group projects offering hands-on learning opportunities, providing additional avenues to work with others to achieve common goals.

Leadership/Initiative: Our partnership with The Riley Institute provides students with unique opportunities to participate in international meetings and interact with political and policy leaders. Our students gain firsthand political leadership experience through the Washington, DC internship program. The POL 406: Fieldwork in State and Local Public Affairs class also significantly contributes to this goal, offering students practical experience in public affairs and governance.

EXTRACURRICULARS:

- College Republicans
- College Democrats
- DinsVote
- MENA Club
- Mock Trial
- Muslim Students Association
- Political Thought Club
- The Justicia Project
- The Riley Institute
- Tocqueville Fellows

Majors must take four introductory courses:

- American Government
- Political Thought
- Political Analysis
- World Politics

They must also take at least **one advanced course in two subfields, four credits of engaged learning (one 400-Level POL course or two POL May X courses), and two more advanced courses.**

WE PREPARE GRADUATES TO...

- 1** Become knowledgeable in global political dynamics.
- 2** Learn about other political systems and cultures.
- 3** Develop and enhance comprehensive analytical skills.
- 4** Engage globally to contribute in international contexts.

WHERE WILL I WORK?

just a few outcomes of our recent graduates...

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- US Senate
- US House of Representatives
- US Department of Defense, Justice, and Treasury
- European Parliament
- Federal Reserve Board
- US Army / US Navy
- US Court of Appeals
- Internal Revenue Service
- China Securities Regulatory Commission (CRSC)
- Global Peace Foundation Malaysia
- Consulate General of Canada
- City of Tallahassee

JOURNALISM & MEDIA

- Hearst Television
- The Washington Post

BUSINESS & FINANCE

- Bank of America
- Cisco
- Coca-Cola Enterprises
- Deloitte
- J.P. Morgan Chase Bank
- Merrill Lynch
- Michelin
- Morgan Stanley
- Pricewaterhouse Coopers
- Wells Fargo

NGOs & NONPROFITS

- Bipartisan Policy Center
- American Enterprise Institute
- Education Trust
- Women's Rights Empowerment
- The Nature Conservancy
- United Way

WHO WE ARE

The Department of Politics and International Affairs educates students to be reflective, democratic, and global citizens. We seek to stimulate a commitment to public service and leadership, encourage an empirical understanding of politics, explore the moral values embedded in politics, and advance knowledge through teaching and research in each of the four subfields in the discipline: American Politics; Comparative Politics; International Relations; and Political Thought. The Department seeks to achieve these objectives by providing a flexible yet structured major, as well as a wide range of educational experiences that place students and their professors in the context of local, national, and international events. A Furman graduate with a major in Politics and International Affairs will be a reflective and critical thinker, an effective problem-solver, and a productive citizen.

ENGAGED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- ◆ **Local, National, and International Internships**, including Washington, DC; Edinburgh, Scotland; and Greenville, SC.
- ◆ **Study Away Programs and International Experiences**, including Study Away in China, Türkiye, Egypt, Indian Country, Europe and Latin America, along with APEC/Voices of the Future Program.
- ◆ **Community Engaged Learning**, including The Justicia Project, Welcome to Greenville Seminar, and DinsVote and interdisciplinary programs that focus on community engagement, such as Latin American and LatinX Studies.
- ◆ **Mentor Programs**, including Washington DC Alumni Mentor Program, Society of Tocqueville Fellows, Pre-Law Society, and Purposeful Pathways Years 3-4 Career Events.
- ◆ **Undergraduate Research**, including Political Analysis course, Summer Research Fellowship program, and Senior Research Seminar.

93%
OF RECENT GRADUATES
ARE EMPLOYED OR IN
CONTINUING EDUCATION

90%
participate in at
least one
internship

100%
participate in at
least one Engaged
Learning Experience

GRADUATE SCHOOLS INCLUDE:

- American University
- Boston University
- Duke University
- George Mason University
- London School of Economics
- Tulane University
- University of Colorado
- University of Connecticut
- University of Florida
- University of Georgia
- University of Michigan
- University of Tennessee
- University of Wisconsin
- Vanderbilt University
- Wake Forest University

LAW SCHOOLS INCLUDE:

- Duke University
- Emory University
- George Washington University
- Harvard University
- Loyola University Chicago
- New York University
- The Ohio State University
- University of Notre Dame
- University of South Carolina
- University of Virginia
- Washington & Lee University

At Furman, the flexibility of the political science major allowed me to learn and explore my passions. With three study abroad experiences (Norway, Brussels, and India) and a research assistant role for Dr. Oztas, I discovered my passion for politics, poverty alleviation, and economics. With this knowledge, I attended the London School of Economics for my Masters. Now at Innovations for Poverty Action in Mexico City, I am dedicated to enhancing the evidence base surrounding poverty alleviation strategies and ensuring that this evidence is effectively utilized to uplift marginalized communities.

Julia Freeman '20

MAJOR MAP

Use the major map to find ways which you can become involved with the Politics and International Affairs major.



1st and 2nd Years

3rd and 4th Years

TAKE THE COURSES YOU NEED

- ◆ POL 101
- ◆ POL 102 Declare your major, consider summer internships and research opportunities.
- ◆ POL 103
- ◆ POL 150

Take upper-level POL courses.

Take courses in relevant disciplines, including but not limited to Urban Studies, Africana Studies, Asian Studies, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

Complete the Engaged Learning requirement (internship, study away, May X).

GAIN EXPERIENCE

Join the department email list.

Attend CLPs & Riley Institute events.

Consider extracurricular programs such as Mock Trial, Pre-Law Society, The Justicia Project, Political Thought Club, DinsVote, The Riley Institute's Advance Team, and other politically affiliated groups.

Complete a political internship.

Engage with a POL mentor, such as a DC alumnus or a Tocqueville Fellow.

Conduct undergraduate research under the supervision of faculty.

Attend political campaigns or work with local government offices to gain firsthand experience in politics.

CONNECT WITH THE COMMUNITY

Participate in Pizza & Politics events, Tacos & Tocqueville gatherings, and the Tocqueville lecture series.

Enroll in the FYW Welcome to Greenville course.

Join the DinsVote initiative.

Volunteer at the National Mock Trial tournament.

Apply to join The Riley Institute's Advance Team.

Participate in service-learning projects that apply political theories to address community needs.

Present research at a political science conference or during Furman Engaged.

Secure an internship with a local organization to gain practical experience.

THINK GLOBALLY

Take courses in comparative politics and international relations.

Engage in an interdisciplinary minor relevant to your interests, such as Latin American and LatinX Studies, Africana Studies, Middle East and Islamic Studies, or Poverty Studies.

Apply to a May X program or a Study Away semester for your junior year.

Enroll in advanced courses on world politics and foreign policy.

Participate in a senior research seminar.

Attend workshops and seminars focused on global issues and intercultural communication to enhance your understanding of and interaction with diverse populations.

Consider opportunities to work or pursue further education abroad.

PREPARE FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Attend career events and alumni panels organized by the department to build connections within the discipline.

Explore pre-professional programs such as the Pre-Law Society and The Medical Legal Partnership.

Join academic clubs or societies that relate to career interests to develop skills and network with like-minded peers.

Use the university's career and internship services for resume reviews, interview preparation, and internship/job search strategies.

Discuss post-graduate plans with your academic advisor.

Research requirements and deadlines for graduate schools and fellowships.

Prepare for entrance exams like the LSAT and GRE.

Seek additional guidance by meeting with a Career Advisor from the Malone Center for Career Engagement.

Enhance your visibility to potential employers by developing a professional online presence.

Join a Paladin Career Trek to explore career opportunities.

Attend law school visits organized by the Pre-Law Society.

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