POLI SCI

MASTERS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE CO-OP

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Simon Fraser University took the top spot in the comprehensive university category for the 11th time in the past 12 years in 2019's Maclean's rankings.

SFU political science master's and doctoral programs provide rigorous training across the various political science subfields and excellent job placement possibilities.

With diverse research interests and strong links across Canada and internationally, our award-winning faculty members open the door to an active research community to graduate students. Additionally, our commitment to teaching and small student-to-faculty ratios, ensuring you get the mentorship and guidance necessary for success.

SECTORS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST

Students who are enrolled in the Masters of Arts in Political Science program are open to various kinds of work involving research, data analysis, strategic thinking, policy analysis and risk and strategy assessment. Some of the industries that match best with our students' interests often come from:

Federal and Provincial Government

Big Data Analysis (especially social data analytics)

Behavioural Insights

Environment and Natural Resources

Transportation and Energy Sectors

Political communication

Civil Society Organizations (esp. those related to immigration, women, and the environment)

Diplomacy, National and International Security, and Defence Sectors

Data-Driven Policy Research and Analysis

Research for Advocacy groups and Not for Profits, Non-governmental organizations

MA Political Science Students Can Assist in these Areas:

Elections

Interviews, participant observation, focus groups, and documentary analysis

Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis

Data and Statistical Analysis

Using statistical packages like R, STATA, Excel

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STUDENT SKILLS PROFILE

MA Political Science students have varied skill-sets and experience in the following:

Problem-based research and analysis

Qualitative and quantitative research and analysis

Designing studies and implementing qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods

Econometrics

Big Data

Understanding the importance of causal inference and observational data in data analysis

Survey design and analysis

Issues and comparative analysis

Capacity to work in teams or independently on projects

Political Economy

Practical engagement experience in diplomatic and security-based decision-making

Policy Analysis Techniques

Statistics

Professional presentations and written communications; written communication includes policy briefs, memos, research summaries, reports, literature reviews, environment scans and position papers

Writing research and policy briefs

Writing research papers, white papers, briefing documents or other background or working docs

EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH AREAS

Climate Change

Democratic governance (Participation and Representation)

Diversity and Immigration

Education

Gender and Equity

Governance

Intergovernmental Affairs

International Security/Peace and Conflict Resolution

International Development

Social movements and civil society

Technology and Innovation

Transportation