ANU is the first and only university in Australia to offer a Master of Political Science. This program provides cutting edge research training with a focus on contemporary politics of Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Why study with us?

ANU is ranked #1 in Australia and #8 in the world for Politics and International Studies, according to 2018 QS World University Rankings, placing us between Yale and the University of California, Berkeley. Political science deals with the scientific study of political behaviour. It applies advanced social science research methods to further understanding of a wide range of political phenomena from election forecasting to ethnic conflict. This program provides training in political science research methods in addition to courses on the contemporary politics of Australia, Asia, and the world.

Situated in the nation’s capital, Canberra, the Master of Political Science provides you with unrivalled access to professional and academic specialists, along with the opportunity to meet and learn from policymakers.

ANU is undoubtedly among the best places in the world to study political science.

Where can it take you?

Graduates of the Master of Political Science will be able to pursue a wide range of careers in government, international organisations, NGOs and private bodies. This program is also an ideal option for those considering furthering their studies with a Doctorate Degree.

Who should study Political Science?

Students from a wide range of backgrounds, including those without a prior background in social science, are all encouraged to apply. Curiosity about how the political world works and a willingness to engage with different approaches to understanding it are the key characteristics for success in this program.

If you want to explain the behaviour of populists like Donald Trump; the persecution of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar; know why Catalonia is considering secession, or why some countries are more democratic, more developed, more equal or more diverse than others, this program is for you.

Enquiries

If you would like to know more about this degree email our program administrator.
E: mplsc.admin@anu.edu.au.
**Admission Requirements**

- A Bachelor Degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA 5/7
- Up to 24 units of credit is available for applicants with a Bachelor Degree or Graduate Certificate in a cognate discipline
- Up to 48 units of credit is available for applicants with a Graduate Diploma or Honours in a cognate discipline
- All applicants must meet the University’s English Language Admission Requirements for Students

**Key Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion you will have the skills and knowledge to:

- Critically evaluate key theories in political science
- Interpret and utilise relevant political science methods
- Critically analyse evidence-based research and policy across a range of political issues
- Use theories and methods from political science to explain contemporary political affairs in Australia, Asia and globally
- Conduct high-level research to undertake self-directed study in political science
- Communicate research findings at a level appropriate for academic and policy audiences

**2019 Indicative Fees**

Annual indicative fee for international students – $43,680
Annual indicative fee for domestic students – $30,720

**Structure**

The Master of Political Science consists of 96 units which must comprise of:

### 24 units from the following compulsory introductory graduate courses:

- Democracy and its Discontents
- Comparative Political Behaviour
- Comparative Political Institutions
- Violence and Political Order

### 24 units from Political Methodology courses:

12 units from:

- Research Training: Scope and Methods (12 units)

A minimum of 6 units from:

- Qualitative Research in Politics (6 or 12 unit)

And a maximum of 6 units from:

- Interpretation, Method, Critique: Interpretivist Methods in the Social Sciences
- Survey Data Analysis
- Online Research Methods
- Using Data to Answer Policy Questions and Evaluate Policy
- Advanced Techniques in the Creation of Social Science Data
- Introduction to Bayesian Data Analysis
- Big Data Statistics
- Graphical Data Analysis
- Applied Time Series Analysis
- Introduction to Linear Models
- Statistical Inference

A minimum of 24 units from the following list:

- Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism
- Globalisation: The Interaction of Economics and Politics
- Human Rights and Human Responsibility
- Comparative Federalism
- Special Topics in Comparative Politics
- Ethnicity and Conflict in Asia and the Pacific
- Politics of Islam in Southeast Asia
- Politics of the Pacific Island Regions
- Insurgency and Counterinsurgency in an Age of Terror
- Islam and Democracy
- Interest Groups, Advocacy and Public Policy

24 units at the 6000-, 7000-, 8000-, or 9000-level.
Overview
In addition to coursework you will also complete a substantial original thesis as evidence of your mastery of the subject. One of our internationally recognised research scholars will personally supervise you through this research.

These skills open the pathway to further study and to research-oriented careers in both the public and private sectors.

Admission Requirements
> A Bachelor Degree or international equivalent with a grade point average of at least 6/7
> Up to 24 units of credit is available for applicants with a Bachelor Degree or Graduate Certificate in a cognate discipline
> Up to 48 units of credit is available for applicants with a Graduate Diploma or Honours in a cognate discipline

Key Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion you will have the skills and knowledge to:
> Critically evaluate key theories in political science
> Interpret and utilise relevant political science methods
> Critically analyse evidence-based research and policy across a range of political issues
> Use theories and methods from political science to explain contemporary political affairs in Australia, Asia and globally
> Conduct high-level research to undertake self-directed study in political science
> Communicate research findings at a level appropriate for academic and policy audiences
> Produce a substantial theoretically and empirically informed written project based on original independent research

2019 Indicative Fees
Annual indicative fee for international students – $43,680
Annual indicative fee for domestic students – $30,720

Structure
The Master of Political Science (Advanced) consists of 96 units which must comprise of:

24 units from the following compulsory introductory graduate courses:
> Democracy and its Discontents
> Comparative Political Behaviour
> Comparative Political Institutions
> Violence and Political Order

24 units from Political Methodology courses:
12 units from:
> Research Training: Scope and Methods (12 units)
And minimum of 6 units from:
> Qualitative Research in Politics (6 or 12 unit course)
And a maximum of 6 units from:
> Interpretation, Method, Critique: Interpretivist Methods in the Social Sciences
> Survey Data Analysis
> Online Research Methods
> Using Data to Answer Policy Questions and Evaluate Policy
> Advanced Techniques in the Creation of Social Science Data
> Introduction to Bayesian Data Analysis
> Big Data Statistics
> Graphical Data Analysis
> Applied Time Series Analysis
> Introduction to Linear Models
> Statistical Inference

A minimum of 24 units from the following list:
> Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism
> Globalisation: The Interaction of Economics and Politics
> Human Rights and Human Responsibility
> Comparative Federalism
> Special Topics in Comparative Politics
> Ethnicity and Conflict in Asia and the Pacific
> Politics of Islam in Southeast Asia
> Politics of the Pacific Island Regions
> Insurgency and Counterinsurgency in an Age of Terror
> Islam and Democracy
> Interest Groups, Advocacy and Public Policy

24 units from the following:
> Thesis
"ANU is one of the world’s leading universities in research and teaching on politics. Our faculty is derived from research centres across the University - offering students unrivalled expertise on the contemporary politics of Australia and the Asia-Pacific region."

Dr Paul Kenny
Head
Department of Political & Social Change

Dr Edward Aspinall
Program Convenor
Edward specialises in Indonesian national politics, Southeast Asian politics, democratisation, social movements, nationalism, ethnic conflict, patronage and clientelism.

Dr Katrin Travouillon
Visiting Fellow
Katrin’s research concentrates on the implementation of peace building and state building policies. She has a strong regional focus on Southeast Asia and specialises in Cambodian politics of the 20th and 21st century.

Professor Patrick Dumont
Professor
Patrick’s research focus is on political elites, Executive-legislative relations, parties and party systems, Coalition Theory and elections. He is also the co-editor of the Routledge Research on Social and Political Elites book series.

Dr Matthew Kerby
Senior Lecturer
Matthew’s areas of expertise are comparative government and politics. His other research interests are political elites, Westminster Parliamentary Systems, ministerial careers and Canadian politics and Irish politics.

Dr Woo Chang Kang
Lecturer
Woo explores the long-term effects of historical events on voting behaviours and public opinions in contemporary politics. His research appears in journals such as Electoral Studies, the Journal of East Asian Studies and the Journal of Party Studies.

Dr Matthew Kerby
Senior Lecturer
Matthew’s areas of expertise are comparative government and politics. His other research interests are political elites, Westminster Parliamentary Systems, ministerial careers and Canadian politics and Irish politics.

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Choose your degree
The Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs offers world-class programs. You can find out more by visiting our online guide (bellschool.anu.edu.au/study), connecting with us at our events, or emailing the relevant program administrator.

Make sure you meet the requirements
For most of our programs we consider all academic qualifications when assessing your application. If you are concerned about getting the result you need to enter your preferred program, there may be special entry pathways that you can consider. Find out more at anu.edu.au/study or email the relevant program administrator.

Apply
Domestic students should submit applications through the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) at uac.edu.au
For international students, ANU has an extensive network of official agent representatives in more than 50 countries. Agents can help you with your enquiries and all aspects of your application. Find out more at anu.edu.au/study/apply/anu-postgraduate-coursework-international-applications. Alternatively, you can submit your application directly to ANU at anu.edu.au/study/apply

Accept your offer and enrol
Once you receive your offer, accept online at anu.edu.au/study/accept. We look forward to having you here!