We are an unusual department, a department that has resisted the trend pushing political science research away from questions that are relevant to citizens and political actors. Though we are particularly strong in the humanistic and qualitative approaches to politics, we celebrate methodological diversity. Twenty-five full time faculty members (both senior and junior) teach in the department. We are also fortunate to have colleagues in a variety of other research and practice positions. This results in a considerable range in subject matter and academic approach. What unites our nationally renowned faculty is the recognition of the primacy of political problems and the conviction that these problems should determine the methodology that is appropriate in each case.

The master’s and doctoral programs are flexible as to fields of study and courses. In addition to the wide range of courses offered within the department, students have the opportunity to take courses in other fields at Boston College as well as at the other institutions that make up the Boston Area Consortium. Students are invited to study any of the four traditional fields of political science: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Politics and Political Theory.

The small size of the program—about five to six students are admitted to the doctoral program each year—allows for personal attention and close contact with the faculty. Informal colloquia and more formal presentations supplement the regular order of scholarly exchange; advanced students have an opportunity to teach under faculty supervision. While our primary focus is on the education of our students, we pay a great deal of attention to their professional development, preparing them for the academic and non-academic job markets. Most of our students are given the opportunity to teach their own classes, and all receive advice and instruction on publishing their work.

Many of the graduate courses are seminars in which a considerable amount of responsibility is placed upon the student to analyze readings, prepare written and oral presentations, and guide class discussions. These are experiences we encourage generally in our courses, but the seminar, with 15 or so students, is ideally suited to this purpose. The classes are small, which fosters not only conversation, but also close associations among students and faculty. The atmosphere is informal and collegial: both graduate students and faculty display an unusual blend of practical and philosophical concerns within a tradition of friendly but serious debate and scholarly exchange.

For more information about the Boston College Department of Political Science, please visit us at bc.edu/politicalscience.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Ph.D. Program

REQUIREMENTS

Coursework

Students entering the program with no previous graduate work are required to complete at least 14 courses (42 credits). Students entering the program with an applicable master’s degree are required to complete at least 10 courses (30 credits). The precise number of courses required of master’s degree holders will depend mainly on how well their previous work corresponds to our requirements.

The department’s course offerings are organized into four fields: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Politics and Political Theory. These fields are organized into sub-fields (listed below). Students choose one field as their major area of concentration and one as their minor field. Students may also choose to have a second minor. A major consists of eight courses within a particular field, with preparation in at least three sub-fields. A first minor consists of four courses, and a second minor consists of two courses in fields other than the major field.

Students are required to take two additional courses; these may be distributed however the student chooses, and may even be taken in another department or an interdepartmental program.

American Politics

- National Political Institutions
- Parties and Elections, Interest Groups, Social Movements
- Political Economy, Public Policy and Administration
- American Foreign Policy
- Constitutional Law
- American Political Thought
- State and Urban Politics

Comparative Politics

- Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method
- Themes in Comparative Politics (the state, political economy, religion and politics, regime types and regime change, social movements)
- Comparative Area Studies

Students may choose to specialize in a particular region or to focus on a thematic approach. They are expected, however, to demonstrate some substantial competence in both approaches to Comparative Politics.

International Politics

- The International System
- International Political Economy
- Comparative Foreign Policy
- Theories of International Politics
- International Security

Political Theory

- Ancient and Medieval Theory
- Early Modern Theory: Machiavelli to Montesquieu
- Late Modern Theory: Rousseau to Nietzsche
- Contemporary Theory
- American Political Thought

In both the major and minor fields, considerable discretion will be left to students as to the choice of courses, but students may be held accountable on comprehensive exams for a core body of knowledge in the field as well as for their own individual coursework.

FIRST-YEAR REVIEW

Each student’s performance is reviewed by the Graduate Committee during the second semester of their first year. The department requires a minimum GPA of 3.5 for Ph.D. students.

SECOND-YEAR REVIEW

After three semesters of coursework each Ph.D. student submits a “Statement of Academic Interests,” which assists in assessing the student’s suitability for continued pursuit of the doctorate. Since this assessment involves a comprehensive review of the student’s performance in the program, the student will also be asked to meet with the faculty members of the department’s Graduate Committee to review their progress.
GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS
The Department of Political Science offers graduate assistantships to all doctoral students in good standing. Students function as either research assistants or teaching assistants within the department and receive a competitive stipend in exchange for their service.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT
All Ph.D. students must demonstrate proficiency in one foreign language. The language requirement must be satisfied prior to the comprehensive examination. The language examination is arranged by the department.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS
After completing their course and language requirements, Ph.D. students take written comprehensive examinations in their major and minor fields. The comprehensive examinations are followed by an oral examination.

Students who enter the doctoral program with a master’s degree must take the comprehensive exams by the end of their fifth semester; those entering without a master’s degree must do so by the end of their sixth semester.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION
Dissertation Committee
After completing the comprehensive examinations, the student is expected to assemble a committee of faculty to direct his or her dissertation, with one of these faculty members agreeing to chair the committee, thus taking on principal responsibility for directing the dissertation.

Dissertation Proposal
The doctoral student is expected to submit a dissertation proposal to the committee within six months of passing the comprehensive examinations. Proposals vary in length according to the nature of the study. The proposal should state the purpose of the research, its relation to major work done on the subject, the approach or methods that will be used, sources of information or data and any hypotheses to be tested. The proposal must be approved by the dissertation committee before a student may proceed with work on the dissertation.

Dissertation Seminar
Students in the writing stage, and in residence, are expected to participate in the Dissertation Seminar I and II. The seminars provide students with an opportunity to present work at various stages of completion.

Dissertation Defense
After the dissertation has been completed and approved by the dissertation committee for presentation, the candidate will present a public defense. This consists of a lecture, not to exceed one half-hour in length, in which the candidate states the chief findings of the dissertation. This is followed by questions from the dissertation committee and from other members of the University community who are present.

M.A. Program
REQUIREMENTS
The M.A. in political science is a two-year program. Students are required to take 10 courses (30 credits), with at least one course taken in three of the four fields of political science: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Politics and Political Theory. If a student chooses to write a thesis, eight subfield courses and two semesters of Thesis Seminar are required, and the written comprehensive examination is waived. A student is allowed to take two or, with permission, three courses in other departments. The passing of a comprehensive examination completes the requirements of the program. In lieu of a thesis or a comprehensive exam, students also have the option of taking Advanced Directive Study (ADS) with a supervising faculty member. ADS is a focused final paper project that is based on a paper that a student has already written in a seminar.
## FACULTY PROFILES

### KATHLEEN BAILEY  
**Associate Professor of the Practice**  
**Ph.D., Boston College**  

**Research Interests**  
- Central Asian politics  
- Russian politics  
- Women in the Middle East  
- Politics in the Middle East  

**Selected Publications**  

### NASSER BEHNEGAR  
**Associate Professor**  
**Ph.D., University of Chicago**  

**Research Interests**  
- Early modern and contemporary political theory  
- American political thought  
- Politics and literature  

**Selected Publications**  
- "John Locke and the Sober Spirit of Capitalism.**  

### PAUL CHRISTENSEN  
**Associate Professor of the Practice**  
**Ph.D., Princeton University**  

**Research Interests**  
- Russian politics  
- Social movements  
- Globalization  

**Selected Publications**  

### TIMOTHY W. CRAWFORD  
**Associate Professor**  
**Ph.D., Columbia University**  

**Research Interests**  
- International relations theory  
- International security  
- U.S. foreign policy  
- United Nations  

**Selected Publications**  
- "The Strategic Consequences of Alliance Discord." *Journal of Strategic Studies* 36(1) (February 2013): 152-76.  
**FACULTY PROFILES**

**DAVID A. DEESE**
Professor  
Ph.D., Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**  
- International political economy  
- International institutions, public and private  
- U.S. foreign policy

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**  

**DAVID M. DIPASQUALE**
Assistant Professor of the Practice  
Ph.D., Harvard University

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**  
- Islamic political thought  
- Medieval Islamic, Jewish and Christian philosophy  
- Alfarabi  
- Transmission of Greek science to the Muslim world  
- Islam and the west

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**  

**GERALD M. EASTER**
Professor  
Ph.D., Columbia University

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**  
- Russian politics  
- Eastern Europe  
- Modern state  
- Ethnonationalism  
- Post-communist transitions

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**  
- [Davis Prize for Best Book in Social Science in Eastern European/Russian Studies (2013) and Hewett Prize for Best Book in Political Economy in East European/Russian Studies (2013)]  


**JENNIFER L. ERICKSON**
White Family Sesquicentennial Assistant Professor  
Ph.D., Cornell University

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**  
- International relations theory  
- Global governance  
- International security and arms control  
- EU foreign affairs

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**  

**ROBERT K. FAULKNER**
Research Professor  
Ph.D., University of Chicago

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**  
- Early modern political philosophy  
- American political and legal thought  
- Liberalism

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**  

**DENNIS HALE**
Associate Professor  
Ph.D., City University of New York

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**  
- American political thought  
- Law and politics  
- State and local politics
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

lauren e. honig
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Cornell University

RESEARCH INTERESTS:
• Comparative politics
• Political economy of development
• State-building
• Property rights institutions
• Natural resource governance

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:
• Land, State-Building, and Political Authority in Africa (in progress).

michael t. hartney
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of Notre Dame

RESEARCH INTERESTS
• Education politics and policy
• State and local government
• Policy process and analysis
• Interest groups

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

kenji hayao
Associate Professor
Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

RESEARCH INTERESTS
• Japanese politics
• Political leadership

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

christopher j. kelly
Professor
Ph.D., University of Toronto

RESEARCH INTERESTS
• Rousseau
• 18th-century political philosophy

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
Faculty Profiles

**Marc Landy**
Professor
Ph.D., Harvard University

**Research Interests**
- U.S. presidency
- Federalism
- Comparative federalism
- Environmental regulation

**Selected Publications**
- "Terror and the Executive." *National Affairs* (Spring 2010).

**Ken I. Kersch**
Professor
J.D., Northwestern University; Ph.D., Cornell University

**Research Interests**
- American political and constitutional development
- American political thought
- Politics of courts

**Selected Publications**

**Peter Krause**
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Research Interests**
- International security
- Middle East politics
- Political violence
- National movements

**Selected Publications**
- Co-author with E. Bellin, "Intervention in Syria: Reconciling Moral Premises and Realistic Outcomes." *Middle East Brief* 64 (June 2012).

**Jonathan Laurence**
Professor
Ph.D., Harvard University

**Research Interests**
- Western European politics
- North African politics
- Turkish politics

**Selected Publications**
- "Muslims and Social Democrats." *Disent* (Fall 2013).

**R. Shep Melnick**
Thomas P. O'Neill Professor of American Politics
Ph.D., Harvard University

**Research Interests**
- Courts
- Public policy
- Civil rights
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

LINDSEY A. O’ROURKE
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of Chicago

RESEARCH INTERESTS
- American foreign policy
- International security

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

JENNIE PURNELL
Associate Professor
Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology

RESEARCH INTERESTS
- Social movements
- State formation
- Latin American politics

ROBERT S. ROSS
Professor
Ph.D., Columbia University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
- Sino-American relations
- East Asian security

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

KAY L. SCHLOZMAN
J. Joseph Moakley Professor
Ph.D., University of Chicago

RESEARCH INTERESTS
- Citizen politics
- Political parties and elections
- Interest groups

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

SUSAN SHELL
Professor
Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
- Modern political theory and German idealism
- Kant
- Hegel
- Nietzsche
- Heidegger

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
FACULTY PROFILES

PETER SKERRY
Professor
Ph.D., Harvard University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
- Immigration policy
- Racial, ethnic and religious pluralism
- Muslims in American society and politics

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
- “The Muslim-American Muddle.” National Affairs (Fall 2011).
- “Immigration and Social Disorder.” In Uniting America: Restoring the Vital Center to American Democracy, eds. N. Garfinkle and D. Yankelovich. Yale University Press, 2006.

PAUL T. WILFORD
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Tulane University

RESEARCH INTERESTS
- Hegel
- 19th-century political philosophy
- Philosophy of history
- French Revolution

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

COURSES

The combined and varied interests of the faculty, as indicated in the faculty profiles, ensure that the department offers a wide range of graduate course electives. While the number and content of the graduate electives varies from year to year, the following courses are illustrative of the range offered.

Fall 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American National Institutions</td>
<td>Melnick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muslims in American Society and Politics</td>
<td>Skerry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sex and the State</td>
<td>Purnell</td>
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<td>East Asian Security</td>
<td>Ross</td>
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<td>International Relations of the Middle East</td>
<td>Krause</td>
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<tr>
<td>Power Transitions in Theory and Practice</td>
<td>Ross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion in International Politics</td>
<td>Laurence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Revolution in Comparative Perspective</td>
<td>Easter</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Political Economy of Development</td>
<td>Honig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar: Current Issues in U.S. Foreign Policy</td>
<td>O’Rourke</td>
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<td>Kant’s Politics</td>
<td>Shell</td>
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<td>The Political Philosophy of Rousseau</td>
<td>Kelly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar: The Political Philosophy of John Locke</td>
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Spring 2018

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immigration: Process, Politics and Policies</td>
<td>Skerry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Politics</td>
<td>Easter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Models in Political Science</td>
<td>Hayao</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Political Philosophy of Alfarabi</td>
<td>DiPasquale</td>
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<td>American Political Development I</td>
<td>Landy</td>
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<td>Politics and Society in the Middle East</td>
<td>Banuazizi</td>
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<td>International Relations Field Seminar</td>
<td>Erickson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Public Goods and Cooperation in International Politics</td>
<td>Deese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Political Theory</td>
<td>Wilford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Seminar in Political Philosophy</td>
<td>Kelly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aristotle’s Politics</td>
<td>Bartlett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OUTCOMES

Recent Dissertations

Matthew Berry, “Law, Justice, and Equity in Aristotle’s Nicomachean Ethics”

Shilo Shadid Brooks, “The Cultural Crisis of Modernity and its Remedy According to Nietzsche”

Brendan Bucy, “Robust Citizenship and Democracy: A Study of Pericles’ Athens”

Gregory Burnep, “The War on Terror and the Separation of Powers Tug-of-War”


Rebecca Clark, “Montesquieu on the Geography and History of Political Liberty”

Thomas Cleveland, “The Accounts of the Origin of Law in Plato’s Laws”

Allison D’Orazio, “The Psychology of Athenian Imperialism”


Yuxing Huang, “Asymmetric Statecraft: Alliances, Competitors, and Regional Diplomacy in Asia and Europe”

Christopher Lauriello, “Church and State in Dante Alighieri’s Monarchia”

Timothy Lehmann, “Montesquieu and Rousseau on the Passions and Politics”

Yael Levin, “Peirce’s Conservative Progressivism”

William Mayborn, “Ever Vigilant: Chinese Perceptions of Adversarial Alliances”

Maria McCollester, “Executive Power in Unlikely Places: The Presidency and America’s Public Lands”

Elisa Molles, “Identity Politics in Local Markets: Comparing Immigrant Integration Outcomes in the ‘New’ Europe”

Kerem Oge, “Transparency Promotion in Resource-Rich Countries: External Remedies to Reverse the Curse in the Caspian”

Dustin Sebell, “The Foundations and Methods of Classical Political Science”

Nicholas Starn, “From Self-Interest to Virtue: On the Moral Imagination in Rousseau’s Emile”

Adam Thomas, “The Eternal Law in Augustine’s Early Investigation of Justice”

Gary Winslett, “Competitiveness and Death: Trade and Politics in Cars, Beef, and Drugs”

Recent Placements

The department makes vigorous efforts to find suitable positions for its graduate students. Happily, we have been quite successful. Recent Ph.D. students from the department have received tenured or tenure-track jobs at the following institutions:

College of the Holy Cross
Emory University
Kenyon College
Marquette University
Michigan State University
Ohio University
St. John’s College, Santa Fe
St. John’s College, Annapolis
Tsinghua University (China)

University of Houston
University of Notre Dame
University of Texas, Austin
University of Virginia
University of Wales Trinity Saint David

Postdoctoral Placements

Recent graduates have received postdoctoral fellowships at the following institutions:

Boston College
Emory University
European University Institute
Furman University
Harvard University
McGill University
Northern Illinois University
University of Colorado
University of Virginia
The oldest and largest of the University’s eight schools and colleges, the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences offers graduate programs in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, leading to the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Arts and Master of Science. In addition, numerous dual-degree options are offered in cooperation with the Carroll School of Management, the Boston College Law School, the Lynch School of Education and the Graduate School of Social Work.

With approximately 1,000 students and 400 full-time faculty, the Graduate School is small enough to know you as a person, but large enough to serve you and prepare you for a rewarding life and satisfying career.

Academic Resources

PLACEMENT PROGRAM
The Department of Political Science takes an active role in helping students find attractive academic positions. The department’s placement program is directed by Professor Robert Bartlett. A key component of the program is the annual employment seminar, in which young faculty discuss their searches and distribute written suggestions and hints. In addition, the director and other faculty review each student’s resume and other documents pertaining to the job application process. Finally, the faculty who have worked most closely with a student are responsible for writing and calling on his or her behalf.

BOSTON AREA CONSORTIUM
The Boston Area Consortium allows graduate students to cross-register for courses at Boston University, Brandeis University and Tufts University.

BOSTON COLLEGE LIBRARIES
The University is home to eight libraries, containing 2.95 million volumes; more than 700 manuscript collections, including music, photos, art and artifacts; 625,000 e-books; and more than 600 electronic databases. O’Neill Library, Boston College’s main library, offers subject-specialist librarians to help with research, to set up alerts to publications in areas of interest and to answer any research- and library-related questions.

THE BOSTON LIBRARY CONSORTIUM
The Boston Library Consortium allows Boston College students access to millions of volumes and other services at 19 area institutions in addition to the world-class resources available through the Boston College Library System.

THE GRADUATE CONSORTIUM IN WOMEN’S STUDIES
The Graduate Consortium in Women’s Studies (GCWS) brings together scholars and teachers at nine degree-granting institutions in the Boston area: Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Simmons College, Tufts University and the University of Massachusetts Boston. The GCWS is devoted to graduate teaching and research in Women’s Studies and to advancing interdisciplinary Women’s Studies scholarship. Students can engage in the community and cross-disciplinary study promoted by the GCWS in myriad ways. Through courses, attending events and organizing conferences, these initiatives provide a learning environment unlike any other.
Boston College is located on the edge of one of the world’s most vibrant cities. Just six miles from downtown Boston—an exciting and dynamic place to live and learn—Boston College is an easy car or “T” ride away from a booming center for trade, finance, research and education.

Home to some of New England’s most prestigious cultural landmarks, including the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston Symphony Hall and the Freedom Trail, Boston provides a rich environment for those passionate about art, music and history. For sports fans, Boston hosts a number of the country’s greatest sports teams: the Celtics, Patriots, Bruins and, of course, Fenway Park’s beloved Red Sox. Found within a short drive from Boston are some of New England’s best recreational sites, from the excellent skiing in New Hampshire to the pristine beaches of Cape Cod.

Boston also offers a wide range of family friendly attractions, including the Children’s Museum, New England Aquarium, Franklin Park Zoo and the Museum of Science. There are roughly 50 universities located in the Boston area, and the large student population adds to the city’s intellectually rich and diverse community. Events, lectures and reading groups hosted by world-renowned scholars abound on area campuses, providing abundant opportunities to meet and network with other graduate students and faculty throughout the Boston area.

The University

Boston College is a Jesuit university with 14,250 students, 805 full-time faculty and more than 175,000 active alumni. Since its founding in 1863, the University has known extraordinary growth and change. From its beginnings as a small Jesuit college intended to provide higher education for Boston’s largely immigrant Catholic population, Boston College has grown into a national institution of higher learning that is consistently ranked among the top universities in the nation: Boston College is ranked 31st among national universities by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Today, Boston College attracts scholars from all 50 states and over 80 countries, and confers more than 4,000 degrees annually in more than 50 fields through its eight schools and colleges. Its faculty members are committed to both teaching and research and have set new marks for research grants in each of the last 10 years. The University is committed to academic excellence. As part of its most recent strategic plan, Boston College is in the process of adding 100 new faculty positions, expanding faculty and graduate research, increasing student financial aid and widening opportunities in key undergraduate and graduate programs.

The University is comprised of the following colleges and schools: Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, Carroll School of Management, Connell School of Nursing, Lynch School of Education, Woods College of Advancing Studies, Boston College Law School, Graduate School of Social Work and School of Theology and Ministry.

General Resources

**HOUSING**

While on-campus housing is not available for graduate students, most choose to live in nearby apartments. The Office of Residential Life maintains an extensive database with available rental listings, roommates and helpful local real estate agents. The best time to look for fall semester housing is June through the end of August. For spring semester housing, the best time to look is late November through the beginning of the second semester. Additionally, some graduate students may live on campus as resident assistants. Interested students should contact the Office of Residential Life.
STUDENT LIFE & CAMPUS RESOURCES

JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY, S.J., GRADUATE STUDENT CENTER
One of only a handful of graduate student centers around the country, the Murray Graduate Student Center is dedicated to the support and enrichment of graduate student life at Boston College. Its primary purpose is to build a sense of community among the entire graduate student population and cultivate a sense of belonging to the University as a whole. Its amenities include study rooms, a computer lab, two smart televisions, kitchen, deck and patio space, complimentary coffee and tea, and more. Throughout the year, the center hosts programs organized by the Office of Graduate Student Life and graduate student groups. The Murray Graduate Student Center also maintains an active job board (available electronically), listing academic and non-academic opportunities for employment both on and off campus.

MCMULLEN MUSEUM OF ART
Serving as a dynamic educational resource for the national and international community, the McMullen Museum of Art showcases interdisciplinary exhibitions that ask innovative questions and break new ground in the display and scholarship of the works on view. The McMullen regularly offers exhibition-related programs, including musical and theatrical performances, films, gallery talks, symposia, lectures, readings and receptions that draw students, faculty, alumni and friends together for stimulating dialogue. Located on the main campus, the McMullen Museum is free to all visitors.

CONNORS FAMILY LEARNING CENTER
Working closely with the Graduate School, the Connors Family Learning Center sponsors seminars, workshops and discussions for graduate teaching assistants and teaching fellows on strategies for improving teaching effectiveness and student learning. Each fall, the Learning Center and the Graduate School hold a one-and-a-half day "Fall Teaching Orientation" workshop designed to help students prepare for teaching. The center also hosts ongoing seminars on college teaching, higher learning and academic life; assists graduate students in developing teaching portfolios; and provides class visits and teaching consultations, upon request. Through these and other activities, the Connors Family Learning Center plays an important role in enhancing the quality of academic life at Boston College.

FLYNN RECREATION COMPLEX
The 144,000-square-foot Flynn Recreation Complex houses a running track; tennis, basketball, volleyball, squash and racquetball courts; an aquatics center with pool and dive well; saunas and more. Its 10,000-square-foot Fitness Center offers more than 100 pieces of cardio equipment, a full complement of strength training equipment and free weights, an air-conditioned spin studio and three air-conditioned group fitness studios. During the academic year, BC Rec holds more than 80 group fitness classes per week in a variety of disciplines, including Zumba, spin, yoga, strength training, Pilates and more.

BOSTON COLLEGE CAREER CENTER
The Boston College Career Center works with graduate students at each step of their career development. Services include self-assessment, career counseling, various career development workshops, resume and cover letter critiques, and practice interviews. In addition to extensive workshop offerings, Career Center staff members are available throughout the year for one-on-one advising about any aspect of the career path. The Career Resource Library offers a wealth of resources, including books, periodicals and online databases.
ADMISSION & FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The application deadline for fall admission is January 2 for the Ph.D. program and February 1 for the M.A. program. Please visit bc.edu/gsas for detailed information on how to apply.

Application requirements Include:

- **Application Form:** Submitted online, via the GSAS website.
- **Application Fee:** $75, non-refundable.
- **Abstract of Courses Form:** A concise overview of background and related courses completed in an intended field or proposed area of study.
- **Official Transcripts:** Demonstrating coursework completed/degree conferral from all post-secondary institutions attended.
- **GRE General Test:** Official score report required for all applicants.
- **Three Letters of Recommendation:** From professors or supervisors. It is highly advisable that at least one letter be from an academic source.
- **Statement of Purpose:** A brief (1-2 page) discussion of an applicant’s preparation, motivation and goals for their proposed course of study.
- **Writing Sample:** A sample of an applicant’s best work (usually a course paper or equivalent) related to their proposed field of study.
- **Proof of English Proficiency:** Official TOEFL/IELTS reports accepted (International only)

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Financial Assistance

**DEPARTMENT FUNDING**

The Department of Political Science offers financial assistance to all doctoral students in good standing. Students function as either research assistants or teaching assistants within the department and receive a competitive stipend in exchange for their service. In addition, doctoral students receive full-tuition scholarships for all coursework relative to their program. These awards are renewable for up to five years, contingent upon satisfactory academic performance and progress toward the degree as well as satisfactory performance in teaching as evaluated by the faculty.

Each year the department awards the Thomas P. O’Neill Fellowship to an incoming Ph.D. student in American Politics. This fellowship carries a competitive stipend and a full-tuition scholarship. The award entails some assistance to the O’Neill Professor or other activity related to the O’Neill Program. An endowed chair was established in 1981 to honor the former Speaker of the House of Representatives, Thomas P. O’Neill, Jr. ’36.

**FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID**

Graduate students can apply for federal financial aid using the FAFSA. The loans that may be available to graduate students are the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and Perkins Loan, based on eligibility. If additional funds are needed, student may apply for a Grad Plus Loan. For more information, see the Graduate Financial Aid website at bc.edu/gradaid or contact the Graduate Financial Aid Office at 617-552-3300 or 800-294-0294.

**OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS**

The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) assists both faculty and graduate students in finding sources of external funding for their projects and provides advice in the development of proposals. OSP maintains a reference library of publications from both the public and private sectors listing funding sources for sponsored projects. In the recent past, graduate students have received research support from prominent agencies, corporations and organizations such as the Fulbright Commission, the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the American Political Science Association, the American Chemical Society and the American Association of University Women.