Students can choose among three options for their B.A.:

+ **B.A. (General):**
  Covers American politics, comparative politics, international relations, and political thought and allows students flexibility to choose classes that reflect their particular interests.

+ **B.A. (With a Concentration in International Affairs):**
  Permits students to study politics in various parts of the world; political processes like economic development, revolution and democratization; and the variety of interactions among countries, from trade to diplomacy to various forms of warfare.

+ **B.A. (With a Concentration in Public Law):**
  Focuses attention on law and courts and the relationship of both to larger issues of justice, social change and democracy.

The department offers a wide variety of internships that permit students to gain professional experience working with elected officials, organizations that serve immigrants or disadvantaged communities, law firms, nonprofit organizations, education, law, journalism, diplomacy, survey research and fields related to the promotion of social justice.

At SLU, students can study the politics of most areas of the world as well as issues of global security and economic development. They can augment their study of politics with work in a variety of distinctive interdisciplinary programs, including programs devoted to area studies (Asia, Russia and East Europe, Latin America), global and local social justice, foreign service, political journalism, African American studies, gender studies and more.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:
+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAM?

+ Undergraduates can start taking graduate classes before they earn their B.A. and quickly finish an M.A. as part of our accelerated M.A. program.
+ Our unique location in the heart of St. Louis opens up opportunities for students to understand first-hand the challenges that face American cities and to gain the skills needed to effect change in their own communities.
+ The political science program at SLU is distinctive in its commitment to preparing students to become engaged citizens both locally and globally. Students grapple with some of most important social justice problems of our time, from racism and poverty at home to war, persistent underdevelopment, and oppression abroad.
+ The SLU political science department is big enough to offer a wide range of classes, and small enough that students get individual attention from faculty.

Benefits of this program also include several research and career opportunities. SLU’s political science department uniquely combines the best aspects of a liberal arts college and a top research university. Students work with caring and enthusiastic faculty who are engaged in cutting-edge research and are passionate about undergraduate teaching. Students can participate in faculty research projects that address pressing national and international issues. Students interested in international affairs will find talented faculty engaged in research around the world at SLU. Among many study abroad options, students can pick our sister department at the Madrid campus, which offers excellent classes in international relations at both the bachelor's and master's level.

A political science degree from SLU prepares graduates for careers in government, community organizations, international NGOs, media, various businesses and more. This degree also provides graduates with marketable skills in empirical data analysis and practical problem solving.