



GRADUATE STUDY *at*



RICE

The graduate program in political science at Rice is of the highest quality. Oriented toward the Ph.D., the program offers concentrations in a variety of areas, with specialties matching the expertise of our faculty. Class sizes are small, allowing faculty to give students individualized attention. Graduate students may participate in research beginning in their first year of study, allowing them to make presentations at academic conferences during their second year. The program is designed primarily to prepare students for academic careers, although some graduates pursue careers outside academia.

The department offers PhD Degrees in American Politics, with concentrations in political institutions, voting and electoral behavior, public policy, political parties and interest groups or state and urban politics; Comparative Politics, with emphasis on the cross-national, quantitative study of political institutions and electoral behavior; and International Relations, with emphasis on the quantitative study of international conflict and cooperation.

The department offers a variety of methodology courses, including advanced statistical techniques, formal and mathematical modeling and computer simulation. A joint PhD/MA program with the Department of Statistics gives our students with a special interest in methodology the opportunity to receive further training in quantitative analysis and an added credential.

The department's size allows only for the admission of students whose interests match the expertise of the faculty. Please review the faculty's research interests and determine whether the program meets your needs. Students are required to begin in the fall semester for proper course sequencing. Graduate study in political science is a rigorous and challenging course of study and entails many obligations outside of the classroom. As such, students are not expected to work outside the department and those admitted to the program normally receive a full tuition waiver and a generous monthly stipend to meet living expenses.

WHERE POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATES GO

In recent years, Rice Ph.D.s have been placed in tenure-track positions at the following institutions: University of Aarhus, Boise State University, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE), Fudan University, Hitotsubashi University, Kansas State University (two), Macalester College, Missouri State University, Nazarbayev University, Osaka University, Sam Houston State University, University of Alabama (two), University of California–Merced, University of California–Riverside, University of Central Florida, University of Dayton, University of Essex, University of Illinois, University of Kentucky, University of Missouri–Kansas City, University of New Mexico, University of Pittsburgh, University of South Carolina, University of Southern Mississippi, University of Texas–Arlington, Vanderbilt University.

TEACHING

In addition to taking course work, graduate students generally serve as teaching assistants for at least two semesters. The department has regular teaching colloquia designed to help students learn to teach. Most advanced graduate students are given the opportunity to teach their own courses.

**GRADUATE STUDY
IN POLITICAL
SCIENCE**
RICE UNIVERSITY

POLITICALSCIENCE.RICE.EDU

FOR ADMISSION
IN 2019

FACULTY

AMERICAN POLITICS

John R. Alford. Professor. B.S. (1975), M.P.A. (1977) University of Houston; M.A. (1980), Ph.D. (1981) University of Iowa. Dr. Alford's major areas of study include American politics, Congress, elections and voting behavior. Current research and areas of interest focus on the biology of political behavior, including brain science and genetics, and the role of evolution in shaping human political attitudes and behaviors.

Paul Brace. Clarence L. Carter Chair of Legal Studies and Professor. B.S. (1976) University of Oregon; M.A. (1979), Ph.D. (1982) Michigan State University. Dr. Brace's major areas of study include state and intergovernmental politics, judicial decision making and the presidency. He currently is studying the effects of institutional structure and political context on strategic behavior in state supreme courts.

Gilbert M. Cuthbertson. Professor. B.A. (1959) University of Kansas, Ph.D. (1963) Harvard University. Dr. Cuthbertson's current research is in Texas politics and Texas political history. He also teaches American constitutional law and political theory.

Keith E. Hamm. Thomas Cooke and Mary Elizabeth Edwards Memorial Chair and Professor. A.B. (1969) Franklin and Marshall College, M.A. (1972) Florida Atlantic University, Ph.D. (1977) University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. Dr. Hamm's fields include legislatures, interest groups and state politics. His major research project involves tracing the evolution of state constitutions and campaign finance in the United States and Canada.

GRADUATE STUDY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AT A GLANCE

Degree awarded: PhD

Fields of study: American politics, comparative politics, and international relations

Faculty working with students: 16

Students: 35 graduate students

Number of applicants for admission fall 2018: 98

Number of incoming students fall 2018: 7

Percentage of graduate students receiving financial aid: 100% in years one through five

Degree requirements: 54 semester hours of advanced coursework; successful completion of comprehensive exams in a major field and a minor field; and public oral defense of the dissertation.

Doctorates awarded in 2018: 4

Matthew Hayes. Assistant Professor. A.B. (2006) University of Chicago, Ph.D. (2013) University of Illinois. Dr. Hayes researches and teaches on political behavior, racial and ethnic politics, and political representation. His current research focuses on the role of racial rhetoric in legislatures and its effect on the representation of traditionally under-represented groups.

Melissa J. Marschall. B.A. (1990) Florida State University, M.A. (1993) Bogazici University, Ph.D. (1998) SUNY at Stony Brook. Dr. Marschall's major areas of study include public policy, urban politics, education policy, representation, local elections, and Turkish politics. She is the Director of the Center for Local Elections in American Politics in the Kinder Institute and Director of the Social Policy Analysis Major in the School of Social Sciences.

Lyn Ragsdale. Radoslav A. Tsanoff Chair of Public Affairs and Professor of Political Science. B.S. (1974) Arizona State University; M.A. (1978), Ph.D. (1982) University of Wisconsin. Dr. Ragsdale's major areas of study include the American presidency, issues in elections, profiles of nonvoters, and Congress. Her current work focuses on two large projects on major presidential decisions and the American nonvoter.

Jerrold G. Rusk. Professor. B.S. (1963), Ph.D. (1968) University of Michigan. Dr. Rusk's main areas of interest are American politics, political parties, contemporary and historical electoral behavior, history of political change, legal-institutional analysis and British politics. His current research focuses on historical political realignment, historical voting turnout, and the history of electoral reform in America from 1788 to the present.

Robert M. Stein. Lena Gohlman Fox Professor. B.A. (1972) Ohio Wesleyan University; MA (1974), Ph.D. (1977) University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. Major areas of study include state and urban politics, public policy, elections and voting behavior. Current research includes election administration, federal spending programs, and public responses to natural disasters and emergencies.

Michelle Torres. Assistant Professor. B.A. (2010) CIDE; M.A. Statistics, Ph.D. Political Science (2019) Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Torres' research focuses on political methodology, political behavior and public opinion. Her work mainly concentrates on the intersection of computer science, statistics, and social sciences. Methodologically, she is interested in computer vision, unstructured data, casual interference, and survey methodology. Substantively, she focuses on participation, social movements, race and identity, and psychological traits.

Rick K. Wilson. Herbert S. Autrey Professor of Political Science, Psychology, and Statistics. B.A. (1975), M.A. (1977) Creighton University; Ph.D. (1982) Indiana University. Dr. Wilson's current research interests include the use of laboratory experimental methods to test formal models of political processes, the role of neuro-cognitive constraints on social behavior, and the impact of institutional structure on individual behavior. His recent work has been on issues of trust, comparative cultural behavior, and legislative institutions.



COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Mark P. Jones. Joseph D. Jamail Chair in Latin American Studies and Professor. B.A. (1989) Tulane University, Ph.D. (1994) University of Michigan. Dr. Jones's major areas of research are comparative political institutions (e.g., elections, electoral systems, legislatures, political parties), Latin American politics, and Texas politics. Dr. Jones also regularly advises United States government institutions and international organizations on Latin American politics and government.

Leslie A. Schwindt-Bayer. Professor. B.A. (1992) Virginia Tech; M.A. (1999), Ph.D. (2003) University of Arizona. Dr. Schwindt-Bayer's major areas of study include political institutions, comparative legislatures, political behavior, Latin America, and gender and politics. Her current research examines the nature of women's political representation both worldwide, and more specifically, in Latin America.

Randolph T. Stevenson. Professor. B.A. (1991) Texas A&M University; M.A. (1994), Ph.D. (1996) University of Rochester. Dr. Stevenson's major areas of study include comparative democratic institutions, party competition and organization, and comparative political economy. His current research projects include a study about the connection between cabinet participation and electoral results in different kinds of parliamentary systems and a book project on economic voting in advanced industrial democracies.

Jonathan Homola. Assistant Professor. B.A. (2011) Freie Universität Berlin; MRes (2013) University of Essex; Ph.D. (2018) Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Homola's research focuses on party competition, representation, political behavior, gender and politics, and immigration. His regional areas of expertise are Western democracies and Eastern Europe. Methodologically, he is interested in Bayesian research methods, survey methodology, and causal inference. His current research focuses on the role of gender in different stages of the political process, and survival models.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Songying Fang. Associate Professor. B.A. (1990) University of Science and Technology Beijing; Ph.D. (2006) University of Rochester. Dr. Fang's major research areas include international organizations, territorial disputes, and peacekeeping. She uses both game-theoretic and empirical analyses in her research. She teaches a graduate game theory course, and undergraduate courses on international organizations and US-China relations.

Brett Ashley Leeds. Professor. B.A. (1991) University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Ph.D. (1998) Emory University. Dr. Leeds's major areas of study include international conflict and cooperation, international institutions, and the influence of domestic politics on international relations. Her current research focuses on the design and influence of military alliances and on the impact of leadership change on foreign policy.

T. Clifton Morgan. Albert Thomas Professor. B.A. (1978) University of Oklahoma; M.A. (1980), Ph.D. (1986) University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Morgan's current research interests focus on the development and empirical testing of formal models of international conflict processes. He has published widely on international crisis bargaining, domestic political influences on conflict behavior, foreign policy substitutability and the effectiveness of economic sanctions.

Richard J. Stoll. Albert Thomas Professor. A.B. (1974) University of Rochester, Ph.D. (1979) University of Michigan. Dr. Stoll's current research interests include the study of naval arms races, explaining public opinion on whether war is sometimes necessary to achieve justice, and the use of Twitter to track public opinion.



THE HISTORY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AT RICE

The graduate program in political science is relatively new. The first students were admitted in 1970, and the first Ph.D. was awarded in 1974. The overall size of the program has grown somewhat over time, and the number of Ph.D. students increased after 1990 when the department stopped admitting students seeking terminal M.A. degrees.

The department has refined its focus and is targeting its efforts in graduate training on a focused set of specializations within political science. Faculty and staff are dedicated to providing a graduate program that does a few things well, rather than one that offers a broad variety of specializations and that seeks to train people for a wide range of careers.

DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES

Facilitating the wide variety of independent and collaborative research projects in which department faculty and students are engaged are the university's library, centers, and computers. Fondren Library houses a collection of 2.5 million volumes, 3 million microforms, 16,000 current periodicals and other serial titles, and many electronic resources. Free computing resources are amply available for graduate students.

COLLABORATIONS

The Department of Political Science is involved with other institutions, both within and outside Rice. On campus, Political Science students and faculty frequently collaborate with the James A. Baker Institute for Public Policy, the Center for Civic Leadership, the Kinder Institute for Urban Research and the Chao Center for Asian Studies, as well as with the members of various other academic departments at Rice.

An average of 10 scholars visit the department each year to present their research and meet with faculty and students, offering particularly enriching experiences for graduate student training. Scholars from other universities often come to the department with one-semester or full academic year appointments. Graduate students regularly visit other universities, both domestic and international, to enhance their training.

CAMPUS VISIT

We encourage you to visit Rice at any time for a firsthand look at the department and the beautiful, tree-lined campus near the heart of historic Houston. If you apply and are admitted, you may be invited to visit the campus later at departmental expense. During your time here, you will not only visit with faculty, but usually you'll meet current graduate students from whom you can learn more about graduate life and lifestyles in Houston. In the meantime, feel free to contact the department with any questions you may have.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Students applying for admission to the graduate program are asked to submit the following:

- A completed application for admission
 - Transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
 - The results of the GRE, taken within the last three years*
 - If English is the second language, test scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) are required*
 - Three letters of recommendation from faculty who are familiar with the applicant
- More information is available at: <https://politicalscience.rice.edu/graduate/group/apply>

The deadline for sending completed applications to the department is January 5. Rice will send a notification of acceptance no later than April 1.

* For inquiries regarding the GRE or TOEFL exams, contact:

Educational Testing Service
Rosedale Road
Princeton, NJ 08541 USA
609-921-9000
etsinfo@ets.org or www.ets.org

ABOUT RICE AND HOUSTON

Rice is a leading American research university—small, private and highly selective—distinguished by a collaborative, interdisciplinary culture and a global perspective. Only a few miles from downtown Houston, it occupies an architecturally distinctive, 285-acre campus shaded by nearly 4,000 trees. State-of-the-art facilities and laboratories, internationally renowned centers and institutes and one of the country's largest endowments support an ideal learning and living environment.

The university attracts a diverse group of highly talented students and faculty with outstanding graduate and professional programs in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, engineering, architecture, music and business. With just 2,861 graduate students and 3,879 undergraduates, it offers an unusual opportunity to forge close relationships with eminent faculty scholars and researchers and the option to tailor graduate programs to specific interests.

Houston offers all the expected educational, cultural and commercial advantages of a large urban center, and more. It's home of the Texas Medical Center, the largest concentration of medical schools, hospitals and research facilities in the world, as well as several other universities. Rice has cooperative programs with the University of Houston, Baylor College of Medicine, the University of Texas Health Science Center and Texas Southern University. Houston is one of the few U.S. cities with resident companies in all four major performing arts—drama, ballet, opera and symphony. It also boasts a museum district featuring exhibits of national and international prominence.



As urban as it is, Houston also is a surprisingly green city. Houstonians enjoy the outdoors in more than 300 municipal parks and 120 open spaces, and many frequent the beach at Galveston Island, only a 45-minute drive away. Other short trips include Austin, the state's capital, and historic San Antonio, both of which are a little more than three hours away.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Please indicate on your application whether you wish to be considered for financial aid. Most students accepted into the program will receive some degree of financial assistance. Rice provides financial aid in four ways: tuition waivers, graduate fellowships, research assistantships based on merit, and need-based aid such as federally insured loans. Tuition waivers are granted in an amount equal to Rice's tuition, which is \$44,900 for 2018–19. Graduate fellowships, at present providing \$25,000 per year, require a modest research or teaching assignment. Additional funding for the summer is typically available. In addition, a number of graduate students have been recipients of external fellowships. All financial aid decisions are made shortly after the January 5 application deadline.

HOW TO APPLY

Use our online application process found under the Apply link in the Graduate Studies section of our website. Further information may be obtained by contacting:

Graduate Advisor
Department of Political Science—MS 24 Rice
University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892
Phone: 713-348-4842 • Fax: 713-348-5273 E-
mail: poli@rice.edu
Web site: politicalscience.rice.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Rice University homepage:
www.rice.edu
Rice University Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral
Studies homepage:
graduate.rice.edu
Graduate Student Association homepage:
gsa.rice.edu/
City of Houston homepage:
www.houstontx.gov
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houston.citysearch.com

