

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

*College of Arts, Letters, and Sciences*

## EMPHASIS OF PROGRAM

Studying political science at Southwest Minnesota State University allows students the opportunity to investigate political phenomena ranging from the behavior of individual voters to relations among nations. We seek to develop an awareness of the moral and ethical implications of political action, and an understanding of political institutions and processes from empirical and comparative perspectives.

## INTERNSHIPS

Internships are an essential part of a college career for those students who wish to complement their classroom knowledge with practical experience and enhance their attractiveness to employers. The Political Science Program coordinates a growing number of internships with the Minnesota Legislature, local governments, regional and federal agencies, the Minnesota court system, law firms, and political organizations.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Political Science Program awards a small number of scholarships ranging from \$500-2,000 annually on the basis of merit. Incoming freshmen, transfer students, and current political science majors are eligible. Incoming students may also apply for a variety of academic and leadership scholarships through the Office of Admission. Criteria for these awards include grade point average, class ranking, ACT scores, and evidence of leadership potential.

## ACTIVITIES

Political science students have opportunities to expand their learning horizons and sharpen their leadership skills through such groups as the Political Science Association, Pre-Law Society, College Democrats, College Republicans, Model United Nations, Student Government, Lyon County Exit Poll, and U.S. Supreme Court Mock Trial. SMSU's Forensics and Broadcast and Digital Media programs provide additional hands-on opportunities for learning and skill development for political science majors.

## POTENTIAL CAREERS

- Attorney
- Campaign Manager
- City Manager
- Peace Corp/Vista Worker
- Probation Officer
- Community Relations Director
- Broadcast Journalist

For more information about this major, please contact: The Political Science Program at (507) 537-6224.