M.A. in Political Science

Designed to prepare students for careers in government, education, or non-government organizations, as well as further academic career work.

Students choose from the following concentrations:

1. The **American Government** concentration promotes student understanding of American political institutions and the behavior of public and political actors.
2. The **International Relations/Comparative Politics** concentration promotes student understanding of the institutions and behaviors of foreign countries and transnational actors as well as global politics.
3. The **Environmental Politics and Policy Analysis** concentration offers an interdisciplinary curriculum and skills necessary to analyze problems using tools and concepts from political science, public policy and economics.

Application Essentials

Standardized Exam Waiver Eligibility. The standardized exam (GRE) is waived for applicants with:
- A cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher or a master’s degree from an accredited institution from the last 5 years; AND
- A sample of written work (a paper representative of your best work, preferably under 25 pages)

Supplemental Information
- Resume (Required upload for application submission); essay addressing academic and professional goals, as well as reasons for applying.

Graduate School requirements
- 3.0 GPA in the last earned degree and official scores from the appropriate admission test(s), OR 2.5 GPA in the last earned degree and official scores at the 25th percentile level from the appropriate admission test(s) unless a GRE waiver has been granted.
- Required number of references: 3

Accelerated Admission Option
- This program offers an accelerated admission option for undergraduate students currently enrolled at App State
Courtney Bradway ‘15 ‘16
Bradway is the Director of Congressional Liaison in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legislation at the Department of Health and Human Services.

“The integrative teaching model in Appalachian’s political science programs — on-campus classes combined with visits to Washington, D.C. — prepared her well for the workplace.”

Dr. Summer Forester ‘12
She is an assistant professor of Political Science at Carleton College. Since leaving App, she has finished her Ph.D. program at Purdue, had a Fulbright fellowship to study in Jordan, published several papers and completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at the Purdue Policy Research Institute.

“I still collaborate and correspond with my App State professors—now my colleagues—and feel confident in saying that, without such a positive experience in the App State MA program, I would not be where I am today.”

Stats

2:1 student/faculty ratio means we are able to provide students with the individual attention they expect and deserve.

33 graduate semester hours required for this degree.

1 only stand-alone master’s degree in political science within the UNC system.

Recent Employers:

- American Political Science Association
- Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Government
- John Tyler Community College
- Lanier Law
- RTI International
- Peace Corps
- Prometric
- South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
- United States Senate

Dr. Tatyana Ruseva, M.A. Program Director
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828.262-8238

Each student, in consultation with the program director, develops a program of study that meets their interests and career aspirations.

Application Deadlines

- Spring Admission - November 1
- Summer Session 1 Admission - April 1
- Summer Session 2 Admission - April 1
- Fall Admission - July 1, priority deadline March 15

Graduate School Admissions | www.graduate.appstate.edu | 232 John E. Thomas Hall