Government

Overview
As a government major, you connect with some of the most complex issues of our time. You delve into political theory, comparative politics, U.S. politics and international political issues. You study gender rights as well as environmental politics and policy. You examine civil liberties and how societies weigh them against national security needs. We offer a dynamic program with a large and engaged faculty and a high level of student interest. Award-winning professors challenge you to explore issues and articulate your thoughts through written and oral presentations. Our majors have successful careers in policy analysis, journalism, law, national security, international nongovernmental organizations and government relations. Many attend law school or graduate programs in law enforcement, public administration, political science, media relations and journalism.

International Opportunities and Study Abroad
Most government majors study abroad. Some spend a semester with a small group of Connecticut College students and one or two professors who travel together. Government faculty have led these Study Away Teach Away programs to Vietnam, Italy and Spain. Some government courses also include a travel component of one to three weeks.

Special Opportunities
You can focus your interest in government and international issues by pursuing a certificate from one of the College’s five centers for interdisciplinary scholarship. The Holleran Center for Community Action and Public Policy stresses service learning and action research. If environmental issues are your passion, consider the Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment. For an international emphasis, look to the Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts – it includes foreign language study and an overseas internship.

Andrew Greaves
Government

Q: Why Connecticut College?
A: I was struck by the honor code and the accessibility of professors. When I visited as a prospective student, I sat in on Professor Larry Vogel's introductory philosophy course. Not only did he include me in the class discussion and speak to me afterwards, but he also recognized me and remembered my name when I was on campus the next fall.

Q: Why did you decide to study government?
A: I was drawn by the course offerings. Every semester I was presented with classes that fulfilled my major and allowed me to delve into nuanced topics that I had been exposed to in my introductory classes.

Q: Did you study abroad?
A: I studied in a peace and conflict program in Serbia, Bosnia and Kosovo. I liked the focused curriculum, the opportunity to learn Serbo-Croatian and the program’s independent study capstone. I completed an internship in Sarajevo and did research on young Sarajevans who had been displaced during the war. Later I presented my paper at an international conference in the U.K.

Q: Did you complete an internship?
A: I interned at a refugee center in Vancouver. I developed an educational program on the repercussions of the Canadian government’s new refugee policies.
Faculty

Tristan Anne Borer, Professor of Government and International Relations, Chair of Government and International Relations
B.A., University of Texas, San Antonio; M.A., Ph.D., University of Notre Dame
Human rights; human rights and the media; transitional justice; gender and human rights; international relations

MaryAnne Borrelli, Professor of Government
B.A., Wellesley College; M.A., Ph.D., Harvard University
United States politics and government; gender and United States politics; the presidency; congress

Wendell John Coats Jr., Professor of Government
B.A., Ph.D., University of Colorado
History of Western political philosophy

Jane Dawson, Virginia Eason Weinmann ’51 Professor of Government and Environmental Studies, Director of the Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment
A.B., Bryn Mawr; M.A., The Johns Hopkins University; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley
International environmental politics; comparative environmental activism and politics; global environmental justice

William Frasure, Professor of Government and International Relations
B.A., University of Pittsburgh; J.D., Yale University; Ph.D., The Johns Hopkins University
United States politics; environmental policy and law; law and public policy

Alex Hybel, Susan Eckert Lynch 62 Professor of Government and International Relations
B.A., University of North Carolina; M.A., The American University; M.A., Ph.D., Stanford University
U.S. foreign policy; international relations theory; democracy in Latin America

Dorothy James, Professor of Government and International Relations
B.A., Barnard College; M.A., Columbia University
United States politics (especially presidential politics; political parties; campaigns and elections; and the impact of the media and interest groups on politics); constitutional law; civil liberties; judicial behavior; national security and individual freedom; American political thought

Andrew Levin, Assistant Professor of Government
B.A., Macalester College; M.A., George Washington University; Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
Peacekeeping; international conflict resolution; The United Nations; civil wars; international relations

David Patton, Professor of Government and International Relations
B.A., Swarthmore College; M.A., Ph.D., Cornell University
Comparative politics; European politics; Federal Republic of Germany; European union

Ryan Phillips, C3 Postdoctoral Fellow
B.A., Vassar College; M.Sc., University of Bristol; M.A., The Ohio State University; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley
Political theory; international relations; Europe

Caroleen Marij Saye, Assistant Professor of Government and International Relations
B.A., Fordham University; M.A., Ph.D., New York University
Persistent authoritarianism in the Middle East; contemporary Islamic social movements; modernization and identity politics; Middle Eastern studies; comparative politics; international relations

John Qunjian Tian, Professor of Government and International Relations
B.A., M.A., Nanjing University; M.A., Ph.D., Cornell University
Comparative politics; Chinese politics; East Asian and international political economy

Selected Courses

Middle East Politics; The Middle East Politics; The European Union; International Politics of Climate Change; U.S. Foreign Policy toward Latin America; Terrorism; American Political Thought; Modern Political Thought; Analysis of U.S. Public Policy; The Presidency; The Politics of Refugees; Human Rights in World Politics; International Political Economy; Constitutional Law; Gender and U.S. Politics; Chinese Politics

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College educates students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens in a global society. A leader in the liberal arts since 1911, the College is home to nationally ranked programs for internships, community action, arts and technology, environmental studies and international studies. Our beautiful 750-acre arboretum campus is located in the historic New England seaport community of New London, Conn.

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