Political Science

MAJORS: Political Science, International Relations
MINORS: Political Science
PROGRAMS: Pre-Law
DEPARTMENT WEBSITE: www.simpson.edu/polisci

There are many opportunities for campus involvement and experiential learning, including volunteering for Presidential campaigns, Student Government Association, Model United Nations, Pre-Law Society, College Democrats and College Republicans, the Simpson Political Survey, May Term trips to Brazil, Great Britain, and Washington D.C., and the John C. Culver Fellowship program.

The John C. Culver Fellowship program awards five $12,500 scholarships to students with a passion for politics, history, public service and community engagement.

Simpson College participates in a national effort, led by Harvard University’s Institute of Politics, to encourage participation and engagement in politics by America’s young people. Simpson is the only college in Iowa to participate in the National Campaign for Political and Civic Engagement.

Simpson’s ideal location attracts many important political figures. Al Gore, George W. Bush, Hillary Clinton, Mitt Romney, John Kerry and Barack Obama have all recently visited campus.

Simpson students have the opportunity to live, learn and intern in Washington, D.C. through the Capitol Hill Internship Program (CHIP). Housing is just blocks from the Capitol and the program costs about the same as a regular semester on campus. Many recent CHIP graduates now work in positions in D.C.

Simpson is the only Iowa college to regularly attend the Midwest Model United Nations conference.

Political Science majors land prestigious national and state internships. Students have recently interned at the White House, the Iowa Governor’s office, the Iowa State Attorney General’s office, the Iowa State Legislature, Senator Tom Harkin’s office, Senator Chuck Grassley’s office, the U.S. Senate Finance Committee, the Iowa Council for International Understanding, the American Civil Liberties Union, U.S.A. Today and Amnesty International.

Nearly two-thirds of Simpson Political Science alumni pursue a post-graduate or law degree. Recent law and graduate schools include the University of Notre Dame, University of Iowa, Texas A & M’s Bush School of Public Service, the University of Denver, and the University of Houston.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A POLITICAL SCIENCE DEGREE?

JAMIE COREY ’10 came from the Chicago suburbs to Simpson College, attracted by the small-town atmosphere and personal attention from faculty. Jamie took advantage of our D.C. semester (the Capitol Hill Internship Program, or CHIP) and landed a life-changing internship at the Obama White House. Jamie was recently hired by U.S. Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) and now works for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

BAILEY HARRIS ’10 (Adair, IA) has a passion for justice and human rights. On campus, Bailey organized “Jamnesty” – a rock concert to raise money and awareness for human rights. Her experience led to a summer internship for Amnesty International in Washington, D.C. Bailey’s recent activism includes working as the Director of Communications for Citizens Project, a human rights group in Colorado.

KRISTIN SIMPSON ’10 (Jefferson, IA) interned at the Iowa Council for International Understanding and then set her heart on graduate school. Kristin is a recent graduate of Texas A&M’s Bush School of Government with a Masters in International Relations, specializing in Middle East politics. As part of her graduate work, she had the opportunity to travel to Guatemala and study both Spanish and Arabic.

EMILY SCHETTLER ’10 (Carroll, IA) has a nose for news. As a double major in Journalism and Political Science, Emily interned in the nation’s capital for USA Today and then took over as Editor for the campus paper, the Simpsonian. After graduating, Emily landed a job covering the public affairs and university beats at the Iowa City Press-Citizen, where she is using what she learned in both majors.

AMANDA YANCHURY ’10 (South St. Paul, MN) fueled her passion for public service at Simpson and was an intern with a human rights group during her semester in D.C. Amanda has volunteered for a Minnesota congresswoman, managed a political campaign, and worked on staff for Habitat for Humanity and the United Methodist Conference. She is studying for the GRE/LSAT to apply to graduate and law schools.

STEVEN RAMSEY ’11 (Kansas City, MO) has a dream – to be a state or national legislator and lifelong public servant – and he’s well on his way. Steven was very active in College Democrats and student government, volunteered for the Obama campaign, and had his pick of scholarships to prestigious law schools. Steven will attend Notre Dame Law School this fall.

SHAUNA AGAN ’11 (Des Moines, IA) was born into a politically active family. She loved her CHIP congressional internship so much that she returned to Washington D.C. to intern with the Democratic National Committee and a labor union, the American Federation of Teachers. Shauna is currently pursuing a joint program in law and public policy at American University.

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