Three Big Things:
- Two Interdisciplinary Certificates
- Nationally competitive Mock Trial program
- Exciting Internship opportunities

At its base every decision made by people, by societies or by governments can be said to be political. This is because politics is not only a matter of goods distribution (who gets what, when, where, and how), but also of who we are (individuals or members of groups such as races, classes, sexes, etc.), and where we are placed in societies (in positions of power, in positions of dependency, in positions of influence, etc.). We all experience politics everyday.

Government offers an undergraduate major that conducts philosophically and historically based inquiries of political and governmental structures, events, processes, and institutions around the world. Department courses focus largely on the study of government and politics from the perspective of Political Science, a traditional liberal arts discipline that seeks to understand the political conditions and the political potential of humanity through careful study of present as well as past politics.

Career Opportunities
A number of those who graduate each year continue on in graduate studies. Many who choose to pursue the pre-law option within the department go on to some of the best law schools in the country. Degree options may lead students to other professional and graduate programs in political science, public administration or a number of other related fields. Many graduates find employment in the public sector, or with domestic or international business firms. Opportunities also exist in party politics, campaign organizations, the military, telecommunications or media.

By emphasizing critical thinking as well as careful writing and speaking, the Department of Government provides students with skills that are essential in all careers and professions, skills that are highly sought after by employers.

Curriculum
General admissions requirements for the various Government majors include completion of ENGL 100, though successful completion of a 200 level English course is strongly recommended.

There are three tracks that will lead to a degree in Government. In addition, the International Affairs Program, a part of the Department of Government, offers a separate major and degree. The three degree tracks in Government are the large major (72 credits) that does not require an outside minor, the small major (57 credits) that requires students to complete a formal minor in another department, and the pre-law major (82 credits) that does not require an outside minor and is designed to acquaint students more intimately with the workings of law and the legal process and to better prepare them for further study in the law.

The major tracks are designed to provide students with as much flexibility as possible in designing a course of study that reflects their interests most closely. After taking the required introductory courses in American government, international relations or comparative politics, and political philosophy, students are able to tailor a course of study at the upper division level that will allow them to meet their learning goals and prepare them as well as possible for whatever career
or learning future they wish to pursue.

**Special Features**

The Department of Government offers students a variety of additional opportunities beyond the classroom, opportunities for growth in the chosen field of study, for informal interaction with faculty, and a chance to work with others in the program.

The department maintains a dynamic internship program, which provides practical experience with local political and governmental agencies and annually sponsors a Winter Quarter in Olympia in which selected students intern with the Washington State Legislature. When possible, it is strongly urged that students include an internship as a part of their program. EWU also regularly sends several students to Washington, D.C. through the Washington Center internship program.

The Nu Gamma Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honorary Society, was chartered at Eastern in 1982. This student organization serves as a vehicle for recognition of outstanding academic achievement in Government and complements the department's participation in the University Honors Program. Pi Sigma Alpha sponsors a number of social and intellectual programs for students and faculty, and with its help the department attempts to maintain contact with its graduates to make available to students their experiences and insights into the value of an education in Government.

The EWU chapter of the Model United Nations competes in both regional and national competitions and has recently won several awards for these activities in both regional and international competitions. It engages students along with faculty and community organizations in an effort to increase understanding of the issues that face the world currently and how organizations like the U.N. may be able to aid in resolving some of those issues and conflicts.

The Mock Trial club in the Department of Government also competes at and consistently does well in both regional and national competitions. This elite group has competed against some of the best undergraduate pre-law programs in the United States in national competitions. Mock trial provides an opportunity for students to assume the various roles of those involved in the judicial process, learn the intricacies of the trial process and apply that knowledge in simulated trial settings. Students work closely with faculty and legal professionals from the community.

**For Further Information**

Department of Government
13 Hargreaves Hall
Eastern Washington University
Cheney, WA 99004-2430
509-359-7459

**Internet Access**

The department website provides more information. Please go to:
http://www.ewu.edu/CSBSWW/Programs/Government.xml

**The University**

Eastern Washington University is a student-centered, regionally based, comprehensive university. Its campus is located in Cheney within the Spokane metropolitan area, with additional learning centers in the region and elsewhere in Washington State. With more than 100 fields of study, nine master's degrees, four graduate certificates, 76 graduate programs and a physical therapy doctoral program, its mission is to prepare broadly educated, technologically proficient, and highly productive citizens to attain meaningful careers, to enjoy enriched lives, and to make contributions to a culturally diverse society.

Our mission to be a student-centered, regionally engaged university will be fulfilled best through a distinguished EWU academic experience that is integrated and interdependent. This vision informs and inspires our future.

**Notes:**

Information in this guide is subject to change without notice. To learn more about the official program of study for Government please check the catalog online at: