

## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Masters of Arts in Political Science is to provide graduate students with: the educational experiences and environment to become familiar with, and competent in, the attitudes, subjects, and skills of the discipline of political science; the capacity to attain career success or further educational pursuits that allows them to utilize the knowledge, skills, and judgment acquired in our program; and a sense of civic responsibility.

## **Program Goals**

- **Inquisitiveness:** Students ask relevant questions within the field.
- **Open-mindedness:** Students understand and appreciate multiple positions
- **Judgment:** Students choose positions following appropriate data and analysis
- **Professionalism:** Students understand the unique perspective of political science in the analysis of international, national, state and local governments and politics, and the societies, groups and individuals that shape them.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students can distinguish among theories of politics and analyze current political situations in theoretical terms.
2. Students can describe structural and institutional components of governments—legislative, executive, and judicial—and explain their relationship to each other and to other political actors.
3. Students can formulate hypotheses, construct research designs, conduct research, and apply appropriate analytic skills, including quantitative reasoning, to the study of political science.
4. Students can write and speak with sufficient clarity and professionalism to convey their attitudes, knowledge and skills.