

Policy for Affiliations with the UVic Department of Political Science (updated January 2025)

Context: There is currently no framework for individuals based outside the Department of Political Science to request formal affiliation with the Department other than as an adjunct faculty member. However, adjuncts are a specific form of relationship that emphasizes academic qualifications and may not be suitable for all individuals interested in contributing to the Department's work. Individuals with relevant professional skills and experience could help enhance the intellectual and pedagogical environment in the Department by contributing to public lectures; panel events; guest lectures for POLI courses; and as a resource for faculty, graduate students, and Honours students undertaking research related to their expertise. In some cases, affiliates may contribute to fundraising, public outreach, or other Department initiatives.

Purpose: This policy outlines a framework for affiliations between individuals with relevant political expertise and the Department of Political Science. It is informed by the different categories of membership that [currently exist](#) for the Faculty of Graduate Studies, but is distinct. FGS has three categories of membership: regular (for tenured and tenure-track faculty), associate (for non-tenured and non-tenure-track faculty and instructors), and affiliate ("for qualified individuals who do not hold academic appointments at UVic but wish to serve as members on supervisory committees"). The proposed affiliations with the Department of Political Science outlined below are independent of these categories, but POLI affiliates could be considered for affiliate status with FGS if the Department also wished to allow them to serve on graduate committees.

Process: Individuals seeking affiliation with POLI will submit a completed Application for Nomination form, current CV, and cover letter to the Chair. While nominations will not be unreasonably withheld, the Chair may decline to support a nomination if there is not sufficient evidence that the individual meets the criteria for affiliation; if there are reasonable grounds to believe the individual does not support the mission or values of the University of Victoria; or if there are reasonable grounds to believe that nominating an individual for a POLI affiliation could bring harm or disrepute to the Department or the University. The decision of the Chair not to nominate an individual for an affiliation is final and may not be appealed. Affiliation with the Department of Political Science as Fellow-in-Residence and Practitioner-in-Residence will be determined by a vote of the Department following nomination by the Chair and recommendation by the Executive Committee. Affiliation as Visiting Scholar will be determined by a vote of the Executive Committee following nomination by the Chair.

Conditions: All individuals granted affiliation with the Department of Political Science are required to observe all [policies](#) and procedures of the University of Victoria. POLI affiliates must accept the terms and conditions outlined in their Letter of Affiliation from the Department. POLI affiliates may not supervise or co-supervise students nor serve on student committees unless they are also granted affiliate membership in the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Affiliations may be renewed by a vote of the Department following recommendation by the Executive Committee. Persons who hold regular appointments at UVic shall not be eligible for POLI affiliation.

Termination: In situations where an individual with a POLI affiliation is found not to meet the criteria for affiliation – such as failing to support the mission or values of the University of Victoria, violating University policies, or if there are reasonable grounds to believe that maintaining an individual's POLI affiliation could bring harm or disrepute to the Department or the University – that affiliation may be revoked by a vote of the Department following recommendation by the Executive Committee. Revocation of POLI affiliation is final and may not be appealed.

POLI Affiliations	
Title	Description
Fellow-in-Residence	<p>Intended for individuals with senior leadership experience and/or distinguished service in academia, elected office, public service, private sector, or civil society. Affiliation is granted for a term of 3 years. Individuals are expected to spend significant time in-person at the University of Victoria, and contribute to the intellectual and pedagogical environment of the Department including meeting with faculty and students and delivering a lecture as part of the POLI Speaker Series.</p> <p>Examples include distinguished emeritus faculty members; persons with executive experience in federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, or Indigenous government in Canada or other jurisdictions (e.g. first ministers, Cabinet ministers, mayors, and elected chiefs); former parliamentarians; persons with experience leading a major public or private institution or entity; or other suitable individuals at the discretion of the Chair.</p>
Practitioner-in-Residence	<p>Intended for individuals with specific expertise in a relevant area of politics, public policy, community service, or related professional practice. Affiliation is granted for a term of 3 years. Individuals are expected to spend substantial time in-person at the University of Victoria, and contribute to the intellectual and pedagogical environment of the Department including meeting with faculty and students and delivering a lecture as part of the POLI Speaker Series.</p> <p>Examples include retired individuals with senior experience in the public or foreign service (e.g. deputy ministers, assistant deputy ministers, ambassadors, military personnel); individuals with senior experience working for political parties, campaigns, ministerial offices, or the central organs of government (PMO, PCO, premier's office, etc.); Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers; individuals with professional experience in fields such as law, journalism, advocacy, or similar; or other suitable individuals at the discretion of the Chair.</p>
Visiting Scholar	<p>Intended for individuals with relevant academic qualifications undertaking a time-limited period of study at UVic. Affiliation is granted for a length of time ranging from 1 month to 1 year. Individuals would be expected to contribute to the intellectual and pedagogical environment of the Department by attending POLI events, meeting with faculty and students, and potentially delivering a lecture as part of the POLI Speaker Series.</p> <p>Examples could include faculty on leave from their home institutions; post-doctoral researchers; and graduate students undertaking research towards their degree programs.</p>

Application for Nomination

Applicants requesting nomination as an Affiliate with the Department of Political Science must submit the following:

- Completed Application for Nomination form;
- Current CV;
- Cover letter outlining the applicant’s suitability for POLI affiliation.

All materials should be submitted by email to the Chair, Department of Political Science: chairpol@uvic.ca.

Applicant Name:			
Affiliation Applied For:	Fellow-in-Residence	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Practitioner-in-Residence	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Visiting Scholar	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Current Professional Role:			
Employer/Institution:			
Contact Email:			
Contact Phone Number:			
Please provide the approximate dates for which you are applying for POLI affiliation.			
During this period, how much time would you expect to spend at the UVic campus?			
If granted, what university resources would you wish to support your UVic affiliation? (e.g. workspace, library access, etc.)			
Are you currently employed by the Government of Canada or a provincial, territorial, municipal, or Indigenous government? Please specify.			
Are you currently enrolled in post-secondary studies? If so, where?			
Reference 1 – Name:		Email:	
Relationship to Applicant:			
Reference 2 – Name:		Email:	
Relationship to Applicant:			

