

Political Science MA – Statement of Interest Template

All applicants: please use the following template to prepare a 2-page statement of interest. Each section is guided by an overarching question, and a series of bullet points that further elaborate on that question. Be sure to address **all three sections**.

Section 1: Explain how your academic background has prepared you to study for an advanced graduate degree in Political Science at UNBC. For example:

- How has your previous coursework provided you with a foundation of knowledge in the discipline (and/or sub-disciplines) of political science?
- How have your courses and assignments helped you develop advanced skills in research, writing, and critical analysis?
- How has your academic training prepared you for active and engaged participation (including collaborative group work and presentations) in student-driven, senior research seminars?

Section 2: Explain the nature and significance of your research interests. For example:

- What research question are you trying to answer?
- How do you propose to answer this research question? What research materials and methods will you draw upon in seeking to answer this question?
- How has your educational background prepared you to answer this question?
- Why is this an important question? What do you expect your research will contribute to the advancement of knowledge in political science?

Section 3: Why do you want to pursue your MA in Political Science at UNBC? For example:

- There are many excellent research universities across Canada. Why did you choose UNBC?
- Why is the political science department at UNBC a good match for your research interests?
- What academic resources have you identified at UNBC that are critical to your success as a graduate student?