

NEWS RELEASE

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UVA's Department of Politics Earns Significant Rise in Graduate Program Rankings

Charlottesville, Va., April 3, 2021 --- The Department of Politics at the University of Virginia has **moved to #28** in the most recent rankings by *U.S. News and World Report*, jumping a full nine spots from its previous position at #37.

In its climb in the rankings over the years, this marks the first time that the department has stood among the top-thirty political science graduate programs in the nation. The department, which tied for the #28 spot, **broke into the top-twenty in the area of Political Theory**, where it tied for the #16 spot.

Jennifer Lawless, the Leone Reaves and George W. Spicer Professor of Politics and Chair of the Department of Politics, was thrilled by the news. She attributes the impressive rise to several factors, including new hires, cutting-edge research, graduate student placement, and a deep commitment to interdisciplinary work. "The faculty have worked tirelessly to build a department and a graduate program that provides top-notch, substantive, and methodological training to the next generation of political scientists," said Lawless. "In addition, the fact that our department is home, at least in part, to two of the discipline's flagship journals – the *American Journal of Political Science* and the *American Political Science Review* – is a major source of pride for us."

"My colleagues in the Department of Politics are building on tremendous momentum" said Ian Baucom, Buckner W. Clay Dean of Arts and Sciences. "I'm excited to see how the enduring scholarly importance of their work, its relevance to contemporary challenges, and their remarkable ability to engage our students, alumni, and leaders in the field has become recognized more broadly and at a higher level."

On The Web:

<https://politics.virginia.edu>

<https://www.usnews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-humanities-schools/political-science-rankings>