Position Rationale

International Relations (along with Comparative Politics) is a primary subfield within the discipline of political science. With current faculty specializing in American Politics and Political Theory, it is essential for us to hire a specialist in International Relations following on Susan Penksa’s departure from the college.

Our major curriculum requires all political science majors take a minimum of three courses in this area, and two of our four major “tracks” are focused in this area (International Affairs; International Security and Development). We anticipate certain existing courses in IR/Comparative to continue, but we anticipate offering new courses and developing our curriculum depending on the specialization of a new colleague. Failure to offer courses in this area would be crippling to the political science curriculum at Westmont.

Moreover, we’ve designed this position description to include teaching research methods—a course required of every political science major. Particularly with current members of the department taking on significant institutional service outside the department (Golf Coach; Augustinian Scholars Program), a full-time person in this position is important for program sustainability.

Position Description & Announcement

The Department of Political Science at Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA invites applications for a tenure-track position at the rank of associate or assistant professor in International Relations. The appointment will begin in August 2020. Candidates should be able to teach broadly in international relations, with preference given to those who can also offer courses in comparative politics and introductory research methods. Applicants must have a Ph.D., evidence of excellence in scholarship and teaching, and a commitment to mentoring undergraduate students. A normal teaching load includes three 4-unit courses per semester, committee assignments, and academic advising.

Westmont College is a nationally ranked, selective liberal arts college in the evangelical Protestant tradition. We desire faculty who are animated by a serious Christian faith, are able to engage in interdisciplinary dialogue and pedagogy, and who share a commitment to justice, citizenship, and service. Westmont has a strong commitment to cultural and academic diversity that is increasingly reflected in its student body, curriculum, and faculty. We seek a colleague who shares these commitments and will contribute to their rich applications in political science.
Use this link to access the application. Questions may be addressed to Dr. Jesse Covington, chair of Political Science via e-mail: jcovington@westmont.edu. Review of applications will begin in June 2019, and will continue until the position is filled.

For priority interview consideration, applications should be received by August 1, 2019.