
Political Science

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DEGREES OFFERED

M.A. in Political Science

Master of Public Administration

Master of Public Administration/Juris Doctorate

The master of arts and the master of public administration are offered by the Department of Political Science. The department's mission is to give graduate students the understanding of the theories and methods necessary for success in (1) research or in post-baccalaureate study in any of the subfields in political science, (2) high school teaching in social science, or (3) careers in policy analysis or public administration in local, state, or federal government, or international governmental or non-governmental organizations. Our graduate students have progressed to senior positions in government, the U.S. Foreign Service, and international organizations, or advanced to a Ph.D. in political science.

Please refer to the Graduate School section for minimum admission and degree requirements.

PROGRAM SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Master of Arts in Political Science

- Submit a one-page, typed statement describing his/her objectives in seeking the degree.
- Possess a bachelor's degree in political science or a cognate discipline such as international studies, the administration of criminal justice, history, sociology, or economics, including substantial undergraduate course work in political science.

Master of Public Administration

- Applicants for the M.P.A. may have any undergraduate major.
- Applications are accepted and processed year round. Only 12 hours (4 classes) may be attempted without full admission into the program.

PROGRAM SPECIFIC DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Master's Programs

Master of Arts in Political Science

Plan A (thesis)

- POLS 5680. Research Methods for Political Science and Public Policy.
- At least 15 additional hours of coursework in political science.
- A maximum of 9 hours of coursework in disciplines other than political science.
- A master's thesis demonstrating independent research, written under the supervision of the major professor.
- An oral examination conducted by the graduate committee covering all coursework and the thesis.
- No more than 6 hours of grades lower than "B" may be counted toward the minimum number of hours required for the degree.
- Students must maintain a graduate GPA of 3.0.

Plan B (non-thesis)

- POLS 5680. Research Methods for Political Science and Public Policy.
- At least 15 additional hours of coursework in political science.
- A maximum of 12 hours of coursework in disciplines other than political science.
- A Plan B paper that reflects the quality but not scope of a master's thesis, written under the supervision of the major professor.
- An oral examination conducted by the graduate committee covering all coursework and the Plan B paper.
- No more than 6 hours of grades lower than "B" may be counted toward the minimum number of hours required for the degree.

- Students must maintain a graduate GPA of 3.0.

Master of Public Administration

Plan B (non-thesis)

- Thirty-nine hours of graduate credit, to include:
 - 18 hours of core credit,
 - 6 hours of option-core credit,
 - 15 hours of approved elective credit.
- In addition to graduate coursework, M.P.A. students must complete a series of papers constituting the Plan B project. It is the purpose of POLS 5690, Capstone in Public Management, to be a framework within which students initiate and substantially complete their Plan B projects.
- Following the completion of all other requirements, the M.P.A. student is required to pass a comprehensive oral examination covering the information contained within his/her program of study as well as a defense of the Plan B projects. The oral examination is also conducted within the framework of the POLS 5690 Capstone course.
- Significant administrative experience is required of all M.P.A. graduates. If the M.P.A. student has little or no administrative experience an internship is required and will be included as 3 hours of the required elective credits.
- Students entering the M.P.A. Program are expected to possess basic computer literacy, and to have access to a computer for such purposes as communicating with professors via e-mail, receiving M.P.A. Program memos, conducting research on the Web, retrieving articles from course documents libraries, working on course projects, and for conducting interactive/electronic class discussion.
- Graduate GPA of 3.0.

Master of Public Administration/Juris Doctorate

- See the MPA Director and/or the College of Law for information.
- Students must be accepted to both programs.

COURSES: Political Science (POLS)

Please see the General Bulletin for courses listed at the 4000 level.

POLS 5000. Surv Pub Admin.

3-. (Max.). Designed to introduce the beginning graduate student to the study and practice of public administration at all levels of government. Attention is also directed to specific functions and processes such as intergovernmental relations, budgeting, personnel, and regulation. Prerequisite: Graduate status and consent of instructor.

POLS 5051. Enviro Politics. 3-. (Max.).

Analyzes environmentalism as a political phenomenon. Provides students with a basic understanding of how to analyze political issues by: (1) examining the historical and contemporary issues that produce controversy over environmental matters; and (2) surveying the impacts of these issues on the formulation and implementation of laws, policies, and regulations. Prerequisite: POLS 1000. Dual listed with POLS 4051. Cross listed with AMST/ENR/G&R/REWM 4051.

POLS 5060. Am Intergovt Relations.

3-. (Max.). Theory and practice of American federalism. Prerequisite: POLS 5000 or consent of instructor.

POLS 5090. Anglo-Amer Juris.

3-. (Max.3). Considers topics, such as functions of law in a democratic society; historical origins and growth of the common law as contrasted to the civil (code) law systems; and principal theories of nature and functions of law which have influenced development of English and American legal institutions. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science. Dual listed with PHIL/POLS 4090.

POLS 5100. Const Law Princpls.

3-. (Max.3). A case-study analysis of judicial decisions and policies affecting the constitutional interrelationships among the three branches of the federal government, federal-state relations, and the powers of the states and federal government in the area of social and economic regulatory laws. Special attention is paid to the study of judicial decisions from a policy-making viewpoint, and methods of analyzing constitutional law cases. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4100.

POLS 5110. Const Rts & Lib I.

3-. (Max.). A case-study analysis of the legal and political consequences of recent judicial decisions in such areas as freedom

of speech, press, association, and religion, and in criminal procedure. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science including POLS 4100 or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4110.

POLS 5120. Const Rts & Lib II.

3-. (Max.3). A case-study analysis of the legal and political consequences of recent judicial decisions in such areas as race relations, the right to vote, legislative apportionment, and the Constitution in time of war. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science including POLS 4100/5100 or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4120.

POLS 5230. Govt & Pol Of Asia.

3-. (Max.). Studies political systems of East Asia. Analyzes impact of social and economic factors upon political institutions. Prerequisite: 9 hours or political science or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4230.

POLS 5240. East Asia Pol Econ.

3-. (Max.3). Discusses how culture, history, social systems, and political institutions of East Asian nations have contributed to their political economy of rapid industrialization and social

<p>transformation. Prerequisite: 1 course in global studies; or 2 courses in political science, history, or sociology; or consent or instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4240.</p> <p>POLS 5250. Pol Of Dev Nations. 3-. (Max.6). An analysis of the processes of political, economic, and social change in the non Western world. Research methods are introduced and applied to selected topics. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4250.</p> <p>POLS 5290. Inter-American Rel. 3-. (Max.3). A survey of the inter-American system and the idea of hemispheric unity, followed by an analysis of the major issues confronting the inter-American community. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science including POLS 2310 or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4290.</p> <p>POLS 5300. The World System. 3-. (Max.3). Analyzes structure of political and economic interdependence among nation-states. Reviews and assesses theoretical approaches to explaining changing structure of inequality, power, war and peace. Prerequisite: SOC 1000, ANTH 1100, or equivalent social science course. Dual listed with POLS 4300. Cross listed with INST/SOC 4300/5300.</p> <p>POLS 5330. Amer Foreign Rels. 3-. (Max.3). Analyzes American foreign policy decision-making process and selected contemporary foreign policy problems. Stresses political and institutional factors along with analysis of policy options. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science including POLS 2310 or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4330.</p> <p>POLS 5340. Internatl Organzn. 3-. (Max.3). Encompasses development of world organizations such as League of Nations, United Nations and its affiliate bodies. Also studies regional organizations and private international bodies. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science including POLS 2310 or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4340.</p> <p>POLS 5350. Sust Dev/Glbl Ply. 3-. (Max.3). Students consider what</p>	<p>“sustainable development” means and what trade-offs must be made to achieve it. We consider this issue from a global perspective through application of theories in economics, political science, international relations, technology studies and ethics. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or economics or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4350.</p> <p>POLS 5400. Public Personnel Mgmt. 3-. (Max.). Designed to integrate information about the political environment of personnel administration with problem solving exercises in such specific areas as job analysis, affirmative action, and flextime. A number of topics including the evolution of the civil service, the rights and responsibilities of governmental employees, the functions of public personnel management, and collective bargaining processes are also covered. Prerequisite: POLS 5000 or consent of instructor.</p> <p>POLS 5410. Adm Behav & Thry. 3-. (Max.). An advanced course in the theory of organization and the workings of public agencies. Prerequisite: POLS 5000 or consent of instructor.</p> <p>POLS 5420. Sem In Pub Adm. 3-. (Max.6). A reading and research course in selected topics in public administration. Prerequisite: POLS 2410 and consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4420.</p> <p>POLS 5430. US Presidency. 3-. (Max.3). Analyzes the office of the president, its roles, development, relationships with other governmental agencies, and problems in the contemporary world. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4430.</p> <p>POLS 5440. Prin & Proc Gov Budg. 3-. (Max.). Analyzes the principles, processes and politics of the budgetary process in the U.S. It examines the various theories of budgetary decision-making, the politics of budgeting and budgetary reforms. Prerequisite: POLS 5000 and graduate status.</p> <p>POLS 5450. Admin Regulation. 3-. (Max.3). Significant points of contact between government and business are stressed. Government activities designed</p>	<p>to regulate and aid such economic interests as business, labor, agriculture, and consumers are dealt with at length. Prerequisite: POLS 5000 or consent of instructor.</p> <p>POLS 5460. Pub Ad & Law. 3-. (Max.3). Focuses on various facets of the relationship between American public administration and law. Emphasis is placed on the emerging body of administrative law as a context for jurisprudential reasoning in administrative decision making. Prerequisite: POLS 5000 or consent of instructor.</p> <p>POLS 5480. Ethics In Gov. 3-. (Max.3). The student is introduced to the ethical nature and dilemmas of public administration in American constitutional government. Such topics are addressed as source of ethical obligation, role of loyalty, application of moral philosophy, constitutional theory and ethical obligation, relation of theory and practice, and methods of ethical reflection. Prerequisite: POLS 5000 or consent of instructor.</p> <p>POLS 5490. Police Administrat. 3-. (Max.3).</p> <p>POLS 5500. Intrnshp: Publ Adm. 1-6. (Max.6). Educationally-oriented assignments for work in selected public agencies, with tutorial types of supervision. Offered S/U only. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.</p> <p>POLS 5510. Pub Prog Mgt. 3-. (Max.). An overview of governmental policy making processes in the U.S. Attention is then shifted to the uses of applied policy analysis. Students will be required to participate in a project which employs a systems approach to deal with managerial problems within a public sector or nonprofit organization. Prerequisite: POLS 5000 or consent of instructor.</p> <p>POLS 5520. Public Opinion. 3-. (Max.3). Deals with natures of a public in a democracy and means of forming and manipulating public opinion. Emphasizes the role of public opinion as an essential ingredient of the policy-making process in popular government. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4520.</p>
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POLS 5530. Leg & Legislation.

3-. (Max.3). Studies legislative processes at all levels of American government, emphasizing legislative roles, legislative practices and procedures. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4530.

POLS 5540. Publ Pol Perspect. 3-. (Max.3). Acquaints students with the underlying structure and dynamics of public policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation at the state, local, and federal levels. Drawing on a number of analytic approaches, the course seeks to understand this complex political phenomenon in the context of the institutions that drive it. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

POLS 5570. Graduate Reading. 1-3. (Max.9). Special programs of readings of government and politics will be outlined to meet needs of individual students. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

POLS 5600. Political Violence. 3-. (Max.). Examines causes and consequences of violence. About one-third is devoted to causes including animal violence, human nature and social norms. Remainder examines causes and consequences of violence in particular contexts. Description of each course project can be found in the syllabus. The final project is an extensive review of the Holocaust in which students are asked to analyze this act of mass murder, then argue whether the conditions that produced that Holocaust are present in Western society. Prerequisite: POLS 1000 and SOC 1000 or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4600. Cross listed with CRMJ 4600. Offered once per year.

POLS 5640. Pol Phil Ancnt/Med. 3-. (Max.3). Surveys political philosophy from Classical Greek period to Machiavelli. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or consent of instructor (offered once per year). Dual listed with POLS 4640.

POLS 5650. Pol Phil: Modern. 3-. (Max.3). Surveys political philosophy from Machiavelli to present. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4650.

POLS 5660. Recent Pol Phil.

3-. (Max.3). Examines central developments in political philosophy that guide action in today's world.. Prerequisite: 9 hours of political science or consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS 4660.

POLS 5670. Exp analysis In Pa.

3-. (Max.3). An opportunity for pre-service students to experience professional life and to complete a reflective paper addressing this experience. In-service students must work with a member of the faculty to write a similar paper addressing a significant professional event or issue. Prerequisite: POLS 5000.

POLS 5680. Res Method Pol Sci.

3-. (Max.3). Introduction to methodology of empirical analysis appropriate for political science and public policy. Prerequisite: STAT 2050 or 2070.

POLS 5690. Capstone Pub Mgt.

3-. (Max.3). Integrates theories and concepts introduced in core and option-core courses, and emphasizes students' application of them to various administrative settings. Prerequisite: Completion of all other core and option core requirements in the MPA Program.

POLS 5710. Topics In.: 1-3. (Max.9). Intended to accommodate various specialized subjects not offered as regular courses. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

POLS 5810. Sem: Polt Phil.

3-. (Max.6). Seminar in Political Philosophy; encompassing reading and research on selected problems in political philosophy. Dual listed with POLS4810. Prerequisites: Consent of instructor.

POLS 5850. Sem. Am Politics.

3-. (Max.6). Includes reading and research on selected U.S. government and politics problems. Prerequisites: Consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS4850.

POLS 5865. Sem Int Rel Theor.

3-. (Max.3). Examines theoretical issues in the study of international politics by analyzing major theoretical schools of thought in the study of international relations such as realism, idealism, constructivism, and theories of foreign

policy. Prerequisites: Consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS4865.

POLS 5870. Sem: Int Rel. 3-. (Max.6). Encompasses reading and research in international law and politics. Prerequisites: Consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS4870.

POLS 5875. Sem. Comp for Pol.

3-. (Max.6). Overviews theories and approaches to cross-national analysis of foreign policy. Examines foreign policies of advanced industrial democracies, Russia, and various Third World nations. Emphasizes foreign policy decision making processes in non-American settings. Prerequisites: Consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS4875.

POLS 5890. Sem. Comp Govt..

3-. (Max.6). Researches selected topics in comparative government and politics. Prerequisites: Consent of instructor. Dual listed with POLS4890.

POLS 5900. Prac-College Teach.

1-3. (Max.3). Work in classroom with a major professor. Expected to give some lectures and gain classroom experience. Prerequisite: Graduate status.

POLS 5920. Cont Reg: On Campus.

1-2. (Max.16). Prerequisite: Advanced degree candidacy.

POLS 5940. Cont Reg: Off Campus.

1-2. (Max.16). Prerequisite: Advanced degree candidacy.

POLS 5959. Enrichment Stds:.

1-3. (Max.99). The course is designed to provide an enrichment experience in a variety of topics. NOTE: Credit in this course may not be included in a graduate program of study for degree purposes.

POLS 5960. Thesis Research.

1-12. (Max.24). Prerequisite: Advanced degree candidacy.

POLS 5990. Internship. 1-12. (Max.24). Prerequisite: Graduate standing.