

POLITICAL SCIENCE, M.A.

Degree Requirements (30-36 Hours)

Normally, the master's candidate will follow the non-thesis track, which involves completing 30 hours of substantive course work and six additional hours of substantive course work to replace the thesis requirement. Alternatively, master's candidates may pursue a thesis track option, which involves completing 24 hours of substantive course work plus six hours of thesis credit for a total of 30 hours. The program may require more hours in the event of deficiencies. An oral defense is required of master's candidates who chose the thesis option. Non-thesis track/additional course-work master's candidates may fulfill the comprehensive examination requirement in one of two ways:

1. successful completion of the Ph.D. comprehensive examination process fulfills the MA comprehensive examination process;
2. completion of a comprehensive examination in one subfield of Political Science to the satisfaction of a committee of the subfield selected in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies.

Competency in one foreign language or political research methodology is required for the M.A. degree. Students must complete two graduate courses in statistics to demonstrate competency in research methodology.