

POLITICAL SCIENCE, PH.D.

The doctoral degree program with a major in political science is specifically designed to prepare students for academic and top-level public service careers. Students acquire a general knowledge of the discipline of political science, its history, its subject matter, its relationship to other disciplines and professions, and the aspirations and obligations of political scientists.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the discipline and their theoretical and substantive knowledge of two of the discipline's subrecognized fields.
2. Students will develop a research design to examine an important theoretical question in political science that has the potential to contribute to understanding in the field.
3. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of basic quantitative skills and, for those students for which it is appropriate, their knowledge of more advanced quantitative skills.
4. Students will demonstrate their ability to conduct original research.

Admission is based on an evaluation of the applicant's potential for successful graduate work. It is expected that applicants to the political science doctoral program will demonstrate a strong potential for advanced scholarly study. Admission will be based on a holistic evaluation of the candidate's complete academic background, including grades, test scores, past research accomplishments, and the evaluations contained in letters of reference. The admission decision depends in part on the qualifications of the total pool of applicants. There are no formal minimums since strength in one area may offset relative weakness in another area. However, the admissions committee uses the following indicators as rough benchmarks of the probability of success in our graduate program: scores of at least 600 verbal, 600 quantitative, and 4.5 analytical on the three sections of the GRE, an undergraduate GPA of 3.50 or above, and a TOEFL score of 620 (if applicable) or a comparable score on the IELTS Intl. Academic Course Type 2 exam.

The admission deadlines for political science are:

December 15: fall admission with departmental financial support (applications received after this date will be considered for financial support depending on availability of aid);

April 1: fall admission.

Degree Requirements (63 Post-Baccalaureate Hours)

Distribution of Hours

Requirements	Credit Hours
Core Courses	12
First Field (including Gateway Proseminar)	15
Second Field (including Gateway Proseminar)	9
Electives	9
Coursework Minimum	45
Dissertation	18
Minimum Total	63

Distribution of Fields

Students will choose a first field and a second field from the following list:

- American Politics
- Comparative Politics
- International Relations
- Political Theory (**second field only**)
- Public Administration and Public Policy
- Public Law
- Research Methodology (**second field only**)

Field Requirements

Students are required to take the "Gateway Proseminar" in each of their fields. The majority of courses taken to satisfy a field requirement must be taken within the Department of Political Science. For the methods second field, students are required to take 9 hours of course work beyond the core POLI 502 and POLI 701 courses. **Students taking political theory as a first (or second) field must take 15 (or 9) hours of course work beyond the POLI 703 or POLI 707 course taken in the core.** Students taking POLI 707 as a core course can count POLI 707 as satisfying one of the Gateway Proseminar course requirements (since POLI 707 is the Gateway Proseminar for the field of political theory). Counting POLI 707 twice in this way does not decrease the number of courses or credit requirements students need to meet the Ph.D. requirements.

Degree Requirements (Minimum of 30 Post-Master's Hours)

Students who are admitted to the Ph.D. program who have a Master's degree in Political Science or a closely related field will be required to complete a minimum of 30 hours. The distribution of these courses across fields will depend upon the coursework completed as part of the Master's program, but will at a minimum consist of POLI 701, POLI 706, one additional core course and three courses in the student's first field.

An individual's specific requirements will be determined by the Director of Graduate Studies in consultation with faculty from the student's first field; this will be done before the student's first semester of coursework.

Core Curriculum (4 courses/12 hours)

Course	Title	Credits
POLI 502	Methods of Political Analysis	3
POLI 701	Theories of Political Inquiry	3
POLI 706	Advanced Methods of Political Analysis	3
Select one additional research methodology course from the following two:		
POLI 709	Qualitative Methods of Political Analysis	
POLI 803	Research Methods in Political Science	
First Field (5 courses)		15
Select from any fields of Political Science except Research Methods		
Second Field (3 courses)		9
Select from any fields of Political Science		
Electives (3 courses)		9

Electives

Course	Title	Credits
American Politics		
POLI 554	Law and Society	3
POLI 567	American Local Government	3
POLI/WGST 708	Women in American Politics	3
POLI 720	Political Communication	3
POLI 721	Race and Public Policy	3
POLI 736	Public Opinion and Political Attitudes	3
POLI 760	American Government and Politics ((gateway proseminar))	3
POLI 761	American National Government for Professionals	3
POLI 762	Politics of the Budgetary Process	3
POLI 763	Legislative Process and Behavior	3
POLI 764	Problems of the Presidency	3
POLI 765	Political Parties and Interest Groups	3
POLI 766	Electoral Behavior	3
POLI 767	State Government	3
POLI 768	Local Government Administration	3
POLI 791	Selected Topics in American Politics	3
POLI 798	Selected Topics in Public Law	3
POLI 850	Seminar in Public Law	3
POLI 865	Seminar in Urban Politics	3
Comparative Politics		
POLI 703	Democratic Theory	3
POLI 718	Revolution and Politics	3
POLI 719	Political and Social Change	3
POLI 720	Political Communication	3
POLI 724	Religion and Politics	3
POLI 737	Nationalism and Politics	3
POLI 758	The State and Economic Life	3
POLI 780	Theories of Comparative Politics ((gateway proseminar))	3
POLI 781	Government and Politics of Japan	3
POLI 782	Problems in Chinese Government and Politics	3
POLI 783	Dynamics of Middle East Politics	3
POLI 784	Government and Politics of Europe	3
POLI 785	Contemporary Russian Politics	3
POLI 792	Selected Topics in Comparative Politics	3
POLI 798	Selected Topics in Public Law	3
POLI 802	Seminar in Comparative Administration	3
POLI 831	Seminar on Europe	3
POLI 880	Seminar in Comparative Politics	3
International Relations		
POLI 715	International Relations Theory ((gateway proseminar))	3
POLI 717	Comparative Foreign Policy	3
POLI/RELG 724	Religion and Politics	3
POLI 725	International Conflict	3
POLI 732	International Law	3
POLI 733	International Organization	3
POLI 734	Economics of International Politics	3
POLI 735	International Cooperation	3
POLI 740	Formulation and Conduct of United States Foreign Policy	3
POLI 741	Contemporary United States Foreign Policy	3
POLI 742	Problems in National Security	3
POLI 745	Russian Foreign Policy	3
POLI 746	Chinese Foreign Policy	3
POLI 747	Japanese Foreign Policy	3
POLI 749	International Relations of the Middle East	3
POLI 794	Selected Topics in International Relations	3
POLI 795	Selected Topics in International Law and Organization	3
POLI 815	Seminar in Advanced International Relations Theory	3
POLI 816	Seminar in Comparative Study of Foreign Policy	3
POLI 817	Seminar in International Organization and Cooperation	3
Political Theory		
POLI 504	Politics and Ethics	3
POLI 505	Utopian Political Thought	3
POLI 703	Democratic Theory	3
POLI/WGST 704	Political Theory and Feminism	3
POLI 705	Theory of Marxism	3
POLI 707	Classics of Political Theory	3
POLI 800	Selected Topics in Political Theory	3
POLI 801	Selected Thinkers in Political Theory	3
Public Administration/Public Policy		
POLI 721	Race and Public Policy	3
POLI 754	Public Accountability and Ethics	3
POLI 755	Grants Administration	3
POLI 757	Health Politics	3
POLI 759	Information Systems and Public Administration	3
POLI 762	Politics of the Budgetary Process	3
POLI 768	Local Government Administration	3
POLI 770	Perspectives on Public Administration ((gateway proseminar))	3
POLI 771	Public Data Analysis	3
POLI 772	Contemporary Administrative Organization	3
POLI 773	Human Resources Administration in Government	3
POLI 774	The Public Policy Process ((gateway proseminar))	3
POLI 775	Financial Administration	3
POLI 776	Policy Formation and Program Planning	3
POLI 777	Policy Evaluation	3
POLI 778	Practicum in Public Administration	3
POLI 779	Public Administration Internship	3
POLI 797	Selected Topics in Public Administration	3
POLI 802	Seminar in Comparative Administration	3
Public Law		
POLI 726	Seminar in Judicial Politics	3
POLI 727	Models for Understanding Political Institutions	3
POLI 728	Judicial Politics in Europe and the Common Law World	3
POLI 729	Courts in Developing Countries	3

POLI 732	International Law	3
POLI 760	American Government and Politics	3
POLI 780	Theories of Comparative Politics	3
POLI 798	Selected Topics in Public Law	3
POLI 850	Seminar in Public Law	3
LAWS 525	Constitutional Law I	3
LAWS 526	Constitutional Law II	3
LAWS 812	International Human Rights Seminar	2
LAWS 660		
LAWS 803	Women and the Law	3
Research Methodology		
POLI 709	Qualitative Methods of Political Analysis	3
POLI 771	Public Data Analysis	3
POLI 777	Policy Evaluation	3
POLI 803	Research Methods in Political Science	3
POLI 806	Seminar in Advanced Methods of Political Analysis	3