

POLITICAL SCIENCE - MASTER OF ARTS

The MA program provides general course work in each of the major fields of political science. Students may choose either the thesis option, under which they complete 30 credits of course work plus 6 thesis credits (POLS 599 Master's Thesis), or the nonthesis option, with 30 credits of course work plus 6 hours of special research credit (POLS 598 Special Research Programs) or 6 hours of approved internship credit (POLS 510 Internship). Both the thesis and nonthesis options require a final oral examination; the non thesis option requires a written examination as well. The program provides a broad-based foundation in political science while allowing students to pursue specific areas of interest.

Requirements

Flexibility in planning a program of study is permitted to meet the educational needs of a diverse student population. Structured areas of emphasis are available in several topical areas, including Latin American and international affairs. Students may also take a graduate minor in Security Studies. Information on these areas and the graduate minor may be obtained from the Department of Government. No more than 9 credits taken outside the department will be counted toward the degree.

Prefix	Title	Credits
Requirements		
POLS 502	Research Methods in Government	3
or POLS 503	Qualitative Research Methods	
Select three from the following:		9
POLS 530	Seminar in Public Policy	
POLS 550	Seminar in American Politics	
POLS 560	Seminar in International Relations Theory	
POLS 570	Seminar in Comparative Politics	
POLS 580	Seminar in Political Theory	
Additional credits subject to advisor approval ¹		18
Thesis/Non-Thesis		
Select one from the following:		6
POLS 599	Master's Thesis	
POLS 598	Special Research Programs	
or POLS 510	Internship	
Total Credits		36

¹ The remaining credits required for the degree are selected subject to advisor approval to satisfy particular academic interests or career goals.