Political Science, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS (http://www.cla.temple.edu)

About the Program

The primary mission of the Political Science Department’s graduate program is to prepare students for careers in academia. The department gives equal emphasis to training students for both the research and teaching sides of such a career. Many of our graduates also successfully apply their political science training to non-academic careers. The Ph.D. program offers study in four broadly defined fields: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. The Ph.D. program seeks primarily to develop the research skills and substantive knowledge necessary for successful completion of a dissertation.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 7 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: Students complete the degree program through classes offered after 3:00 p.m. The degree program can be completed on a full- or part-time basis.

Areas of Specialization: Our particular strengths in American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory are reflected in the brief biographical statements of our Graduate Faculty members’ research and teaching interests:

- In American Politics, faculty teach and conduct research on political behavior, political economy, political institutions, public policy, and urban politics.
- In Comparative Politics, faculty focus on the issues of democratization; public policy making; the role of the state in the economy; and identity politics in European and post-communist states, Latin America, China, and other developing nations.
- In International Relations, faculty emphasize the various theoretical approaches to the study of world politics and the testing of such theories in the areas of international security, international political economy, and the study of international organizations.
- In Political Theory, our strengths cluster around the research areas of late modernity; democratic and normative political theories, especially those pertaining to political questions of social and economic inequality, globalization, identity politics, and social movements; and the relationship between politics and religion.

Job Prospects: Most Ph.D. students are preparing for college teaching careers. Our program has an excellent placement record. About three-quarters of recent Ph.D.s hold tenured or tenure-track professorial positions at colleges and universities, many of which are in the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware state university and college systems. Other Ph.D.s are in government or research positions.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Prior to applying for admission, students sometimes want to take courses as non-degree students. Those who wish to do so must first obtain the approval of the Graduate Chair in the Political Science Department to determine if the individual stands a reasonable chance for admission to the M.A. or Ph.D. program. Then, the prospective student must visit the Office of Continuing Studies with transcripts from all institutions attended, including the one that conferred the undergraduate degree, to be enrolled in the coursework.

Financing Opportunities:

Departmental Support:
The department typically supports a portion of its graduate students as Teaching or Research Assistants. Students may not only assist professors in research and teaching, but also may teach courses on their own. Assistantships include full tuition, a stipend, and health insurance. Assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis. The amount of support available for entering students varies from year to year, in accordance with the University budget and contractual commitments with the Temple University Graduate Students’ Association (TUGSA). Assisting in research and undergraduate teaching helps graduate students integrate their studies and prepare for examinations, and gives those who plan on pursuing an academic career valuable experience.

In making funding awards, the Graduate Chair and committee place high priority on a student's academic performance and potential. The following rules and criteria guide the committee’s decisions for continuing students:

- The student must be making normal progress toward meeting her/his degree requirements. Two incompletes disqualify a student from consideration for financial assistance. Advanced students should note that no student will be awarded financial assistance who has not successfully defended a dissertation prospectus within a year of passing the comprehensive examinations.
- To spread support more broadly and to provide an incentive for students to move quickly through coursework and examinations and into the dissertation, the department typically will not provide financial aid for students who have already had five years of support as a Graduate Assistant.

The graduate committee also considers the extent to which a student's interests and skills fit departmental needs and the student's financial need.

In applications for financial assistance, students who have had prior teaching experience, either at Temple or elsewhere, should include syllabi of courses they have taught as well as any student assessments that have been taken.

Graduate School Support:
The Graduate School offers Presidential and University Fellowships to the very best applicants on a competitive basis for newly and recently admitted Ph.D. students. Each fellowship offers a stipend plus tuition, for up to two years, plus up to two additional years of support as a Teaching and/or Research Assistant. Presidential Fellowships are for doctoral candidates not yet enrolled at Temple, while University Fellowships are also for doctoral students not yet enrolled at Temple as well as Temple graduate students who have not earned more than 24 graduate credits.

The Graduate School also has a Future Faculty Fellowship Program for students who intend to become college professors. The program provides tuition and a stipend comparable to a University Fellowship. Nominees to this program must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Applicants interested in this program should craft their statements of purpose carefully, emphasizing both their commitment to a career in higher education and their eligibility under at least one of these criteria:

- Holding membership in an ethnic or gender group that is underrepresented in the applicant's discipline;
- Having earned a record of exceptional and continuous leadership ability in substantial college or community activities;
- Demonstrating a strong likelihood of successfully completing a terminal degree program; and/or
- Having overcome exceptional circumstances or significant obstacles in the applicant's education career.

The department nominates students to the Graduate School for these awards. All application materials for such scholarships, including official report of GRE scores, must arrive at the department no later than January 15. In addition to excellent grades and GRE scores, applicants are expected to have strong letters of recommendation and a statement of purpose that conveys a sense of the applicant’s intellectual evolution and professional trajectory, as well as demonstrates a good fit between the applicant's scholarly interests and those of the faculty.

Finally, for students nearing completion of their dissertations, the Graduate School offers a limited number of Doctoral Dissertation Completion Grants. Doctoral candidates with approximately six months of anticipated writing to complete their dissertations may apply for this grant. These awards are given on a competitive basis. Students should apply for these awards only when all other department and university support has been exhausted, and when a persuasive case can be made that the dissertation will be completed within the time period of the grant. No more aid will be available after the awarding of such a grant. Interested students should speak to the Graduate Chair at least one term before they plan to apply for the award. Application can be made in the Fall or Spring term.

**Admission Requirements and Deadlines**

**Application Deadline:**

*Fall:* December 1

Applications are evaluated as they arrive.

**APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.**

**Letters of Reference:**

*Number Required:* 3

*From Whom:* Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members familiar with academic competence.

**Master's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline:** A master's degree is not required.

**Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline:** A baccalaureate degree is required.

**Statement of Goals:** Approximately 500-1,000 words include your interest in Temple's program, your research goals, your future career goals, and your academic and research achievements.

**Standardized Test Scores:**

*GRE:* Required. Minimum scores of 156 verbal and 148 quantitative are expected.

*TOEFL:* 100 iBT or 600 PBT minimum

**Resume:** Current resume required.

**Writing Sample:** The writing sample should demonstrate your ability to research and write a scholarly paper. The paper should be no more than 25 pages and fully referenced according to a professional, scholarly style manual.

**Advanced Standing:** For students entering the Ph.D. program who have received an M.A. degree elsewhere, up to 18 credits may be applied to the doctoral program, provided they are relevant to the department's required courses. These credits must have been obtained no more than five years prior to the student's matriculation at Temple and the grades must be "B" or better. The Graduate Chair decides which courses students may transfer. As a general rule, transfer students should expect that they will have to complete much of the required coursework in residence. Students transferring into the Ph.D. program should note that it is advisable to take courses from Temple faculty in their major and minor fields before taking the Ph.D. Qualifying Exams in those two fields.
# Program Requirements

### General Program Requirements:

*Number of Credits Required to Earn the Ph.D.:* 46, including 30 credits at the master’s level and 16 at the doctoral level

### Required Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Methods Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 8000</td>
<td>Topics in Research Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 8001</td>
<td>Political Statistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 8002</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 8003</td>
<td>Political Statistics II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Core Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 8401</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 8601</td>
<td>Teaching Methods</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Select two of the following:</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 8101</td>
<td>Government in American Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 8201</td>
<td>Comparative Politics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 8301</td>
<td>International Politics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Electives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Select three elective courses in the first field, two elective courses in a second field, and one free elective. ¹</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Didactic Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 9994</td>
<td>Preliminary Examination Preparation</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 9998</td>
<td>Pre-Dissertation Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 9999</td>
<td>Dissertation Research ²</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>46</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

¹ Elective courses in the two fields should be taken in areas in which the student plans to complete written comprehensive exams. The free elective may be taken in advanced methods or another substantive course. Taking more than two independent study courses requires the permission of the Graduate Chair.

² Students must register for POLS 9999 while writing their dissertation to remain in good standing in the program – unless they file for a leave of absence. Students usually register for 1 credit of POLS 9999 for every term they are writing the dissertation.

### Culminating Events:

#### Qualifying Examinations:

Qualifying Exams are given twice each year near the beginning of each term within a designated period of time. Application must be made to take the exams before the posted deadline by students who:

- Plan to apply for the Ph.D. program or those who were directly admitted into the Ph.D. program;
- Have completed all didactic coursework; and
- Have no incompletes on their transcript regardless of how many credits have been completed. In practice, all incompletes must be converted to a letter grade by the date on which the application to take the examinations is due.

Students take the Ph.D. Qualifying Examinations in two of four fields: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. The exams must be taken in both fields within a single exam period. The examinations include both written and oral parts.

Each field examination is conducted by at least three faculty selected from the subfield by the Graduate Chair in consultation with the Subfield Coordinator. The examiners have joint responsibility for writing and grading the field examination. In this exam, students must demonstrate depth and breadth of knowledge and intellectual sophistication across their main intended Ph.D. field and a second field. They should also be prepared to interpret political phenomena within the context of various theories; use empirical data to illuminate concepts; and identify gaps in knowledge.

Students are encouraged to meet with faculty in their fields to discuss the general areas of the exams’ content to ensure that they have accurately identified key theories, concepts, and literature. Professors may make sample questions, previous exams, or special reading lists available as study aids. In addition, core reading lists in each field may be available from the Graduate Coordinator. The lists represent a minimum of representative readings with which a candidate should be familiar.

Oral examinations for students who have passed their written exams are scheduled soon after the student receives notice of the passing of the written exam. Except under extraordinary circumstances, students should take the oral exams in the same term as their written exams. Each oral examination
committee consists of the written examiners. The oral exam allows the candidate to respond to the examiners' comments on the written exam and to demonstrate her/his ability to connect the specific issues addressed in the exam to other related areas of inquiry within the intended Ph.D. field and second field. Students are urged to carefully review the examiners' comments on their written preliminary examinations in preparation for the oral exams.

In the oral exam (as well as in the oral defense of a dissertation discussed below), the student must be able to converse in English adequately for professional purposes. If, in the judgment of a majority of committee members, the student is not demonstrating this ability, the examination is suspended so that the student can take additional training in the English language.

The Graduate School specifies that any student who fails all or part of these examinations twice is automatically dismissed from the program.

Dissertation Proposal:
In consultation with the Graduate Chair, the candidate secures a principal dissertation advisor. This person must be a member of the Political Science Graduate Faculty and specialize in the area of the dissertation topic. Preferably in the term immediately after passing the Ph.D. Qualifying Exam, and no more than two terms thereafter, the candidate takes POLS 9998, the dissertation proposal preparation course. The course is offered every Spring under the guidance of the Graduate Chair. The purpose of the course is to launch students on writing their dissertation proposals and prepare them for writing the dissertation. Regardless of whichever term the student registers, students are required to do the following:

1. Under the guidance of their advisor (or if different from the advisor, the faculty member most likely to supervise their dissertation) and Graduate Chair, begin exploring possible dissertation topics through research and reading.
2. Attend seminar meetings in the Spring term under the supervision of the Graduate Chair. At these sessions, the Graduate Chair presents information relevant to the development and preparation of dissertation proposals and chapters. Students are required to make presentations that address problems encountered in the proposal and dissertation writing process and strategies for overcoming them. Students who already have taken POLS 9998 are invited back to attend and participate in subsequent seminars and report on their progress and share their experiences with the students enrolled in the course.

In consultation with the dissertation advisor, the student assembles a Doctoral Advisory Committee. The Doctoral Advisory Committee is to be composed of at least three Temple Graduate Faculty, at least two of whom have their primary presidential appointment in Political Science. The composition of the Doctoral Advisory Committee must be formally approved by the Graduate Chair. A student wishing to pursue a dissertation on a topic that requires supplementing the expertise of the department's faculty may have to seek a committee member from another department. The student has the burden of convincing the Graduate Chair that a committee with adequate expertise can be established with faculty willing to serve.

Students are required to submit a preliminary proposal not to exceed five double-spaced pages. The preliminary proposal should address both the question(s) to be examined and a justification for why those questions warrant a major study. Students are expected to show why these questions are or should be important to political scientists as well as to citizens. Only after the Doctoral Advisory Committee is satisfied that the student has written a persuasive preliminary proposal will the student be permitted to write a longer proposal, if the committee believes a longer proposal is warranted.

Successful completion of POLS 9998 culminates in the defense of the dissertation prospectus before the Doctoral Advisory Committee. The dissertation prospectus, consisting of a research design and literature review, should be defended and accepted by the full membership of the committee within two terms after completion of Ph.D. coursework. No student is awarded financial assistance who has not successfully defended a prospectus within a year of completion of coursework. Students who fail to submit an approved dissertation proposal within two years of completing their Ph.D. coursework are subject to dismissal from the program. An approved proposal is a contract between the student and the Doctoral Advisory Committee. After approval, any significant theoretical or methodological change in the substantive direction of the project must be approved by the committee.

Once the prospectus is successfully defended, the student is advanced to candidacy. The Doctoral Advisory Committee must confer at least once a year with the student to review progress and provide advice. Students should take the initiative to schedule these exchanges and ensure that written faculty comments on the exchange be placed in their graduate file.

Dissertation:
A doctoral dissertation should demonstrate that the candidate can conduct scholarly research with a high level of professional competence. The dissertation should constitute a distinctive contribution to knowledge in Political Science. Normally, it should outline theoretical knowledge in some field of Political Science; propose a question or hypothesis that is linked to the theory; and provide empirical data to illuminate the theoretical issues in a convincing manner.

The Graduate School requires that students working on a dissertation register for POLS 9999 in order to maintain status as an active graduate student.


After the principal dissertation advisor and the Doctoral Advisory Committee have reviewed the completed dissertation draft, a fourth reader from outside the department who has not been involved with the dissertation previously must be selected by the dissertation committee chair and the Graduate Chair. (Students may suggest a reader.) This reader must be a Graduate Faculty member from another department at Temple or from another university who has the qualifications necessary to act as a fair judge of the dissertation's scholarly merit. As a member of the newly formed Dissertation Examining Committee, this reader should receive a completed draft of the dissertation one month before the anticipated dissertation defense date. Readers who
are from outside of Temple University must submit a curriculum vitae and be approved by the Graduate School at least two weeks prior to the oral defense.

When a majority of the Dissertation Examining Committee has judged in writing that the dissertation is ready to be defended, a defense date can be scheduled. A defense is open to the university community and to the student’s family; others who wish to attend must obtain the written permission of the student and the Dissertation Examining Committee. The defense must be announced publicly at least 10 working days in advance. Notice must be sent to all faculty members in the department and to the Graduate School. The public announcement of the defense should include an abstract of the dissertation.

The oral defense must be chaired by a member of the committee other than the dissertation advisor. The oral defense should demonstrate that:

• the dissertation is commensurate with the standards for original research in Political Science;
• the ethics and standards governing Political Science research have been followed;
• the research and appropriate methodology have been mastered; and
• the candidate has an understanding of the relationship of this work to the broader field in which it is lodged.

Passing the examination requires a vote of approval by more than half of the full membership of the Dissertation Examining Committee. If a dissertation is approved but revisions are required, the revisions must be submitted to the Graduate School in final form within 30 days of the defense. Otherwise, the defense is nullified and a new oral defense must be scheduled. After the final draft of the dissertation has been approved by the dissertation chair, it must be submitted to the Graduate Coordinator and to the Graduate School by uploading the final document to www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/school?siteld=171 (http://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/school?siteld=171).

Contacts

Program Web Address:
http://www.cla.temple.edu/politicalscience/graduate/

Department Information:
Dept. of Political Science
409 Gladfelter Hall
1115 Polett Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6089
tanya.taylor@temple.edu
215-204-1469

Mailing Address for Application Materials:
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411 Gladfelter Hall (025-22)
1115 Polett Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6089

Department Contacts:
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215-204-1469

Graduate Chairperson:
Hillel David Soifer, Ph.D.
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215-204-7796

Chairperson:
Robin Kolodny, Ph.D.
rkolodny@temple.edu
215-204-7709
Courses

POLS 8000. Topics in Research Design. 3 Credit Hours.
Students learn how to formulate and justify research questions, situate their research within the scholarly literature, select cases, and address problems related to making causal inferences. An important focus of the course is on the similarities and differences between quantitative and qualitative research designs and their respective strengths and weaknesses.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 8001. Political Statistics I. 3 Credit Hours.
Required of all M.A. and Ph.D. students. Introductory applied social statistics. Topics covered include descriptive measures, elementary probability theory, hypothesis testing, and correlation and regression analysis. This course explores inductive statistics including: probability and sampling, multivariate contingency tables, analysis of variance, correlation and regression analysis.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8002. Qualitative Research Methods. 3 Credit Hours.
Required of all Ph.D. students. An examination of some of the major qualitative research approaches in political science -- case studies, comparative historical, institutional, community power studies, etc. The course aims to teach students the basic methods and reasoning procedures for doing advanced research in political science.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(POLS 8001|Minimum Grade of B|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (POLS 8003|Minimum Grade of B|May not be taken concurrently)

POLS 8003. Political Statistics II. 3 Credit Hours.
The course offers a thorough coverage of the basic linear regression model. Two-thirds of the class is devoted to the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) method with a focus on estimation, hypothesis testing, and diagnosing threats to statistical inference. Cross-sectional, time-series, and panel data applications are covered. The remainder of the class introduces students to Maximum Likelihood estimators that address limitations to the OLS model.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
POLS 8001|May not be taken concurrently.

POLS 8101. Government in American Society. 3 Credit Hours.
An introduction to key theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of the major areas in American politics.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8102. American Presidency. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines the state of Presidency research in political science. The American presidency is evaluated as an institution and as a position of political leadership.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8103. Legislative Behavior. 3 Credit Hours.
Analysis and research on legislatures, legislators and the legislative process at national, state, and local levels. Focus on legislative decision-making.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
POLS 8104. Politics of Organized Interests. 3 Credit Hours.
Critical examination of the role of interest groups in the American political system. Do interest groups hold government captive and interfere with the democratic process or do they strengthen democratic practice? Why do interest groups form? Do Political Action Committee (PAC) contributions buy votes? Is business the most powerful interest in American society?

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8105. Public Law. 3 Credit Hours.
A survey of the main political and legal factors affecting the development of the basic constitutional doctrines regarding judicial review, separation of powers, the presidency, foreign affairs, the basic delegated powers of Congress in the areas of regulation of commerce and taxation, and federalism.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8106. Civil Rights and Liberties. 3 Credit Hours.
A critical overview and exploration of the evolution, and various aspects of U.S. anti-discrimination laws and policies using court decisions as well as political and legal theories.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8107. Business Politics and Power. 3 Credit Hours.
Course examines the role of business in politics. Includes a review some of the most important theoretical approaches that dominate the study of business political activity and its impact on policy outcomes.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8108. American Party System. 3 Credit Hours.
Examines political parties and party systems at the federal and state level, in both historical and contemporary contexts. What are political parties? Who forms them? This course focuses mostly on officeholders and activists to understand political parties in government and political parties as organizations.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8109. Campaigns, Elections, and Media. 3 Credit Hours.
The role of elections in contemporary American society. Special attention to parties and mass media as managers of campaigns. Factors affecting the voting behavior of the mass public and the link voting provides between the public and policy formation. The role of elections in contemporary American society. Factors affecting the voting behavior of the mass public and the link voting provides between the public and policy formation. Special attention also will be paid to the roles of political parties and mass media.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8111. American Federalism. 3 Credit Hours.
This graduate seminar investigates how national, state, and local governments interact to create America's unique federal system. We will approach the topic of federalism from historical, legal, fiscal, and comparative perspectives. The dual goals of the course are to improve students' understanding of the key features and changing nature of American federalism and to introduce students to the diverse methodologies and theoretical approaches for studying this complex topic.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
POLS 8112. Research in State Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces graduate students to the research investigating politics and governance in the American states. Seminar discussions will focus on identifying the questions motivating state politics research, comparing different methodological approaches, and discovering what questions remain unanswered. We also will consider how findings from state politics research might extend to other institutional settings. The goal of the seminar is to stimulate students to conduct their own state politics research.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8113. Politics of Race and Class in America. 3 Credit Hours.
Examines the intersection of race and class in American cities from theoretical and practical perspectives. Readings cover some of the major theories of race and urban poverty going from the "declining significance of race" proponents on the one hand to the "increasing significance of race" theorists on the other end of the spectrum. The course also examines how considerations of race and class have shaped key policy areas such as housing, education, and community development. Finally, the course examines the "new immigration" and its impact on class and race relations within urban areas.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8114. Community Based Research. 3 Credit Hours.
Engages students in community based research projects that are identified and developed by community-based organizations to address a particular program or policy need that they have encountered. Students work closely with these organizations as they carry out the research. Field-based research is supported by weekly seminar meetings that combine instruction in research methods with substantive examination of community development issues. Students share their experiences from the field during the seminar meetings.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8115. Critique of American Government. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8120. Topics in Public Policy. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POL 8121. National Public Policy. 3 Credit Hours.
Focuses on the content or substance of contemporary U.S. public policy and developing agendas in several salient areas such as environmental protection, economic development, education, public assistance, drug abuse, and civil rights.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8122. Urban Public Policy. 3 Credit Hours.
Explores key areas of urban public policy, such as housing, economic and community development, and education. Examines the political, social, institutional and cultural factors that shape the policy making context and ultimately the policies themselves. Interdisciplinary approach using readings from political science, sociology, economics, planning and social history. Covers major research conducted on policy areas and central debates surrounding them.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
POLS 8124. Public Opinion and Propaganda. 3 Credit Hours.
Survey of the broad field of public opinion research. Topics include: political sophistication, citizen competence, democratic responsiveness, political socialization, attitude formation, and the effects of mass media and political rhetoric.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8125. Theories of Policy Making. 3 Credit Hours.
Considers various models of the policy process and policymaking, including those within group, systemic, rational, and institutional approaches. Empirical and normative perspectives are both addressed.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8130. Topics in American Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 8140. Issues in American Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 8201. Comparative Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
A survey of core theories, methodological approaches and central issues in the comparative study of political systems throughout the world. Issues include state, class, party systems and interest groups, dependency, democracy and autocracy, reform and revolution, ethnic/nationalist conflict, and policymaking in industrial welfare states.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8202. Comparative Politics: Western Europe. 3 Credit Hours.
Comparative analysis of political systems in Western Europe. Topics covered include the development of political parties and interest group politics, political economy, the welfare state, democratization/market liberalization in Eastern Europe, and European integration (EU).

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8203. Comparative Politics: Developing Nations. 3 Credit Hours.
What are the ideological, economic, and political processes that have created “First” and “Third” worlds? Is “underdevelopment” a consequence of the international system or are its sources home-grown? What are the connections between economic processes and political change? This course compares rational, structural, and cultural approaches to the study of development.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8204. Latin American Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will familiarize students with the rich histories of several Latin American countries and introduce region-specific actors and events, in the context of social scientific theorizing of such processes as colonialism, imperialism, regime change, revolution, democratization, identity politics, and issues in political economy.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
POLS 8205. Russian and Eastern European Civilizations. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will familiarize students with the political development and transition to democracy in Russia and former republics of the Soviet Union.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8212. Democratic Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
Free and fair elections are democracy’s defining feature. This course examines the politics surrounding democratic politics, focusing on organizations, institutions, and behavior. In terms of organizations, the course pays close attention to the principle protagonists in democratic elections: political parties. We will explore the origins of political parties in general as well as the conditions giving rise to certain types of political parties. In terms of institutions, the course considers the institutions that shape the selection of political leaders in a democracy and the allocation of power across those elected officials. In particular, we will attend to electoral rules, legislative-executive relations, and the vertical allocation of authority, identifying how democracies decide on these institutions as well as exploring the varied and often far-reaching impact that these institutions have on a wide range of political and economic outcomes. Finally, in terms of behavior, we will explore how mass publics engage with democracy, largely through their participation in elections. Throughout, we will consider the experiences of both longstanding and new democracies, evaluating to what extent theories and ideas travel across contexts.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8217. Democracy, Dictatorship, and Political Regimes. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is a reading-intensive graduate seminar on the comparative politics of democratization and authoritarianism. It focuses upon political regimes in historical and comparative perspective, and immerses students in empirical scholarship and theoretical analysis to engage four core concerns: first, the origins of democracy, dictatorship, and hybrid regime types around the world; second, the trajectory and stability of different regimes in the modern era; third, the domestic and international causes of regime transitions, including institutional, economic, and systemic forces; and fourth, the key concepts and methodological strategies used in this field. The course draws upon countries and cases from across the world, including both West and non-Western regions, and incorporates comparative political work utilizing a variety of methodologies, including qualitative, quantitative, and formal approaches. Assignments involve regular analytical writing and original scholarship, encompassing a series of response papers throughout the term culminating in a final research paper.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8230. Topics in Comparative Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 8240. Issues in Comparative Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 8301. International Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
A graduate-level introduction to theories of international politics, ranging from classical realism and liberalism through contemporary neorealist, institutionalist, constructivist and other approaches. Core course in the area.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8302. International Security. 3 Credit Hours.
Graduate-level introduction to the study of international security, addressing a range of approaches to topics such as the causes of war, the balance of power, alliances, economic statecraft and sanctions, humanitarian intervention and peacekeeping, and terrorism.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
POL 8303. International Political Economy. 3 Credit Hours.
A graduate-level introduction to the history and theory of international political economy. Topics include: states and markets; power and wealth; economic statecraft; international economic organizations; economic development; and the nature of interstate conflict and cooperation in the global economic system.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8304. International Organizations. 3 Credit Hours.
Advanced graduate seminar, which surveys the scholarly literature dealing with the role of international institutions and international organizations in world politics, and the prospects for global governance in various issue-areas.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8305. US Foreign Policy. 3 Credit Hours.
Graduate level introduction to the history and theory of American foreign policy. The seminar is arranged in three sections: the first offers a series of approaches to explaining American foreign policy, the second a survey of the past two-plus centuries of American foreign policy-making, and the last, a number of topics in contemporary foreign policy.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8306. Foreign Policy Analysis. 3 Credit Hours.
Graduate-level survey of foreign policy-making in comparative perspective. The course examines various theoretical accounts of the determinants of a state’s foreign policy, including factors such as leadership, bureaucratic politics, perception and misperception, interest-group politics and public opinion, and survey the empirical literature on comparative public policy.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8330. Topics in International Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POL 8340. Issues in International Relations. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POL 8401. Introduction to Political Theory. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduction to the major conceptual issues in politics-- power, authority, equality, liberty, democracy, justice-- through the reading of both classics in political thought and contemporary political theory. The course will also consider methodological issues in the social sciences and key topics in the philosophy of science and the philosophy of social science.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POL 8402. History of Political Theory I. 3 Credit Hours.
Ancient and Medieval Political Theory -- This course will attempt to initiate students into the premodern origins of some of the key terms of the political vocabulary -- human nature, the good, justice, law, the rule of law, natural law, and the state. The course will try to highlight both the particularities and discontinuities that make ancient and medieval conceptions of these notions unique -- and also the ways in which ancient and medieval theorizing on these topics both sets the stage for later, more modern approaches to these questions and in certain cases actually merges into them.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
POLS 8403. Modern Political Philosophy. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will be devoted to in-depth analyses of some of the formative works of modern political theory and practice that have helped to shape not only modern politics but modern cultural and psychological sensibility as well. The primary theorists that we will be analyzing are Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud, as well as some contemporary political philosophers. Texts and authors covered in this seminar will go beyond the materials covered in the Core Seminar in Political Theory.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8404. 19th and 20th Century Political and Social Thought. 3 Credit Hours.
Examines the rise of modern social theory (Hegel, Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Freud) as a response to the emergence of increasingly rationalized, class-stratified and bureaucratized industrial societies. Issues addressed include the relationship of the individual to society; the relationship between socio-economic and political power; the difficulty of establishing moral meaning in increasingly bureaucratized and routinized societies. The course will also examine post-modern theorists (e.g. Foucault, Derrida, Lyotard) who contend that modern social theory's anachronistic hypothesis of rational, industrial societies cannot adequately explain post-modern, commodified societies increasingly "decentered" by differences of culture, race, and gender.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8405. Contemporary Theories of Democracy. 3 Credit Hours.
Considers the defenses, criticisms, and varieties of democracy in both the American and worldwide settings. Examines the relationship between liberalism and democracy, as well as communitarian, conservative and radical critiques of liberal pluralism. Questions explored include: Can minority rights be guaranteed in a majoritarian democratic system? What are the cultural and socioeconomic prerequisites for a democratic society? Does the distribution of power in America today conform to the norms of a democratic society?

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8430. Problems in Political Philosophy. 3 Credit Hours.
An examination of some central themes and issues in political philosophy conducted through the study of one or more major works of political philosophy.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 8440. Special Topics in Political Philosophy. 3 Credit Hours.
Special topics course. Subject varies with instructor.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 8501. Symposium in Political Science. 3 Credit Hours.
Required of all M.A. and Ph.D. students. Development of political science as a field; analyzes issues in philosophy of social science; examines key concepts and approaches to major fields in Political Science.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

POLS 8601. Teaching Methods. 1 Credit Hour.
Required of all M.A. and Ph.D. students wishing to be considered for financial aid. This course is to be offered once each year. No student will be awarded financial assistance for a second year without having successfully completed this course. This course is conducted on a Pass-Fail basis.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
POLS 9083. Directed Study and Research I. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Fall credit for special study/research with a professor outside of a regularly scheduled course. A letter grade of A, B, C, or F is awarded. A student may register for this course only with the advance approval of the pertinent faculty member and the Graduate Chair.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 9183. Directed Study and Research II. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Spring credit for special study/research with a professor outside of a regularly scheduled course. A letter grade of A, B, C, or F is awarded. A student may register for this course only with the advance approval of the pertinent faculty member and the Graduate Chair.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 9283. Directed Study and Research III. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
First summer session credit for special study/research with a professor outside of a regularly scheduled course. A letter grade of A, B, C, or F is awarded. A student may register for this course only with the advance approval of the pertinent faculty member and the Graduate Chair.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 9383. Directed Study and Research IV. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Second summer session credit for special study/research with a professor outside of a regularly scheduled course. A letter grade of A, B, C, or F is awarded. A student may register for this course only with the advance approval of the pertinent faculty member and the Graduate Chair.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 9994. Preliminary Examination Preparation. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
The purpose of such credit is to assure continuous enrollment as required by the University while one is preparing for M.A. or Ph.D. comprehensive or Preliminary examinations. A grade of "R" is awarded the student by the Graduate Chair or other faculty designated by the Chair of the Department. The semester in which the Preliminary exams are passed, a grade other than "R" is awarded.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 9998. Pre-Dissertation Research. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
Three credits are required in the initial semester following the Preliminary Examinations while the Ph.D. student prepares the dissertation prospectus through a reading course with their primary dissertation supervisor. During subsequent semesters, if not yet advanced to candidacy, students continue to enroll in the 1-credit option in order to assure continuous enrollment as required by the university. Students must participate in the seminar until they execute a completed dissertation proposal. A grade of "R" is awarded until the student passes the prospectus defense. At the semester of passing the prospectus, the grade of "Pass" will be awarded to only that semester's 9998.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

POLS 9999. Dissertation Research. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Dissertation Research credit maintains the continuous enrollment as required by the University after a student has passed the Ph.D. comprehensive exam and prospectus defense. This is the minimum credit required each semester after the proposal defense and while the student is researching and writing the dissertation. A minimum of 6 s.h. of POLS 9999 must be completed before defending the Ph.D. dissertation.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Student Attribute Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Student Attributes: Dissertation Writing Student.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.