Political Science, M.A.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Learn more about the Master of Arts in Political Science.

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. Most students in the M.A. program intend to pursue a Ph.D. either at Temple or elsewhere, immediately after graduation or after a few years of employment. Those who wish to pursue a Ph.D. at Temple are strongly encouraged to apply directly to the Ph.D. program at the outset of the admissions process. Some M.A. students use the degree to establish or strengthen credentials in teaching or for private/public sector positions; a few M.A. students want to strengthen their backgrounds for applications to other professional degree programs.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 3 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 policymaking; 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 students in the M.A. program intend to pursue a Ph.D. immediately after graduation or after a few years of employment. Some M.A. students use the degree to establish or strengthen credentials in teaching or for private/public sector positions; a few M.A. students want to strengthen their background for applications to other professional degree programs.

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: M.A. students are not eligible for departmental assistantships.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: December 15

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.

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

Statement of Goals: Approximately 500 to 1,000 words include your interest in Temple's program, your research goals, your future career goals, and your academic and research achievements.
NOTE: Students who are ultimately interested in earning a doctoral degree in Political Science at Temple University should apply directly to the Ph.D. program.

Standardized Test Scores:
GRE: Required. Minimum scores of 156 verbal and 148 quantitative are expected.

Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master's degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

- TOEFL iBT: 100
- IELTS Academic: 7.0
- PTE Academic: 68

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.

Transfer Credit: Graduate coursework in Political Science may be transferred from outside the University, provided that the credits were obtained no more than five years prior to the student's matriculation at Temple and the grades are 'B' or better. The maximum number of credits a student may transfer is 6.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:
Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 30

Required Courses:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 8001</td>
<td>Political Statistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Subfield Core Courses</td>
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<td>POLS 8101 Government in American Society</td>
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<td>POLS 8201 Comparative Politics</td>
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<td>POLS 8301 International Politics</td>
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<td>POLS 8401 Introduction to Political Theory</td>
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<td>Electives</td>
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<td>Research Course</td>
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<td>POLS 8000 Topics in Research Design</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
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All students should consult with their faculty advisor on course selection and exam preparation. Students select two elective courses in two main fields and one in a third minor field. Those who plan to continue into the Ph.D. program should take their two main-field elective courses in the two fields in which they plan to complete written comprehensive exams and the third in a minor field. Students are also allowed to complete their fifth elective by registering for POLS 8002 Qualitative Research Methods or POLS 8003 Political Statistics II.

Culminating Events:

Seminar Paper:
The seminar paper requirement is met by completing the coursework required in POLS 8000 Topics in Research Design. Students must submit the seminar paper, with the instructors' comments and grades, to the Graduate Chair. The Graduate Chair must certify that these papers meet the seminar paper requirement (i.e., contain arguments grounded in extensive reference to relevant secondary and/or primary sources). Such certification must be granted before the degree is awarded.

Contacts

Program Web Address:
https://www.temple.edu/academics/degree-programs/political-science-ma-la-pols-ma

Department Information:
Dept. of Political Science
Submission Address for Application Materials:
https://apply.temple.edu/CLA/Pages/Welcome.aspx

Department Contacts:

Admissions:
LaTasha R. Goodman
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215-204-7796

Graduate Chairperson:
Hillel David Soifer, Ph.D.
hsoifer@temple.edu
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)
POL 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.

POL 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.

POL 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.

POL 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.

POL 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.

POL 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.

POL 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.

POL 8107. Business Politics and Power. 3 Credit Hours.
Course examines the role of business in politics. Includes a review 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.

POLS 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.

POLS 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.

POLS 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.
POLS 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.

POLS 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.

POLS 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 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 8213. Political Economy of Development. 3 Credit Hours.
This graduate course exposes students to the major debates in the political economy of development on the origins and transformations of three key institutional fields: the state, market institutions, and the international economy. We read classic works in political economy on the philosophical underpinnings of the role of the state in development; and more recent works on the relationship between the state and market creation, evolution, and reform in the context of global integration. We also survey selected works on the political and economic development of the newly industrialized countries of East and Southeast Asia and Latin America; developing countries in South Asia and Africa; and post-Communism in China and Russia.

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

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
POLS 8214. Political Economy of Identity in the Global Era. 3 Credit Hours.
This graduate course explores the conceptual and theoretical tools that have been brought to bear to investigate the role of identity and relationship between economics and identity in the context of globalization, particularly post-cold war developments. It exposes students to some of the major debates on conceptualizing and operationalizing the multidimensionality of identity; the context-specific issues that make identity an important factor to explore as both a cause and an effect in a globalizing economy; and existing research on what shapes identity and the impact of identity. We ask the following questions: Why study identity? How to study identity? What causes identity? How does identity matter? We encounter these questions via existing literature across subfields of political science, sociology, and history; different methodological lenses; and substantive knowledge of empirical reality.

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

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

POLS 8215. Middle East and Islamic Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is a reading-intensive graduate seminar on the comparative politics of the Middle East, and the broader Islamic world including sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, and South Asia. It focuses upon the nature of both political regimes and mass societies in this diverse geographic crescent bound by Islamic heritage and identity, and engages the following lines of inquiry: first, the distribution of democracy versus dictatorship in Islamic countries; second, the rise of Islamic social movements in both peaceful and violent manifestations; third, the role of religion in shaping political institutions and behavior in these regions; and finally, transformative changes such as popular uprisings, economic breakthroughs, and gender equality. Assignments involve weekly response papers and 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 8216. The State in Comparative Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course offers an in-depth assessment of the state. It begins with the definitional question, and explores different approaches to the state. We will then proceed to historical analysis of the rise of states in Europe and other world regions. The third component of the course explores the relationship between states and societies, focusing on cases from both Europe and other world regions. Finally, the course explores the extent of state weakness around the world, and explanations for variation in the strength and stability of states, closing with two recent broad attempts to rethink the state and our relationship to it. Readings range from theoretical social science to empirical work on a variety of specific cases, and from classics in the field to new work and non-academic accounts of particular countries and regions. The course will build toward the production of a significant research paper. Students are encouraged to use this paper to explore a set of issues relevant to their research interests. Prior completion of POLS 8201 (Comparative Politics) is strongly recommended.

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.
POL 8301. International Politics. 3 Credit Hours.
A graduate-level introduction to theories of international politics, ranging from classical realism and liberalism through contemporary neorealism, institutionalism, constructivism, 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.

POL 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.
POLS 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.

POLS 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 socioeconomic 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.