

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/25/26 2:58 pm

Viewing: **POLSCI-MA : MA in Political Science**

Last approved: 05/30/25 12:21 pm

Last edit: 04/13/26 4:34 pm

Changes proposed by: David Kimball (kimballd)

Catalog Pages Using
this Program
[Political Science MA](#)

Initiator: X6810	Name: Elizabeth Sampson	Phone:
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Program Code	POLSCI-MA	

In Workflow

- 1. S006950 Chair
- 2. Curricular
Alignment Check
- 3. Academic Affairs
Program
Preapproval
- 4. SA_S Assoc Dean
- 5. SA_S Dean
- 6. Senate C&I
- 7. Senate C&I Editing
- 8. FacultySenate
- 9. Academic Affairs
- 10. Registrar Programs

Approval Path

- 1. 02/25/26 4:13 pm
David Kimball
(kimballd):
Approved for
S006950 Chair
- 2. 02/27/26 9:57 am
Keeta Holmes
(holmeskm):
Approved for
Curricular
Alignment Check
- 3. 02/27/26 3:38 pm
Betsy Sampson
(sampsone):
Approved for
Academic Affairs
Program
Preapproval
- 4. 09/22/26 10:00 am
Wendy Olivas

- (olivasw): Approved
for SA_S Assoc Dean
5. 09/22/26 10:00 am
Wendy Olivas
(olivasw): Approved
for SA_S Dean
6. 10/12/26 2:25 pm
Ambrose Kidd
(kidd): Approved for
Senate C&I
7. 10/12/26 2:27 pm
Ambrose Kidd
(kidd): Approved for
Senate C&I Editing

History

1. Jun 21, 2019 by
Betsy Sampson
(sampsone)
2. Jul 13, 2023 by
Betsy Sampson
(sampsone)
3. May 30, 2025 by
Betsy Sampson
(sampsone)

To be completed by Academic Affairs

Title	MA in Political Science
Program Type	Degree Program
College/School	College of Arts & Sciences
Department	Political Science
Academic Level	Undergraduate
CIP Code	45.1001 - 45.1001
Effective CAT	2025-26

Program Requirements and Description as it will appear in the bulletin.

Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements: For admission, a student should have a baccalaureate degree with a minimum grade point average of 2.75 and an undergraduate background in the social sciences. Two letters of recommendation are also requested for each student applying to the program. Students who do not meet these requirements may be admitted upon approval of the department and the dean of the Graduate School. Application materials may be obtained from and should be returned to the office of the director of admissions.

Deadlines are July 1 for the fall semester; December 1 for the winter semester; and May 1 for the summer term.

Degree Requirements

Beyond the general requirements of the Graduate School, the department requires a minimum of 33 semester hours, and 18 hours of coursework must be at the 6400 level. Required courses include one introduction to the discipline course, 9 hours in their chosen area of concentration, and two research methods courses.

~~Beyond the general requirements of the Graduate School, the department requires a minimum of 27 semester hours of course work, of which 18 hours must be at the 6400 level and 12 hours must be in core courses in political science, including:~~

Course Number	Title	Hours
<u>Core Course</u>		
<u>POL SCI 6407</u>	<u>Scope of the Political Science Discipline</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Research Methods Courses</u>		<u>6</u>
<u>POL SCI 6401</u>	Introduction to Policy Research	
~~Select three of the following:~~		~~9~~
~~POL SCI 6410~~	~~Introduction to Policy Analysis~~	
~~POL SCI 6420~~	~~Proseminar in Public Law~~	
~~POL SCI 6430~~	~~Proseminar in American Politics~~	
~~POL SCI 6440~~	~~Public Administration: Theory & Practice~~	
~~POL SCI 6470~~	~~Proseminar in Urban Politics~~	
POL SCI 6480	Course POL SCI 6480 Not Found	
<u>Choose one of the following:</u>		
<u>POL SCI 6402</u>	<u>Intermediate Techniques in Policy Research</u>	
<u>POL SCI 6404</u>	<u>Multi-Method Research Design</u>	
<u>POL SCI 6406</u>	<u>Qualitative Research Design</u>	
<u>POL SCI 6408</u>	<u>Data Generation Skills</u>	
<u>P P ADM 6750</u>	<u>Applied Research Design</u>	

Course Number	Title	Hours
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Other research methods courses may meet the requirement with the approval of the Graduate Program Director

Total Hours

9

Students can plan their degree program to reflect the following three areas of concentration: ~~six emphasis areas~~:

American Politics

Global Politics

Applied Research Methods

~~American Politics~~

~~Comparative Politics~~

~~International Politics~~

~~Political Process and Behavior~~

~~Public Administration and Public Policy~~

~~Urban and Regional Politics~~

Students must also complete a six-hour thesis or an approved project from the graduate program director. ~~Students must also select one of the following exit projects: a six-hour thesis, a six-hour internship, or six hours of additional course work and an approved paper.~~ Students will have a mid-program review at the end of 12-15 hours of course work, at which time they will discuss their academic performance and program with a faculty committee and determine a topic for the thesis or provide a proposal for the special ~~most appropriate exit~~ project. Each candidate is given a final oral review conducted by a faculty committee and focused on the course work completed and the student's chosen exit project.

If other departments are affected by this proposal, please secure "sign-offs" and indicate for each department the following:

Program Learning

Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

Explain how a variety of political systems operate.

Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of essential research in their chosen subfield of political science.

Critically evaluate current research in their chosen subfield of political science.

Apply appropriate research methods and sources to answer important policy and political questions.

Communicate research findings effectively.

Attachments

[Political Science MA Program Outcomes.docx](#)

[Graduate Political Science - Curriculum Mapping Tool.xlsx](#)

[PoliticalScienceScreening Form for Changes to Existing Programs.pdf](#)

This program will be developed with the intention of delivery in the following delivery modes (choose all that apply)

Face to face

Justification for request:

We are reducing the number of emphasis areas to focus on strengths of current faculty and to introduce learning objectives in the required core courses. The revisions will provide a more streamlined program for students. We are not changing program outcomes. For the two new courses, POL SCI 6407 will introduce students to program outcomes and POL SCI 6408 will develop program outcomes. We plan to archive POL SCI 6444, POL SCI 6446, POL SCI 6451, POL SCI 6465, and POL SCI 6481.

Program Reviewer

Comments

Betsy Sampson (sampsone) (02/27/26 3:38 pm): For HLC reporting Purposes, these changes are 50%. Attached is the screening form with no further action needed.

Key: 165