

Master of Arts (MA) Political Science

Program Requirements:

A minimum of 27 credit hours are required for the degree program.

- The MA in Political Science is a general post-baccalaureate degree that gives students a broad understanding of political science through intensive study of several fields within the discipline.
- The MA in Political Science is useful for students who are already in or planning on a career in politics, public policy or secondary education. It is useful for students who are considering doctoral education. It is particularly valuable for students who are simply interested in learning more about subjects in political science that interest them.
- A minimum of 27 credit hours of coursework, of which 12 credit hours must be in core courses, is required. Students may choose from one of six specializations. In addition, one of the following exit projects is required: a six-hour thesis, a six-hour internship, or six hours of additional course work and an approved paper, for a total program plan of 33 credit hours.

Degree Completion Options:

- American Politics
- Comparative Politics
- International Politics
- Political Process and Behavior
- Public Administration and Public Policy
- Urban and Regional Politics

Application Requirements:

1. [Online Graduate Application](#)
2. Official transcripts from all universities attended. A Bachelor's degree is required.
3. Statement of Purpose: A 1-2 page essay explaining your interest in the program and why you are a strong candidate.
4. Entrance examinations:
 - a. The GRE General Test is not required but may enhance your application.
 - b. International Students must document English proficiency by providing scores from an internationally accepted standardized examination. See [International Admissions](#) for more information.
5. **Minimum GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale**
 - a. Students whose total undergraduate GPA and major GPA are between 2.75 and 2.99 may be admitted on a restricted basis.
6. Letters of Recommendation: 2 letters of recommendation are required from individuals who can evaluate your recent academic performance.

Application Deadlines:

Domestic Applicants: Fall - July 1 ♦ Spring - December 1 ♦ Summer - May 1

International Applicants: Fall - June 1 ♦ Spring - October 1

Applications are processed as they are submitted. Applications that are not received by the posted data will be considered on a rolling basis until the beginning of the semester.

Application Fees:

\$50 for domestic applicants

\$40 for international applicants

Graduate Program Director:

Contact Dr. Stephen Bagwell by email at sbagwell@umsl.edu or by phone (314) 516-5521