

Table of Contents

Political Science..... 1

Political Science

The School of Anthropology, Political Science, and Sociology offers graduate work leading to M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science degrees. The program endeavors to accommodate the special and general interests of students through a broad curriculum, individualized programs, and varied teaching and research assistantships. The program takes a personal interest in its students throughout their period of enrollment and assists them in finding satisfying professional employment upon graduation. Graduates now hold academic appointments in 60 American universities and colleges and more than a dozen foreign institutions of higher education. The professional interests of the faculty range across most fields of political science, and have resulted in significant scholarly publications and presentations at professional meetings.

Provisions of this publication are supplemented by policies made explicit in the regulations and procedures of the Political Science graduate studies program and made available to all graduate students.

Application Procedures

The Political Science graduate program and Graduate School applications form one combined application that should be submitted electronically. The link is available at the Graduate School website. There is a supplemental application (Part Two), specific to the Political Science program that must be submitted along with the main online application. Separate forms are not required for application for financial assistance, except for Graduate School fellowships. Students will be accepted for graduate work in political science only upon approval by the program as well as the Graduate School. This program requires a nonrefundable \$65 application fee; applicants must pay this fee by credit card.

All applicants must submit all post-secondary education transcripts, three letters of recommendation from persons who can evaluate the applicant's academic ability and a statement of purpose. Applicants for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science programs must also submit scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), verbal and quantitative tests, and an example of written work that demonstrates the applicant's analytical and writing skills. International students must have taken the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and are expected to have a score of at least 600 (paper score) or 250 (computer score).

Applications and supporting materials for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science programs that are submitted by January will be given full consideration for admission and funding.

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Political Science

Admission

Applicants for the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Political Science program are admitted only with the approval of the graduate studies committee of the program. The program imposes requirements for admission in addition to those of the Graduate School. The program will ordinarily accept as candidates for the M.A. in Political Science degree only those applicants who: (1) have graduated from an accredited four year college or university; (2) have completed four or more courses in social science, humanities, or related disciplines; (3) have a 2.7 or better (4-point scale) overall grade point average in their most recently earned degree or, alternatively, have a 2.9 overall grade point average or better for the last two years of undergraduate work; and (4) have a 3.0 average in government or political science.

Retention

Retention is governed by the rules of the Graduate School. Students should avoid the accumulation of incomplete grades. No student with more than two incomplete grades can be awarded a graduate assistant appointment, and a student holding a graduate assistant appointment is subject to having the appointment terminated upon acquiring two or more incomplete grades.

Course Work

The Director of Graduate Studies serves as advisor to each M.A. in Political Science student until an advisory committee has been selected by the student with the approval of the director, normally no later than the middle of the student's first semester in residence. The advisory committee must approve the student's program. Each candidate for the M.A. in Political Science degree must complete six credit hours for research tools and methods requirements (POLS 500A and POLS 500B), a one credit hour pre-professional requirement (POLS 593), and six credit hours of two pro-seminars. A maximum of nine credit hours from courses offered by other programs will count toward the M.A. in Political Science degree.

Program of Study

- Pre-Professional Preparation - 1 credit hour
- Research Tools and Methods - 6 credit hours
- Pro-Seminars (2) - 6 credit hours
- Elective Coursework - 14 credit hours
- Research Paper - 3 credit hours

Research Paper

A M.A. in Political Science degree will be awarded upon completion of a research paper and the course and credit hour requirements. The research paper is developed from a paper produced in a seminar or through independent readings/research with a faculty member. Students will select an advisor for the Master's Research Paper (e.g., the person who taught the course or supervised the readings/research project). Students will enroll with this faculty member for three semester hours in POLS 591, Individual Research, for the completion of the research paper. This course can be taken concurrently with or after the research seminar. The selection of the advisor requires paperwork that must be filed with the Director of Graduate Studies. The research paper will then be submitted for evaluation to another faculty member selected in concurrence with the faculty advisor for the paper. In case of disagreement over the evaluation (pass/fail) of the paper, the graduate studies committee will appoint a third reader. The research paper normally is 30 to 80 pages in length. All research papers must have an original approval form signed by the student's committee and the program which must be submitted to the Graduate School. Guidelines for submission of the final research paper are found on the website.

Exceptions

An exception from these rules must be justified in a petition approved and signed by the student's committee members, submitted to the Director of Graduate Studies and approved by the members of the graduate studies committee at a scheduled meeting.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Political Science

Admission

Applicants for the Ph.D. in Political Science must meet all applicable program and graduate school rules and admission requirements. Program regulations and procedures governing the Ph.D. in Political Science are stated in the Political Science program's "Regulations and Procedures of the Graduate Studies Program." Applicants are admitted only during the fall semester with the approval of the graduate studies committee. Successful completion of the Ph.D. in Political Science program requires that students remain in good standing with the Graduate School and make reasonable progress toward completion of

the degree; form and execute the program of study established with their advisory committee; complete a total of 52 required course, elective course, and dissertation credit hours; successfully pass preliminary examinations; and successfully defend the dissertation.

Retention

Retention is governed by Graduate School rules and program standards of reasonable progress toward degree. Students failing to make reasonable progress toward completion of the degree are removed from the program.

Coursework

Each candidate for the Ph.D. in Political Science degree must complete 37 credit hours of graduate level coursework and 24 dissertation credit hours. Of the 37 credit hours of graduate coursework, students must complete one credit hour of pre-professional coursework (POLS 593), nine credit hours of research tools and methods (POLS 500A, POLS 500B, and POLS 500C, or the equivalent of each), 24 credit hours of 500-level graduate seminars in the program, a classics readings course (POLS 592A-D) and 24 hours of dissertation credit.

- **Pre-professional Requirement - 1 credit hour**
 - POLS 593 (1 CH)
- **Research Methods and Tool Requirement - 6 credit hours**
 - POLS 500A (3 CH)
 - POLS 500B (3 CH)
 - POLS 500C (3 CH)
- **Seminar Requirement – 24 credit hours**
- **Reading Requirement - 3 credit hours**
 1. POLS 592A-D
- **Dissertation Requirement - 24 credit hours**
 - POLS 600 (1 to 12 CH per semester)

Preliminary Examinations

Ph.D. in Political Science students must take written preliminary examinations in one of the following concentrations: 1) comparative politics / international relations, 2) political behavior, or 3) judicial politics. Before preliminary examinations can be scheduled, a student must have completed all coursework, have been in residence for at least one year, and have a grade point average of at least 3.5. A student may not take preliminary examinations if there are any incomplete grades on his or her record. The Director of Graduate Studies assigns two readers to write and grade each written subfield examination. When possible, at least one reader for each exam will be a member of the student's advisory committee. The Director of Graduate Studies will appoint a third reader if the first and second readers are unable to agree on a result.

Students must notify the Director of Graduate Studies and all members of the Advisory Committee in writing the semester before they wish to sit for the comprehensive examination. The Director of Graduate Studies schedules written exams to begin no later than the first week of October in fall semester and March in spring semester. The oral examination shall take place not more than two weeks after the student has passed their last written examination. All scheduling exemptions must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies. Passing written and oral examinations advances the student to candidacy for the Ph.D. in Political Science degree. Students who do not pass exams may be allowed to retake them or withdraw from the program at the discretion of the Director of Graduate Studies upon advice from the student's Advisory Committee.

Dissertation

Students must complete a dissertation within five years following their admission to candidacy for the Ph.D. in Political Science, or the students must retake preliminary examinations. Students select five faculty members to serve on their dissertation committee. One faculty member may be from another

program. The candidate's dissertation prospectus must be approved by the dissertation committee and filed with the Director of Graduate Studies.

The student works closely with the Chairperson of the dissertation committee throughout the process. The final draft of the dissertation is presented to committee members after the Chairperson of the dissertation committee determines that it is complete and acceptable form at least two-weeks prior to the oral dissertation defense. The success of a final oral defense of the dissertation will complete the requirements for the doctoral degree. The defense must be open to the public.

All dissertations must have an original approval form signed by the student's committee and the school director. Guidelines for submission to the Graduate School are found on the website.

Application of Rules and Exceptions

The program's rules in force at the time of the student's admission to the Ph.D. in Political Science program will apply while the student is in the program unless: 1) the student voluntarily selects a newer set of rules before graduation or 2) the time between admission to the Ph.D. in Political Science program and passing preliminary examinations exceeds five years. In the latter case, the student will automatically come under the rules in force at the beginning of the sixth year and every fifth year thereafter until they pass preliminary examinations. Students requesting any exemptions to these rules must submit a petition signed by the members of their Advisory Committee to the Director of Graduate Studies for approval by the Graduate Studies Committee.

Cooperative Program with University of Illinois at Springfield

The Political Science program at SIUC has an agreement with the political studies program at University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS) to facilitate the entry of UIS political studies students into the SIUC Ph.D. in Political Science program. SIUC will accept appropriate UIS graduate credits to fulfill course work, methodology, and research tool requirements. UIS students can qualify for accelerated entry into the SIUC doctoral program after two semesters of study at UIS with 24 credit hours completed, a 3.5 GPA, two proseminars, and written evaluations from course instructors. A number of UIS faculty are eligible to serve on graduate student examination and dissertation committees. SIUC will accept up to 12 credit hours for course work, research projects, and internships completed under UIS faculty direction towards the SIUC Ph.D. in Political Science degree. Other course work, residency, and dissertation requirements of the SIUC program must be met as described in other sections of this catalog. For more detailed information, ask the Director of Graduate Studies, Political Science Program, SIUC.

Ph.D./J.D. Concurrent Degrees

Students who have been admitted separately to the Southern Illinois University School of Law and Ph.D. in Political Science programs may study concurrently for the Juris Doctor and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Students interested in concurrent study should inform both programs before entering the fourth semester of law school. Each program will maintain records and evaluate final degree requirements as if the student were enrolled in only one program.

Concurrent Ph.D./J.D. degree students must complete a minimum of 81 credit hours of School of Law credits, which meet all law area requirements, as well as all Ph.D. in Political Science area requirements to receive the J.D. degree. Students will not be permitted to take course work outside the prescribed law curriculum during the first year of law class work. Students may enroll for both law and graduate course work during subsequent years, provided a minimum of 10 credit hours of law and 12 credit hours total are taken in any term which has law course enrollment.

Concurrent Ph.D./J.D. degree students must complete the entire first year law curriculum with a law grade point average of 2.5 before being eligible to register for any political science graduate courses; and must complete a minimum of 60 credit hours which meet the distribution requirements of the Ph.D. in Political Science program, as well as all law area requirements, to receive the Ph.D. in Political Science degree. A maximum of 9 hours of School of Law credits of a political science nature (for example: administrative law, environmental law, labor law, natural resources law) may be applied to both J.D. and Ph.D. in Political Science requirements if approved by the director of the doctoral program. All concurrent Ph.D./J.D. degree students will complete a doctoral dissertation.

Political Science Courses

POLS403 - Philosophy of Politics (See PHIL 441) Credit Hours: 3

POLS405 - Democratic Theory (Same as PHIL 405) An examination of various aspects of democratic thought, including the liberal tradition and its impact upon the United States. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Prerequisite: POLS 114 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

POLS406 - American Political Thought This course is an advanced seminar in American political thought. The course focuses on the founding ideals and practices of the American republic and how these ideals functioned in subsequent social movements, political struggles, and ideological conflicts in American political history. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Credit Hours: 3

POLS410 - Reproductive Justice This course will examine reproductive rights and reproductive health, domestically and globally. Though other perspectives will be considered, the primary lens employed in the course will be reproductive justice. Reproductive justice refers to a broad conception of reproductive rights as a component of social justice, including the rights to prevent or terminate a pregnancy, to have children and parent, and to raise children in safe and healthy communities. Thus, the course will examine reproductive rights in relation to gender, racism, ableism, environmentalism, poverty, violence, law, policy, and medicine. Specific topics will include abortion, birth control, sterilization abuse, population control, and more. Credit Hours: 3

POLS435 - Judicial Process and Behavior An examination of the process by which judges in both trial and appellate courts at federal and state levels are selected and of the ways in which they make decisions. Attention to the structure of the courts. Study of the communication and impact of judicial decisions. The course provides some insight into the methods used to study judicial behavior. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. POLS 114 and 230 recommended prerequisites. Credit Hours: 3

POLS436 - Administrative Law The procedural law of public agencies, particularly the regulatory commissions but also executive branch agencies exercising regulatory functions. The exercise of discretion and its control through internal mechanisms and judicial review. POLS 114 and 230 recommended. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Credit Hours: 3

POLS437 - Jurisprudence (Theories of Law) This course provides an examination of the major schools in legal thinking. We will investigate classic jurisprudential questions, including: theories of how judges decide cases, the role of morality and natural rights in determinations of law, and the role of legislative and judicial actors in the creation of law. POLS 114 and POLS 230 are recommended prerequisites. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Credit Hours: 3

POLS438 - Women and the Law (Same as WGSS 438) This course is an advanced seminar in public law with a focus on gender, law and society. The course will engage with issues in feminist legal practice and the development of legal theories regarding gender. We will interrogate the relationship between theory and practice and the ways in which feminist jurisprudence has taken shape in the dynamics of this relationship. POLS 114 and 230 recommended prerequisites. Credit Hours: 3

POLS439 - Comparative Law and Courts In the United States, topics ranging from abortion to gay rights and government surveillance are inevitably "solved" by the Supreme Court. Yet for many years the Supreme Court stood alone in the world in being able to overturn government policy. Increasingly, courts all over the world-often prodded by social actors-have begun developing their own unique solutions to these constitutional questions, in many cases challenging accepted social values and mores along the way. In this course we will investigate the development of courts and constitutional rights around the world, including both national rights and international human rights. Credit Hours: 3

POLS455 - Democratization An examination of transitions to democracy from authoritarian rule in countries around the world. Emphasis is on understanding from a comparative perspective on the social, economic, institutional, political, cultural and international circumstances that promote, inhibit and even

reverse the spread of democratic forms of government. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Credit Hours: 3

POLS456 - Gender and Global Politics (Same as WGSS 446) An advanced course examining gender systems and women's situations across cultures and countries. This course also studies the impact globalization has had on gender issues by looking at women's activism at international and transnational levels. Topics covered include women's political representation, gender and culture, women's social movements, gender and development, and gendered policy issues. POLS 250 recommended. Credit Hours: 3

POLS459 - Russia and the Post-Soviet States This course examines political developments in Russia and the other fourteen Soviet successor states that gained (or regained) independence following the demise of the Soviet Union in 1991. Particular attention is paid to the degree to which Soviet legacies of communist political institutions, state socialist economic policies and ethno-federalism continue to shape the politics and economics of these countries in the post-independence period. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Credit Hours: 3

POLS460 - European Politics This course provides students an overview of European integration and a better understanding of the functioning of the European Union. The course opens with a survey of historical developments in both Eastern and Western Europe from 1914 to 1989. After this historical overview, the institutions and policies of the European Union are studied in detail. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Credit Hours: 3

POLS466 - Latin American Politics An in-depth analysis of specific problem areas in Latin American political processes as well as comparative study of selected Latin American nation-states. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Credit Hours: 3

POLS467 - Middle East Politics This course is designed to examine the regional politics and security of the Middle East and North Africa in a historical and comparative context. This course discusses the historical evolution of the modern states in the region, the dynamics of inter-Arab and Arab-Israeli politics and security, the role of ethnicity and religion in domestic and regional politics, and great powers' penetration of the region. Credit Hours: 3

POLS475 - International Law Rules and practices governing states in their relations in peace and war. Prerequisite: POLS 270 recommended. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Credit Hours: 3

POLS477 - American Foreign Policy This course surveys the conduct, goals and evolution of American foreign policy since World War II. It analyzes such issues as the role of institutions, culture and individuals in the formulation of American foreign policy, the interaction between domestic and foreign politics, and the debate over American grand strategy. Prerequisite: POLS 270 recommended. Credit Hours: 3

POLS480 - Seminar in International Relations Discussion-based course analyzing empirical and normative (ethical) issues in the study of international relations. Particular emphasis is placed on developing students' critical thinking skills. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Prerequisite: POLS 270 recommended. Credit Hours: 3

POLS500A - Political Methodology Seminars in empirical research methods (A) Research Design. Course covers quantitative and qualitative empirical studies of politics. Credit Hours: 3

POLS500B - Political Methodology Seminars in empirical research methods (B) Statistical Data Analysis in Political Science I. Provides a foundation in univariate and bivariate descriptive statistics; inferential statistics including hypothesis testing about population parameters, bivariate and multivariate relationships, measures of association, and correlation; and an introduction to linear regression. Lab fee: \$50. Credit Hours: 3

POLS500C - Political Methodology Seminars in empirical research methods. (C) Statistical Data Analysis in Political Science II. Provides in-depth instruction in multiple regression including assumptions of linear model, diagnostics and corrections for violation; estimating models using categorical dependent variables, nonlinear relationships, interactions, and extensions to advanced techniques as time allows. Prerequisite: POLS 500B (or permission of instructor). Lab fee: \$50. Credit Hours: 3

POLS502 - Topical Seminar in Research Methods Advanced seminar in empirical research methods. Topics will vary by instructor. Lab fee: \$50. Credit Hours: 3-6

POLS513 - Topical Seminar in Political Behavior Topic will vary with instructor. Student should see director of graduate studies for advanced syllabus. Credit Hours: 3

POLS516 - Pro-Seminar in Political Behavior An overview of the study of political behavior in American and comparative politics. Credit Hours: 3

POLS517 - Political Communication Provides an introduction to the academic study of media and politics. The primary objective is to introduce graduate students to seminal theory and research and contemporary contributions in the study of media, politics, and political communication. Credit Hours: 3

POLS519 - Survey Methodology for Political Science Provides an overview of survey methodology. Students will learn how to administer surveys for use in political science and public administration. Topics include psychology of asking and answering questions; constructing questions and questionnaires; evaluating surveys; criteria for survey modes; sampling frames and sampling designs; and ethics for survey research methods. Credit Hours: 3

POLS530 - Pro-Seminar in Public Law A survey of the major literature in the field of public law at the graduate level. Credit Hours: 3

POLS536 - Seminar in Comparative Public Law An examination of legal systems around the world. Credit Hours: 3

POLS538 - Topical Seminar in Public Law Advanced seminar in public law. Topics will vary by instructor. Credit Hours: 3

POLS560 - Pro-Seminar in Comparative Politics Survey of the major literature in comparative politics at the graduate level. Credit Hours: 3

POLS569 - Topical Seminar in Comparative Politics Advanced seminar in comparative politics. Topics will vary by instructor. Credit Hours: 3

POLS570 - Pro-Seminar in International Relations Survey of the major literature in international relations at the graduate level. Credit Hours: 3

POLS576 - Religion and Politics Examines empirical studies of religion and politics, including research on behavior, institutions, and movements. Topics include theories of religion, case studies of religious traditions, church and state relations, measurement of religion, and other topics on the intersection of religion and politics. Credit Hours: 3

POLS580 - Topical Seminar in International Relations Advanced seminar in empirical international relations. Topics will vary by instructor. Credit Hours: 3

POLS591 - Individual Research Selection, investigation and writing of a research paper under the personal supervision of a member of the department graduate staff. Prerequisite: completion of the appropriate pro-seminar for the field in which readings or individual research is to be done. Credit Hours: 1-9

POLS592A - Foundations of Political Science-Political Behavior Supervised readings in "classics" of the discipline. Credit Hours: 3

POLS592B - Foundations of Political Science-Comparative Politics Supervised readings in "classics" of the discipline. Credit Hours: 3

POLS592C - Foundations of Political Science-International Relations Supervised readings in "classics" of the discipline. Credit Hours: 3

POLS592D - Foundations of Political Science-Public Law Supervised readings in "classics" of the discipline. Credit Hours: 3

POLS593 - Preprofessional Seminar in Political Science Designed to give the student an introduction to the major professional roles in the discipline. The requirements of teaching, research, publication and service are covered with discussion of where each fits into the professional role requirements and examples of how each is accomplished. Required of all Ph.D. and M.A. students in political science and other teaching assistants in political science. Graded S/U only. Credit Hours: 1

POLS598 - Dissertation Prospectus Workshop in dissertation topic selection and prospectus writing; enrollment required prior to completing preliminary examinations. Credit Hours: 1

POLS599 - Thesis Maximum of six hours to be counted toward a degree. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-6

POLS600 - Dissertation Minimum of 24 hours to be earned for the Doctor of Philosophy degree. Credit Hours: 1-12

POLS601 - Continuing Enrollment For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of working on their dissertation, thesis, or research paper. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation research, or the minimum thesis, or research hours before being eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded S/U or DEF only. Credit Hours: 1

POLS699 - Postdoctoral Research Must be a Postdoctoral Fellow. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Credit Hours: 1

Political Science Faculty

Bloom, Stephen, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Political Science, Ph.D., University of California, LA, 2004; 2006. Comparative politics; ethnic relations and politics; Eastern European politics.

Bricker, Benjamin, Associate Professor, Political Science, Ph.D., Washington University, 2013; 2014. Constitutional law; administrative law; jurisprudence; civil rights and liberties; law and society; democratization; constitutionalism.

Comparato, Scott A., Associate Professor, Political Science, Ph.D., Washington University, 2000; 2000. Judicial process; constitutional law; civil liberties; criminal rights; judicial decision making; legal argumentation.

Grant, J. Tobin, Professor and Director, School of Anthropology, Political Science and Sociology; Political Science, Ph.D., Ohio State University, 2001; 2001. Religion and politics; American politics; political behavior; survey methods.

Leach, Brittany, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Virginia, 2020; 2022. Race, gender, theory, social movements, and public law.

Mulligan, Kenneth, Associate Professor, Political Science, Ph.D., Ohio State University, 2004; 2006. American mass political behavior; political psychology; public opinion; survey research; research methods.

Shulman, Stephen, Associate Professor, Political Science, Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1996; 1997. International relations; international security; international political economy; American foreign policy; ethnic politics.

Tilley, Virginia Q., Professor, Political Science, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, 1997; 2014. Comparative politics; Middle East politics; Latin American politics; ethnic and racial politics.

Emeriti Faculty

Foster, John L., Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Minnesota, 1971; 1975.

Jackson, John S., III, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Vanderbilt University, 1971; 1969.

Last updated: 06/20/2025