MA in Political Science

Admission Requirements
Applicants are considered on a competitive basis. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

- **Baccalaureate Field** No restrictions.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester (90 quarter) hours of undergraduate study.
- **Tests Required** GRE General.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - TOEFL 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Test); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (revised Paper-Delivered Test), OR,
  - IELTS 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, OR,
  - PTE-Academic 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required, preferably from faculty members in political science or cognate disciplines who are familiar with the applicant’s training and ability.
- **Personal Statement** Required. The statement should address the applicant’s academic goals.
- **Deadlines** Application deadlines for this program are listed on the Graduate College website.

The GRE is not required for the Fall 2023 admission cycle.

Degree Requirements
In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 34.
- **Course Work** Required course work totals 18 semester hours. Required courses will not be waived. A grade of B or better is required in all required courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 401</td>
<td>Data Analysis I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 482</td>
<td>Theories of Democracy and Representation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 505</td>
<td>Research Design and Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 593</td>
<td>Independent Research for Master’s Degree a</td>
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Select one of the following:

- POLS 504 Seminar in Political Theory
- POLS 551 Seminar in Urban Politics
- POLS 560 Seminar in American Politics
- POLS 570 Seminar in Comparative Politics
- POLS 571 Seminar in International Relations

Electives

At least 16 additional hours at the 500-level. No more than two courses (8 hours) may be taken outside the department.

a In POLS 593 students complete a major research paper under the supervision of two faculty members.

- **Thesis, Project, or Course-Work-Only Options** Course work only. No other options are available.

Interdepartmental Concentrations
Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- Black Studies
- Gender and Women's Studies
- Latin American and Latino Studies
- Survey Research Methodology
- Violence Studies