

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** None.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
 - **TOEFL iBT** 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21, **OR**,
 - **IELTS Academic** 6.5, with 6.0 in each of the 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.

Degree Requirements

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

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

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
POLS 401	Data Analysis I	
POLS 482	Theories of Democracy and Representation	
POLS 505	Research Design and Methods	
POLS 593	Independent Research for Master's Degree ^a	
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 Coursework-Only Options** Coursework 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](#)