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 Internet-based); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (New Paper-Based—after August 2018); 550 (Institutional Testing Paper-Based—prior to August 2018), 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 (http://grad.uic.edu/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.
• **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><strong>Required Courses</strong></td>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 593</td>
<td>Independent Research for Master’s Degree a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 504</td>
<td>Seminar in Political Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 551</td>
<td>Seminar in Urban Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 560</td>
<td>Seminar in American Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 570</td>
<td>Seminar in Comparative Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 571</td>
<td>Seminar in International Relations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Electives</strong></td>
<td>At least 16 additional hours at the 500-level. No more than two courses (8 hours) may be taken outside the department.</td>
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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 (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/black-studies-conc)
• Gender and Women’s Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/gws-conc)
• Latin American and Latino Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/lals)
• Survey Research Methodology (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/graduate-college/srm-conc)
• Violence Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/clj/ma/Violence%20Studies)