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 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.

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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 401</td>
<td>Data Analysis I</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 482</td>
<td>Theories of Democracy and Representation</td>
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<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>
<td></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.

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