Admission and Degree Requirements

- MA in Political Science
- PhD in Political Science

POLS 401. Data Analysis I. 3 or 4 hours.
Statistical inference for the social sciences. Emphasis on univariate and bivariate statistics. Course Information: Same as PPA 401. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): POLS 200 and POLS 201; or graduate standing.

POLS 405. The Problem of Justice. 3 or 4 hours.
Pre-modern, modern and non-western views of justice and their practical utility in analyzing legislative, executive, and judicial programs for enhancing or restricting justice. Course Information: Same as CLJ 405. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): CLJ 101, plus two 200-level courses in CLJ or two 200-level courses in POLS.

POLS 451. Law and Public Policy. 3 or 4 hours.
The role of law and legal institutions in the development and implementation of public policies. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

POLS 459. Advanced Topics in Urban Politics. 3 or 4 hours.
Seminar exploring urban politics theory through readings, discussion, and original research. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): POLS 210; or graduate standing; or consent of the instructor.

POLS 465. Topics in Sociology of Politics. 3 or 4 hours.
Intensive examination of a specialized topic announced when the class is scheduled. Course Information: Same as SOC 465. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours. Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): 6 hours of upper-division sociology or consent of the instructor.

POLS 467. Public Opinion and Political Communication. 3 or 4 hours.
Nature of public opinion and political communication systems. Patterns of opinion distribution and its measurement. Forces shaping public opinion and its impact on public policy. Course Information: Same as COMM 467. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): POLS 200 or the equivalent or consent of the instructor.

POLS 469. Advanced Topics in American Politics. 3 or 4 hours.
Seminar exploring American politics theory through readings, discussion, and original research. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): Grade of B or better in POLS 101 and Grade of B or better in POLS 329; or graduate standing; or consent of the instructor.

POLS 478. Advanced Topics in International Relations. 3 or 4 hours.
Seminar exploring international relations theory through readings, discussion, and original research. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): Grade of B or better in POLS 184; and Grade of B or better in POLS 281 or Grade of B or better in POLS 283 or Grade of B or better in POLS 284; or graduate standing; or consent of the instructor.

POLS 479. Advanced Topics in Comparative Politics. 3 or 4 hours.
Seminar exploring comparative politics theory through readings, discussion, and original research. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): Grade of B or better in POLS 130 and Grade of B or better in POLS 349; or graduate standing; or consent of the instructor.

POLS 482. Theories of Democracy and Representation. 3 or 4 hours.
Democracy as a procedure of government and value commitments associated with this form of government. Special attention paid to classical and modern democracies. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.

POLS 485. Gender and Politics. 3 or 4 hours.
Impact of gender on basic categories of western political thought. Distinctions between reason and emotion, public and private, among others, examined from feminist perspective. Course Information: Same as GWS 485. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): POLS 190 and one 200-level course in political theory; or consent of the instructor.

POLS 489. Advanced Topics in Political Theory. 3 or 4 hours.
Seminar exploring political theory through reading, discussion, and original research. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): Grade of B or better in POLS 290 or Grade of B or better in POLS 291; or graduate standing; or consent of the instructor.

POLS 494. Topics in Political Science. 3 or 4 hours.
Selected Topics in Political Science. Topics vary and may cover American politics, law, urban and global politics, cultural, ecological or methodological issues. Course Information: May be repeated up to 1 time(s). Prerequisite(s): POLS 190 and POLS 200; or consent of the instructor.

POLS 497. Directed Readings in Political Science. 4 hours.
Intensive readings on a topic not covered in regular curriculum. Course Information: May be repeated with approval. Approval of the graduate director required to repeat course. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and consent of the instructor.
POLS 498. Independent Research in Political Science. 2-6 hours.
Research on special problems not included in course offerings. May not duplicate work done in POLS 598 or POLS 599. Course Information: May be repeated with approval. Approval of the graduate director required to repeat course. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and consent of the instructor.

POLS 500. Introduction to Policy and Governance. 4 hours.
Introduces the intellectual traditions and current debates that have characterized the study of politics and the social order. Society-centered and state-centered explanations for policy will be explored. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the department required for nondegree graduate students.

POLS 501. Data Analysis II. 4 hours.
Interpretation and application of multivariate methods of analysis in the social sciences. Regression specification and diagnostics, limited dependent variable models, measurement issues. Course Information: Same as POLS 501. Prerequisite(s): POLS 401 or PPA 401.

POLS 502. Time Series Analysis for Political Science. 4 hours.
Single series (ARIMA) models, event history analysis, Vector autoregression (VAR), panel and pooled models. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): POLS 402 or consent of the instructor.

POLS 504. Seminar in Political Theory. 4 hours.
A graduate introduction to Enlightenment and post-Enlightenment theories of politics and society in the North Atlantic world. Course Information: Same as PHIL 504. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the department required for nondegree graduate students.

POLS 505. Research Design and Methods. 4 hours.
Overview of the methods and conduct of research in political science. Issues of inference, measurements, data collection, hypothesis testing and ethics.

POLS 507. Qualitative Research Methods. 4 hours.
Explores techniques, uses, strengths, and limitations of qualitative research methods including case studies, fuzzy sets, boolean analysis, analytical narratives, and various other methods.

POLS 510. Seminar on Teaching Political Science. 4 hours.
Teaching methods and technology applicable to community colleges, four-year, and universities are explored. Course Information: Complements the Preparing Future Faculty Program. The format will include guest speakers from area community and four-year colleges.

POLS 541. Policy Formation, Implementation and Evaluation. 4 hours.
Introduction to political science theories of how elections, interest groups and state structure affect the formulation of public solutions to societal problems. Course Information: Same as PPA 541. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the department required for nondegree graduate students.

POLS 542. Distributive/Redistributive Public Policy. 4 hours.
Seminar on the politics of enacting and maintaining distributive policies. Focus is on the parochial and community-wide efficiency of such policies.

POLS 544. Regulatory Public Policies. 4 hours.
Exploring the nature and determinants of public policymaking with respect to the regulation of the economy.

POLS 549. Topics in Public Policy Analysis. 4 hours.
A research seminar on some aspects of public policy analysis not otherwise covered in the regular curriculum.

POLS 551. Seminar in Urban Politics. 4 hours.
Explores relationships between private economy and public policies in American cities; causes of urban decline and uneven development; and urban redevelopment and human capital policies.

POLS 553. Urban Public Policy. 4 hours.
Explores the problems of poverty, race, education, transportation policy, and housing in America's cities, with a special emphasis on Chicago.

POLS 557. Research Topics in Urban Politics. 4 hours.
Readings and original research on selected topics in urban politics. Course Information: May be repeated.

POLS 558. Graduate Student Field Experience in Political Science. 1-8 hours.
Graduate student intern experience. Placement with government agencies, community organizations, or civic organizations, in conjunction with a seminar class and directed readings. Course Information: May be repeated up to 8 time(s). Students may register in more than one section per term. Field work required.

POLS 559. Topics in State and Local Government. 4 hours.
Case analysis and research in selected problems dealing with structure, functions and administrative processes of American state and local governments. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): POLS 500 and POLS 541.

POLS 560. Seminar in American Politics. 4 hours.
Introduction to the basic models of research employed in the study of American government and public policy. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

POLS 562. Seminar on Legislation and Public Policy. 4 hours.
Review of recent theories and research on structure and policy formation in Americal legislatures. Emphasis on theoretical development in this field. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): POLS 541.

POLS 563. Executive Process. 4 hours.
Presidential elections; presidential decision-making; the powers of the president; presidential leadership; the distributive state; policy implementation; federalism and administration; the politics of budgeting. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Admission to the M.A. or P.P.A. programs or consent of the instructor.

POLS 564. Seminar in Judicial Process. 4 hours.
The judicial process, as part of political and policy processes. Demands made by, and policy impacts on, individual and organizational litigants and other political actors. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): POLS 460.

POLS 566. Interest Groups. 4 hours.
Pluralism: the distributive state; radical group theory; public-interest groups; collective actions; corporatism; statism; structural Marxism; social movements and interest groups.

POLS 567. Topics in Political Communication. 4 hours.
Intensive study of selected aspects; organizational communication in public institutions, urban political communication patterns, communication elites. Independent research using a variety of community research techniques. Course Information: Same as COMM 567 and PA 567. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

POLS 569. Research Topics in American Politics. 4 hours.
A research seminar on some aspect of American political process. Topics vary. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): POLS 560.

POLS 570. Seminar in Comparative Politics. 4 hours.
Introduces students to the main tools of research and contours of debates in comparative politics. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.
POLS 571. Seminar in International Relations. 4 hours.
State-building and challenges to state authority, democratization and regime change, political economy, environment, war, regionalism and globalization, social movements and international governance.

POLS 572. International Political Economy. 4 hours.
Exploration of competing perspectives on nation states and economic systems. Course Information: Previously listed as POLS 472.

POLS 573. Transitions to Democracy. 4 hours.
Game-theoretic view of democracy. Process and outcomes of transitions to democracy in capitalist and in communist countries. Civil-military relations in the process of transition. Case studies.

POLS 578. Research Topics in International Relations. 4 hours.
Advanced graduate seminar exploring international relations theory through readings, discussion, and original research. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): POLS 571.

POLS 579. Research Topics in Comparative Politics. 4 hours.
Advanced seminar on selected topics in comparative politics. Topic(s) will vary from semester to semester. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): POLS 570; and consent of the instructor.

POLS 582. The Philosophy of the Social Sciences. 4 hours.
The ontological and epistemological foundations of alternative approaches to the study of human beings. Naturalistic, hermeneutic, and critical approaches are addressed and assessed.

POLS 589. Research Topics in Political Theory. 4 hours.
Detailed analysis of a political theorist or type of political theory, especially designed to meet programmatic and graduate needs. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

POLS 590. Advanced Public Policy Workshop. 4 hours.
Interdisciplinary workshop on preparing a dissertation proposal for public policy analysis students. Course Information: Same as PPA 590. Prerequisite(s): Advanced standing in the Ph.D. in P.P.A. program and completion of P.P.A. core courses.

POLS 591. Publishing Research in Political Science. 4 hours.
Interdisciplinary workshop on preparing manuscripts for submission to publishers. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): Completion of the first year of the MA or PhD in Political Science; and consent of the instructor.

POLS 593. Independent Research for Master’s Degree. 2 hours.
Under the supervision of two faculty members, students will complete a major research paper that combines a review of relevant literature of a political science topic with analysis of original data or research materials. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): POLS 401 and POLS 505 and POLS 482. Open only to Master’s degree students; and approval of the department.

POLS 596. Advanced Readings in Political Science. 1-4 hours.
Intensive readings on an advanced topic not covered in the regular curriculum. Course Information: May be repeated with approval. Students may register in more than one section per term. Approval to repeat course granted by the graduate director. Prerequisite(s): POLS 401 and POLS 404 and consent of the instructor.

POLS 598. Thesis Research. 0-16 hours.
Individual study required of all students pursuing advanced degree in political science under thesis option. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor. Open only to degree candidates.

POLS 599. Dissertation Research. 0-16 hours.
Individual study required of all students pursuing Ph.D. degree with specialization in political science. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor. Open only to degree candidates.