Political Science (MA/MS)

The master's degree program prepares students for professional careers in teaching and research. Two years is the typical period for completing the program. The graduate program is geared toward doctoral studies and typically only admits students for a terminal master's degree under exceptional circumstances. Applicants whose main goal is to obtain a PhD should apply directly to the doctoral program. Those wanting to obtain a terminal master's degree should contact the department's director of graduate studies before applying to discuss a potential fit.

The Political Science department only admits students who intend to complete a doctoral degree. The learning objectives for the doctoral program are as follows:

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Display mastery of at least one subfield in the discipline of political science (American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Theory, or Formal Methods) and strong familiarity with another.
- Display the ability to design and produce publishable research.
- Achieve the doctoral degree within six years.

Political Science Major

- Completion of 45 credits of graduate coursework
- Completion of required courses as specified by the department
- Demonstrated proficiency in qualitative and quantitative research methods
- Completion of a master's degree thesis

Code	Title	Credits
Seminar Requirement:		
PS 620	State of the Discipline	5
Two Seminar Courses from the Following:		
PS 607	Seminar: [Topic]	
PS 618	American Political Institutions	
PS 619	United States Political Culture	
PS 622	Political Theory	
PS 624	International Relations	
PS 625	Public Policy	
PS 626	International Political Economy	
PS 628	States and State-Society Relations	
PS 629	Comparative Political Economy	
PS 630	States and Regimes	
Methods Requirement:		
PS 545 & PS 546	Methods for Politics and Policy Analysis I and Methods for Politics and Policy Analysis II	8
PS 612 & PS 613	Qualitative Methods and Interpretive Methods in Political Science	10
PS 614	Research Design	5
Thesis Requirement:		**15**
PS 503	Thesis	
Total Credit Requirement:		45