



Political Science Department
Langdale Hall
38 Peachtree Center Avenue, Suite 1005
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 413-6169
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www.politicalscience.gsu.edu

4 + 1 DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM: B.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE/ M.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Updated Spring 2019

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE/MASTER OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Political Science offers a combined BA in Political Science/MA in Political Science program. The program is designed to take five years, at the end of which a student will receive both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in Political Science. Students must apply specifically for entry into the dual degree program.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students may apply to the BA-Political Science/MA-Political Science (BA/MA-POLS) option at any time from initial application to Georgia State thereafter up through and including the spring semester of the *junior* year. The option will in general be available to BA-POLS undergraduates who maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5 at Georgia State and receive at least a B in POLS 3800. Application into the program includes completing a personal statement of goals and interests for enrollment into the dual degree program.

Students must also formally apply to the MA program in the Political Science department in the spring semester of their *senior* year. Final acceptance into the MA portion of the program will be contingent upon the following:

1. Maintaining a cumulative GPA of **3.5 or above** at Georgia State through the completion of 120 total hours.
2. Completing an application to the MA program in Political Science by the appropriate deadline



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PROGRAM DEGREE REQUIREMENTS UNDERGRADUATE (120)

Areas A-E Core Curriculum

Area F: Courses Appropriate to the Major Field (18)

1. POLS 2401
2. Second semester of a foreign language
3. Two of the following: ECON 2105, ECON 2106, SOCI 1101
4. Select additional courses from the following to complete 18 hours in Area F:
ANTH 101, AAS 2010, ECON 2105, Econ 2106, ENGL 2150, GEOG 1101, GEOG 2202,
HIST 1111, HIST 1112, HIST 2110, HIST 1130, LANG 2001, LANG 2002, MATH 1070,
MATH 1113, MATH 1220, MATH 2211, PHIL 1010, PHIL 2010, POLS 2101, PSYC 1010,
SOCI 1101, SOCI 1160, WST 2010

*A minimum of 60 core hours is required.

Area G: Major Courses (27)

1. Required Courses to Fulfill CTW Requirement (6)
POLS 3800, Introduction to Political Research (3)
POLS 4900, Senior Seminar (3)
2. For the remaining 21 hours, students may choose from the following concentrations:
 - a. **General Concentration**
 - i. Take 21 hours in Political Science at the 3000 level or above. One course must be taken in three of the five areas of study: American politics, comparative politics, international politics, public policy and administration, and political theory
 - b. **International Affairs Concentration**
 - i. POLS 3200, Comparative Politics (3)
 - ii. POLS 3400, International Politics (3)
 - iii. Select 12 hours at the 3000 level or above in comparative politics (3200-4290) and international politics (3400-4490)
 - iv. Select 3 hours at the 3000 level or above in American politics, public policy and administration or political theory



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c. Pre-Law Concentration

- i. POLS 3140, Judicial Politics and Process (3)
- ii. POLS 4130, Constitutional Law (3)
- iii. POLS 4131, Civil Liberties and Rights (3)
- iv. Select 2 courses (6 hours) from the following list: POLS 3110, POLS 3145, POLS 3170, POLS 4115, POLS 4155, POLS 4160, POLS 4180, POLS 4220, POLS 4420, POLS 4425, POLS 4427, POLS 3530, POLS 3540, POLS 4555, POLS 4570, POLS 3700, POLS 3750
- v. Six additional hours at the 3000 level of above. Students must also satisfy the distribution requirement by taking one course in three of the five areas of study: American politics, comparative politics, international politics, public policy and administration, and political theory.

d. Pre-Education Concentration

- i. POLS 4130 (Constitutional Law) or POLS 4131 (Civil Rights and Liberties) (3)
- ii. One of the following: POLS 3110, POLS 3170, POLS 4115, or POLS 4180 (3)
- iii. POLS 3200 (Comparative Politics) or POLS 3400 (International Politics) (3)
- iv. Select 12 additional hours at the 3000 level or above. Students must also satisfy the distribution requirement by taking one course in three of five areas of study: American politics, comparative politics, international politics, public policy and administration, and political theory.

Area H: Minor and Additional Courses (33)

Additional courses must be taken to complete a minimum of 60 post-core hours towards the Political Science bachelor's degree and to satisfy the foundation requirements for the master's degree. Typically, students apply 4 graduate Political Science courses (12 hours) to their undergraduate degree requirements in Area H.



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PROGRAM DEGREE REQUIREMENTS GRADUATE (30 hours)

1. Methods Sequence

Students should select from the following two methods tracks. Those planning to apply for a PhD should strongly consider the advanced track.

- a. Regular methods track:
 1. POLS 6800 Research Design and Applied Data Analysis (3)
- b. Advanced methods track:
 1. POLS 6800/8800 Elements of Research Design (3)
 2. POLS 8805 Introduction to Quantitative Analysis (3)
 3. Either POLS 8810 Uses of Intermediate Statistical Methods in Political Science Research or POLS 8840 Qualitative Research Methods (3).

2. Experiential Learning Project (9)

- a. Students will complete one internship or other experiential learning module for up to 9 credit hours. Experiential learning projects must receive the advance permission of the departmental M.A. Director or the Director of Graduate Studies.
- b. Each three hour segment of Experiential Learning requires the equivalent of 10-15 hours per week of work for one semester. This can be in the form of an internship or employment acquired by the student, a project through the Georgia Municipal Association, a study abroad program, or other relevant experience.
- c. Students should select a faculty advisor for their project and complete the required experiential learning form. Faculty advisors will generally require students to keep a journal of the work that they are performing and/or to complete a paper.
- d. Students will register for POLS 8995 Administrative & Policy Internship for 9 hours the semester they complete this project.
- e. Students may elect to take up to three additional substantive courses in lieu of the experiential learning project, with the advance permission of the Director of Graduate Studies.
- f. With the advance permission of the director of graduate studies, students wishing to complete a thesis may substitute 6 thesis hours and an additional graduate political science course for these 9 experiential learning hours. Such students would then complete a thesis in lieu of the non-thesis paper described below. Those planning to apply for a PhD are strongly encouraged to select this option.
- g. Students may also partially fulfill the requirement by taking PMPAP 8900, the project consulting-based capstone course in the Andrew Young School's M.P.P. degree program.

3. Required for concentration in General Political Science
 - a. POLS 6100/8100, POLS 6200/8200, or POLS 6400/8400.
 - b. Five additional graduate Political Science courses (15 hours) for students on the regular methods track. Three additional graduate Political Science courses (9 hours) for students on the advanced methods track. Students should take one course in three of the five major areas of study. These areas include American government and politics, comparative politics, international politics, political theory and public law.

4. Required for concentration in American Politics
 - a. POLS 6100/8100
 - b. Five additional graduate Political Science (15 hours) courses for those on the regular methods track. Three additional graduate Political Science courses (9 hours) for those on the advanced methods track. These must be chosen from general American, Public Law, American Institutions, or American Political Behavior offerings.

5. Required for concentration in International & Comparative Politics
 - a. POLS 6200/8200
 - b. POLS 6400/8400
 - c. Four additional graduate Political Science courses (12 hours) for those on the regular methods track. Two additional graduate Political Science courses (6 hours) for those on the advanced methods track. These should be chosen from the areas of comparative and international politics.

6. Required for specialization in Public Law
 - a. POLS 6100/8100, POLS 6200/8200 or POLS 6400/8400
 - b. POLS 8140
 - c. POLS 8145
 - d. For students on the regular methods track, choose two additional Public Law or Public Law-related courses (6). For students on the advanced methods track, choose one additional Public Law or Public Law-related course (3).
 - e. For students on the regular methods track, choose one elective course in consultation with the departmental Director of Graduate Studies (3).

7. Required for concentration in Political Science for Educators
 - a. Core seminars in a sub-fields of political science. Choose one:
 - i. POLS 6100/POLS 8100 American Politics (3)
 - ii. POLS 6200/POLS 8200 Comparative Politics (3)
 - iii. POLS 6400/POLS 8400 International Politics (3)
 - b. Courses in the teaching of political science
 - i. POLS 6987 Teaching Politics with Simulations (3)
 - ii. POLS 6988 Teaching American Citizenship (3)



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- c. Specialized courses in political science
 - i. Coursework in political science at the 6000 or 8000 level. Two courses (6 hours) for those on the regular methods track.
 - d. A capstone project under the supervision of two faculty members (3 hours).
 - i. This project should include a “deliverable,” which may be a research paper, a policy memo, an innovation teaching strategy, or something else.
 - ii. Students undertaking this project should register for POLS 8990: Capstone Project.
8. Required for concentration in Professional Politics
 - a. POLS 6100/8100 Seminar in American Politics (3)
 - b. Select one course:
 - i. POLS 8110 State Politics (3)
 - ii. POLS 6158 Campaign Organization and Management (3)
 - iii. POLS 6139 Interbranch Politics (3)
Necessary substitutions can be made with the advance permission of the Director of Graduate Studies.
 - c. Select one course:
 - i. POLS 6200/8200 Seminar in Comparative Politics (3)
 - ii. POLS 6400/8400 Seminar in International Politics (3)
Necessary substitutions can be made with the advance permission of the Director of Graduate Studies.
 - d. Two additional graduate Political Science courses (6 hours) for students on the regular methods track. These should be selected to strengthen knowledge of practice areas related to a student’s professional goals.
 - e. A capstone project under the supervision of two faculty members (3 hours).
 - i. This project should include a “deliverable,” which may be a research paper, a policy memo, an innovation teaching strategy, or something else.
 - ii. Students undertaking this project should register for POLS 8990: Capstone Project.
9. Students in General Political Science, American Politics, Comparative and International Politics, and Public Law must complete a non-thesis project.
 - a. A research paper completed according to departmental guidelines.
 - b. Non-thesis papers must be read and approved by a two-person faculty committee.
 - c. Students who elect to complete a thesis are exempt from this requirement.
10. With the advance permission of the M.A. Program Director or the Director of Graduate Studies, a student may substitute up to two required POLS courses for graduate-level courses taught by other departments at Georgia State. These substitutions should contribute to the student’s chosen course of study.