

Attachment A

Proposed Revision to the Political Science Graduate Program

Political Science

Graduate Degree Programs

Program Mission: The program provides a flexible curriculum for students interested in American government, comparative politics, international relations, public administration and public policy. Students will receive training in the advanced analytical, methodological, and theoretical approaches used in political science. The curriculum prepares students for work in public affairs, including employment in local, state and national government. Other graduates from the program have found employment in journalism, international business, community college teaching and administrative positions in higher education. The program also prepares students for future Ph.D. or legal studies. Internships related to government, politics and the legal system are available.

Admission Requirements: To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see "[Admission to Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs](#)"). In addition, applicants should have a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher. Applicants whose GPA falls below 3.00 should submit a GRE score. Preference will be given to applicants with a score of 1000 or higher on the verbal and quantitative sections. All applicants must submit a statement of personal goals and two letters of recommendation from persons familiar with the applicant's academic training and potential for success in graduate school to the department's coordinator of graduate studies.

Study Plan Approval: The study plan shall be approved by the department and filed with the departmental graduate coordinator.

Degree Requirements

Degree requirements include those outlined for the master's degree by the Graduate School (see "[Requirements for the Master's Degree](#)"). Additional requirements include a total of ~~30~~ **31** semester hours with the thesis, or ~~32~~ **33** semester hours with the comprehensive examination option, and a GPA of 3.00. All students will complete 12 hours of course work for a major concentration and six hours for a minor concentration. Students are required to take core courses in their major field.

PLS 5001 and PLS 5053 are required of all graduate students

Students Majoring in American Government and Politics Must Take Two of the Following Courses:

[PLS 4853 - Contemporary Constitutional Development](#). Credits: 3

[PLS 5073 - Seminar in Political Behavior](#). Credits: 3

[PLS 5173 - Seminar in Congressional Politics](#). Credits: 3

[PLS 5273 - Presidential Politics](#). Credits: 3

Students Majoring in Comparative Politics/International Relations Must Take Both:

[PLS 5023 - Proseminar in International Politics](#). Credits: 3

[PLS 5433 - Proseminar in Comparative Politics](#). Credits: 3

Students Majoring in Public Administration/Public Policy Must Take:

[PLS 5543 - Proseminar in Public Administration and Policy](#). Credits: 3

Concentrations Available

Hours earned in independent study (5990), thesis (5950), internship (5980) and special courses (4980-4999) will not count toward completion of major and minor requirements. Consult with the graduate coordinator in advance to determine which concentration requirements will be met by PLS 5843. There will be no substitutions for any of the major and minor area courses. In addition, a course used to meet the requirements of one area cannot be counted for another area.

American Government and Politics

PLS 4774 - American Constitutional Law. Credits: 3
PLS 4853 - Contemporary Constitutional Development. Credits: 3
PLS 5073 - Seminar in Political Behavior. Credits: 3
PLS 5153 - Cities, Politics and Urban Policy. (4843) Credits: 3
PLS 5163 - Subnational Government. Credits: 3
PLS 5173 - Seminar in Congressional Politics. Credits: 3
PLS 5273 - Presidential Politics. Credits: 3

Comparative Politics/International Relations

PLS 4823 - International Policy Issues. Credits: 3
PLS 4933 - Ideologies of the Third World Nations. Credits: 3
PLS 5023 - Proseminar in International Politics. Credits: 3
PLS 5033 - Comparative Institutional Analysis. Credits: 3
PLS 5043 - International Political Economy. Credits: 3
PLS 5133 - Governments and Politics of Asia Credits: 3
PLS 5433 - Proseminar in Comparative Politics. Credits: 3
PLS 5533 - Seminar in Political Modernization. Credits: 3

Public Administration/Public Policy

PLS 4793 - Public Organization Theory. Credits: 3
PLS 4873 - Human Resource Management in Government. Credits: 3
PLS 4893 - Government Budgeting and Politics. Credits: 3
PLS 5153 - Cities, Politics and Urban Policy. (4843) Credits: 3
PLS 5163 - Subnational Government. Credits: 3
PLS 5543 - Proseminar in Public Administration and Policy. Credits: 3

Rationale:

This course builds upon our existing efforts to provide graduate students training and knowledge of various research methods and the role of research in political science. The course also is a response to an external evaluation of our department, as well as our own internal assessment data, which suggests that our graduate students will benefit from additional exposure to the role of research in political science. The substantive material covered in this course addresses an important gap in our existing graduate curriculum.

Total credit hours for the PLS graduate degree will increase by one credit hour.

Effective date: Fall 2008

Date approved by the Department of Political Science: 2/27/2008

Date approved by the College of Sciences Curriculum Committee: 3/21/2008

Date approved by CGS: