Master’s Degree in Political Science

Programs Offered
M.A./M.S. with sequences in Applied Community and Economic Development, Global Politics and Cultures, or Public Service. Students may complete the M.A./M.S. degree in Political Science without a sequence.

Program Requirements
Students who do not elect a sequence complete the following 32 hour program:

- 3 hours: POL 496
- 3 hours: POL 497 or 461
- 12 hours: POL 400-level seminars chosen from POL 411, 417, 421, 431, 433, 441, 451, 461, 463, 470, 497 (NOTE: One seminar only may be replaced with 3 hours of summer POL 400 or 490, with prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator and a letter from the instructor certifying that the content adequately substitutes for a regular seminar.)
- a thesis (a thesis, 4-6 hours POL 499) or comprehensive exam
- electives as needed to reach a total of 32 hours chosen from POL 400-level or POL 300-level courses if listed in the Graduate Catalog. With prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator, electives may include up to 3 hours of relevant graduate courses from other departments.

Applied Community and Economic Development Sequence

The Applied Community and Economic Development (ACED) sequence is designed for returned Peace Corps Volunteers and students with equivalent domestic or international experience with other agencies. There are two options for degree completion.

Option I—Capstone: This 39 hour option requires:
- 6 hours POL 496, and POL 497 or 461
- 12 hours POL electives
- 3 hours of POL 495

ACED Core:
- 6 hours: POL/SOC 470, POL/SOC 477
- 2 hours: ECO/POL/SOC 478
- 2 hours: ECO 490A04
- 8 hours: POL 498A12 or 498A90 (The sequence ends with a required 11-month internship arranged through the Stevenson Center)

Option II—Thesis: This 35 hour option requires:
- 6 hours POL 496, and POL 497 or 461
- 9 hours POL electives
- 4 hours of POL 499

ACED Core:
- 6 hours: POL/SOC 470, POL/SOC 477
- 2 hours: ECO/POL/SOC 478
- 2 hours: ECO 490A04
- 6 hours: POL 498A12 or 498A90 (The sequence ends with a required 11-month internship arranged through the Stevenson Center)

With prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator, electives may include up to 3 hours of relevant graduate courses from other departments.

Public Service Sequence

Public Service is a 32-hour sequence designed for students interested in employment in the public sector, particularly at the state and local level.

Option I—Thesis: Requirements are as follows:
- 9 hours of POL 496, POL 421, POL 431
- 3 hours of POL 497 or 461
- 12 hours selected from POL 313, 318, 323, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 411, 412, 421, 422, 432, 433, 498
- 12 hours of POL 400-level seminars chosen from POL 411, 417, 421, 431, 433, 441, 451, 461, 463, 470, 497; (NOTE: One seminar only may be replaced with 3 hours of summer POL 400 or 490, with prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator and a letter from the instructor certifying that the content adequately substitutes for a regular seminar.)
- 4-6 hours of POL 499
- POL electives as needed to reach the total of 32 hours; With prior approval of Graduate Coordinator, electives may include up to 3 hours of relevant graduate courses from other departments.

Option II—Comprehensive Exam: Requirements are as follows:
- 9 hours of POL 496, POL 421, POL 431
- 3 hours of POL 497 or 461
- 12 hours selected from POL 313, 318, 323, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 411, 412, 421, 422, 432, 433, and 498;
- 12 hours of POL 400-level seminars chosen from POL 411, 417, 421, 431, 433, 441, 451, 461, 463, 470, 497; (NOTE: One seminar only may be replaced with 3 hours of summer POL 400 or 490, with prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator and a letter from the instructor certifying that the content adequately substitutes for a regular seminar.)
- POL electives as needed to reach the total of 32 hours; With prior approval of Graduate Coordinator, electives may include up to 3 hours of relevant graduate courses from other departments.
Pass a comprehensive exam

**Global Politics and Cultures Sequence**

Global Politics and Culture is a 32-hour sequence designed for students interested in the increasingly inter-connected politics of the modern world.

**Option I—Thesis:** Requirements are as follows:

- 12 hours including POL 496, POL 441, POL 451, POL 417
- 3 hours of POL 461 or 497
- 12 hours of POL 400-level seminars chosen from POL 411, 417, 421, 431, 433, 441, 451, 461, 463, 470, 497 (NOTE: One seminar only may be replaced with 3 hours of summer POL 400 or 490, with prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator and a letter from the instructor certifying that the content adequately substitutes for a regular seminar.)
- 4-6 hours of POL 499
- electives as needed to reach a total of 32 hours, representing a range of sub-disciplines of political science, chosen from POL 400-level or POL 300-level courses if listed in the Graduate Catalog. With prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator, electives may include up to 3 hours of relevant graduate courses from other departments.

**Option II—Comprehensive Exam:** Requirements are as follows:

- 12 hours including POL 496, POL 441, POL 451, POL 417
- 3 hours of POL 461 or 497
- 12 hours of POL 400-level seminars chosen from POL 411, 417, 421, 431, 433, 441, 451, 461, 463, 470, 497 (NOTE: One seminar only may be replaced with 3 hours of summer POL 400 or 490, with prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator and a letter from the instructor certifying that the content adequately substitutes for a regular seminar.)
- electives as needed to reach a total of 32 hours, representing a range of sub-disciplines of political science, chosen from POL 400-level or POL 300-level courses if listed in the Graduate Catalog. With prior approval of the Graduate Coordinator, electives may include up to 3 hours of relevant graduate courses from other departments.
- Pass a comprehensive exam

**Politics and Government Courses**

**305 TOPICS IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**

3 sem. hrs.

Selected advanced topics covering specific topics in American Government. Multiple enrollments allowed if content is different; maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisites: POL 100, 106 and one of the following: POL 212, 213, 214, 215, 217, 218, 221, 222, 231, 232, 233, 236, or consent of the instructor.

**310 VOTING AND ELECTIONS**

3 sem. hrs.

Intensive investigation of U.S. voting behavior and electoral process; includes instruction in analytical techniques. Prerequisites: Completion of 60 hours; POL 100, 106, or 138 or consent of the instructor.

**312 PUBLIC OPINION**

3 sem. hrs.

Includes attention to social and psychological bases of public opinion, current trends, methods of measurement, and opinion-policy linkages. Prerequisites: Completion of 60 hours; POL 100, 106, or 138 or consent of the instructor.

**317 U.S. POLITICS AND CULTURE AFTER VIETNAM**

3 sem. hrs.

Examination of the impact of the Vietnam War on contemporary U.S. politics. Prerequisites: Completion of 60 hours; POL 100, 106, or consent of the instructor.

**324 TOPICS IN PUBLIC LAW**

3 sem. hrs.

Selected topics focusing on specialized aspects of public law. Multiple enrollments allowed if content different. Prerequisites: Completion of 60 hours; POL 100, 106, or consent of the instructor. POL 215 is recommended.

**325 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FUNCTIONS AND POWERS**

3 sem. hrs.

Major Supreme Court decisions on federalism, separation of powers, taxation, commerce, voting, and citizenship. Prerequisites: Completion of 60 hours or consent of the instructor. POL 215 is recommended.

**326 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: DUE PROCESS RIGHTS**

3 sem. hrs.

Major Supreme Court decisions involving both procedural and substantive due process rights. Prerequisites: Completion of 60 hours or consent of the instructor. POL 215 is recommended.

**327 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: EQUALITY AND FREE EXPRESSION**

3 sem. hrs.

Major Supreme Court decisions involving discrimination, and freedom of speech, press, assembly, and religion. Prerequisites: Completion of 60 hours or consent of the instructor. POL 215 is recommended.

**328 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: SUPREME COURT DECISIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

3 sem. hrs.

Recent Supreme Court decisions involving right to bear arms, due process, equality, governmental functions, and powers, religion, and free expression. Prerequisites: Completion of 60 hours or consent of the instructor. POL 215 is recommended.

**330 PROBLEMS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

3 sem. hrs.

Varied approaches to problems relevant to public policy, organization development, management, staff, or personnel concerns, and applied behavioral techniques. Multiple enrollments allowed if content is different. Prerequisite: POL 231 or consent of the instructor.

**331 HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

3 sem. hrs.

The personnel process in American bureaucracy: matching the individual and the job; employer-employee relations; employee motivation; problems and prospects. Prerequisite: POL 231 or consent of the instructor.
333 POLITICS, BUDGETS, AND TAXES
3 sem. hrs.
Meaning, significance, content and historical evolution of government budgeting processes and reforms at all levels of government, as well as the political implications of fiscal reforms. Prerequisite: POL 231 or consent of the instructor.

334 THE POLITICS OF RACE, ETHNICITY AND INEQUALITY
3 sem. hrs.
Analysis of contending theories and ideologies concerning the role of race and ethnicity in American politics and public policy. Prerequisite: POL 100 or 106 or consent of the instructor; POL 214 or 231 or 232 or 327 is recommended.

337 GAY AND LESBIAN POLITICS AND THEORY
3 sem. hrs.
Explores LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) political movements in historical context and with reference to claims for citizenship. Prerequisite: WGS 120 or POL 225, or consent of the instructor.

338 GENDER AND POLITICAL THEORY
3 sem. hrs.
Examination of how gender shapes and is shaped by public policy formulation and implementation in different political and state contexts. Prerequisite: WGS 120 or POL 225, or consent of instructor.

339 YOUTH POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Explores youth issues in politics, media, economic and education systems. Formerly PLAYGROUND TO POLITICS. Prerequisite: Completion of 60 hours or consent of the instructor. POL 161 recommended.

340 TOPICS IN LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Selected topics focusing on specialized aspects of Latin American politics. Multiple enrollments allowed if content is different. Prerequisite: One of the following: HIS 263; POL 140, 240; or consent of the instructor.

344 TOPICS IN GLOBAL STUDIES
3 sem. hrs.
An intensive review and analysis of critical global problems and strategies for dealing with them. Multiple enrollments allowed if content is different. Prerequisite: One of the following: POL 150, 151, 251, 252, 254, 255, or consent of the instructor.

345 TOPICS IN ASIAN POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Selected topics focusing on specialized aspects of Asian Politics. Multiple enrollments allowed if content is different. Prerequisite: One of the following: HIS 373, 375; POL 140, 245, 255, or consent of the instructor.

349 TOPICS IN MIDDLE EAST POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Selected topics focusing on specialized aspects of Middle East politics. Multiple enrollments allowed if content is different. Prerequisite: One of the following: HIS 272; POL 140, 247; or consent of the instructor.

351 INTERNATIONAL LAW
3 sem. hrs.
Political nature, legal principles, and jurisdictional procedures and cases of contemporary international law. Prerequisite: One of the following: POL 151, 251, 252, 254, 255, or consent of the instructor.

352 HUMAN RIGHTS
3 sem. hrs.
General overview of human rights: philosophic foundation, historical development, main documents, institutions, movements and campaigns. Prerequisites: POL 140, 151, 251, 252, 254, or 255, or consent of the instructor.

357 THE POLITICS OF MICROFINANCE
3 sem. hrs.
Explores microfinance and its sociopolitical effect on gender empowerment and outreach to various ethnicities in need of economically sustainable support. Prerequisites: POL 140 or 141 and POL 150 or 151, or consent of the instructor.

358 INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY
3 sem. hrs.
An analysis of the structures of political power in the international political economy. Prerequisite: One of the following: POL 151, 251, 252, 254, 255, or consent of the instructor.

360 TOPICS IN POLITICAL THEORY
3 sem. hrs.
Selected advanced topics covering specific concepts or authors in political theory. Multiple enrollments allowed if content is different. Prerequisites: POL 100, 106, or 161 or completion of 60 semester hours, or consent of the instructor.

363 POLITICAL THEORIES OF NONVIOLENCE
3 sem. hrs.
Analysis of contending theories and approaches regarding nonviolence and civil disobedience. Prerequisite: One of the following: POL 100, 106, 161, 261, 262, 265, or consent of the instructor.

Seminars/Topics Courses
The content of the following seminars/topics will vary according to the interests of the particular instructor offering the course. Multiple enrollments allowed provided different material is covered, a seminar/topic.

411 SEMINAR IN AMERICAN POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Survey of major issues and theories of American politics, including those related to the presidency, Congress, political parties, and elections.

412 TOPICS IN AMERICAN POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
A selected topic, e.g., presidency, Congress, mass political behavior, selected policy problems, etc. Multiple enrollments allowed once if content is different.

417 POLITICAL CULTURES
3 sem. hrs.
Examines the role of political culture in shaping political life and the ways it is used in political research. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in Politics and Government, or consent of the instructor.

421 SEMINAR IN STATE AND LOCAL POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Survey of major issues, forms and functions of government, politics, policymaking at the state and local levels in the U.S.

422 SEMINAR IN URBAN POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Survey of the development of U.S. cities, focusing on major social and political issues and governmental responses and constraints.
431 SEMINAR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
3 sem. hrs.
Overview of the key issues, problems and theories that confront agency level officials and those who work with government and/or nonprofit organizations.

432 SEMINAR IN JUDICIAL POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Survey of various explanations of judicial processes and policies.

433 TOPICS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
3 sem. hrs.
A selected topic, e.g., organization theory and behavior, public management, personnel, etc. Multiple enrollments allowed once if content is different.

441 SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
Theoretical frameworks of comparative politics for explaining development, democracy, and governance. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in Politics and Government or consent of the instructor.

442 TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS
3 sem. hrs.
A selected region, e.g., Western Europe, Middle East, Africa, Latin America, etc., or selected topic, e.g., global development. Multiple enrollments allowed once if content is different.

451 SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
3 sem. hrs.
Provides thorough introduction to main theoretical literatures, policies and practices in the field of international relations as preparation for research in the topics seminar (POL 452). Multiple enrollments allowed once if content is different.

452 TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
3 sem. hrs.
Focuses on a compelling theoretical, policy or practice-related issue or issues in the field of international relations to provide students with an opportunity for in depth research. Multiple enrollments allowed once if content is different.

461 SEMINAR IN POLITICAL THEORY
3 sem. hrs.
Study of political theories and ideologies from antiquity to modernity. Seminar may focus on particular political thinkers or normative political issues and themes. Multiple enrollments allowed once if content is different.

463 SEMINAR IN DEMOCRATIC THEORY
3 sem. hrs.
This course provides a broad introduction to contemporary democratic theory. Multiple enrollments allowed once if content is different. Prerequisite: Graduate student or consent of the instructor.

470 SEMINAR IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
3 sem. hrs.
The seminar will review the theoretical and applied literature on community development, investigating strategies in both domestic and international contexts. Also offered as SOC 470. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in POL, ECO, or SOA, or consent of the instructor.

477 COMMUNITY PROJECT DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT
3 sem. hrs.
Design, planning, and implementation skills for leadership of community development projects. Focus on applied research, group process, budget management, and grant writing. Also offered as SOC 477. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in POL, ECO, or SOA, or consent of the instructor.

478 TOPICS IN ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING
2 sem. hrs.
Emphasizes skills needed for community and economic development domestically and internationally, including strategic planning, non-profit administration, and feasibility studies. Also offered as ECO/SOC 478. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in ECO, POL, or SOC, or consent of the instructor.

490 READINGS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
1-3 sem. hrs.
For the student who would benefit from more specialized or independent study adapted to his/her background and needs. To be taken only with permission of the student's advisor. Multiple enrollments allowed if content is different.

490A01 DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN PERU
3 sem. hrs.

491 INTERNSHIP IN COLLEGE TEACHING IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
3 sem. hrs.
Credit for the course is given in the School of Teaching and Learning (see TCH 491).

495 GRADUATE RESEARCH IN APPLIED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
3 sem. hrs.
Taken in conjunction with POL498A12 or 498A90. Involves independent research on a substantive problem in community development associated with the student’s professional practice experience. Prerequisite: POL 498A12 or 498A90 or concurrent registration.

496 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL INQUIRY
3 sem. hrs.
This course intends to provide an analysis of different modes of political inquiry.

497 INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
3 sem. hrs.
An introduction to empirical political analysis, concentrating on selection of a research problem, collection of data, research design, and execution of a complete research project. Emphasis on understanding and interpreting frequently used statistical concepts. Provides a background for the preparation of the thesis. Enables the student to become an intelligent consumer of the products of professional political science research.

498 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
1-6 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Public service or community development internship.

498A11 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: PUBLIC SERVICE
1-9 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Public service internship.

498A12 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
1-9 sem. hrs.
For graduate students enrolled in the Peace Corps/Applied Community and Economic Development Program. Community development internship. Refer to General Courses.
498A15 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: STEVENSON CENTER ASSISTANTSHIP
1 sem. hr.
Refer to General Courses.

499 MASTER'S THESIS
1-6 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses.

499A90 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FOR THE MASTER'S THESIS FINAL TERM
1 sem. hr.
Refer to General Courses.