Politics and Government (POS)

401 Schroeder Hall, (309) 438-8638
POL.IllinoisState.edu
Chairperson: T. Y. Wang

Master's Degree in Political Science

Programs Offered
M.A./M.S. with sequences in Applied Community and Economic Development, Global Politics, 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, 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 listed on Course Finder as approved for graduate credit. 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.

Global Politics 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:
- 9 hours including POL 496, POL 441, POL 451
- 3 hours of POL 461 or 497
- 12 hours of POL 400-level seminars chosen from POL 411, 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 listed on Course Finder as approved for graduate credit. 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:
- 9 hours including POL 496, POL 441, POL 451
- 3 hours of POL 461 or 497
- 12 hours of POL 400-level seminars chosen from POL 411, 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 listed on Course Finder as approved for graduate credit. 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

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

Politics and Government Courses: coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/pol/
All Courses: coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/