**Political Science**

**Program Requirements**

**M.A. Political Science (5.0 credits)**

Details on all program requirements are provided in the departmental Guidelines for M.A. Candidates.

All master's candidates will fulfill a 5.0-credit program requiring departmental approval. A maximum of 1.0 credit may be taken at the 4000-level. The student may choose to take a maximum of 1.0 credit outside the Department of Political Science.

**Requirements - Coursework option (5.0 credits)**

1.  **5.0 credits in** approved courses 5.0

**Total Credits** 5.0

**Requirements - Research Essay option (5.0 credits)**

1.  **1.0 credit in:** PSCI 5908 [1.0] M.A. Research Essay 1.0
2.  **4.0 credits in** approved courses 4.0

**Total Credits** 5.0

**Requirements - Thesis option (5.0 credits)**

1.  **2.0 credits in:** PSCI 5909 [2.0] M.A. Thesis 2.0
2.  **3.0 credits in** approved courses 3.0

**Total Credits** 5.0

**M.A. Political Science with Specialization in African Studies (5.0 credits)**

**Requirements - Coursework option (5.0 credits)**

1.  **0.5 credit in:** AFRI 5000 [0.5] African Studies as a Discipline: Historical and Current Perspectives 0.5
2.  **0.0 credit in:** AFRI 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in African Studies 0.0
3.  **0.5 credit from:** PSCI 5107 [0.5] Globalization, Adjustment and Democracy in Africa 0.5
4.  **0.5 credit in** course designated as having sufficient African Studies content, approved by both the Graduate Supervisor in Political Science and the Graduate Coordinator of the Institute of African Studies 0.5
5.  **3.5 credits in** approved courses 3.5

**Total Credits** 5.0

**Requirements - Research Essay option (5.0 credits)**

1.  **0.5 credit in:** AFRI 5000 [0.5] African Studies as a Discipline: Historical and Current Perspectives 0.5
2.  **0.0 credit in:** AFRI 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in African Studies 0.0
3.  **0.5 credit from:** PSCI 5107 [0.5] Globalization, Adjustment and Democracy in Africa 0.5
4.  **0.5 credit in** course designated as having sufficient African Studies content, approved by both the Graduate Supervisor in Political Science and the Graduate Coordinator of the Institute of African Studies 0.5
5.  **3.5 credits in** approved courses 3.5

**Total Credits** 5.0

**Defences**

In the case of the student choosing a thesis, the thesis will be evaluated by three people: the student's thesis supervisor from the Department, a second reader from the Department, and an internal third reader who is generally from another Carleton Department but may sometimes come from outside the University. A thesis must be defended orally before the three evaluators. No letter grade is assigned, but notations of Pass with Distinction, Satisfactory, and Unsatisfactory are assigned.

In the case of the student choosing a research essay, that essay will be evaluated by two of the Department's faculty members including the supervisor and a second reader, and a letter grade will be assigned. An oral defence of the essay is not required but may be requested by the supervisor or second reader.

**Co-op Option**

A co-op option is available to full-time students in the M.A. program. Students are eligible to apply for co-op after passing or receiving advanced standing for five half credits (2.5 credits), and completing one academic term of full-time studies in the Political Science program. Students admitted to this option must satisfactorily complete two work terms in order to graduate with a co-op designation on their transcripts. These work terms are four months in duration and locate students in government departments or other organizations in order to work at a junior officer level. The coordination of the work terms is done by the University's Co-op office. While on a work term, the Co-op Office will register students in PSCI 5913.
Washington Center Internship Program

The Washington Center Internship Program is open to full-time master's students who have completed at least two terms of study at Carleton. Admission is open to students with at least a 9.5 GPA in Political Science graduate courses. Successful completion of the program satisfies the requirements for one term of full-time study (1.5 credits). Students spend one term (fall, winter or summer) in Washington, D.C. They serve four days a week as an intern in Washington, D.C. and also take two seminar courses offered by faculty of The Washington Center. The normal 1.5 credit course load for participants in the program is: PSCI 5904 Washington Center Internship, PSCI 5906 Washington Center Seminar II, PSCI 5906 Washington Center Seminar II. Full information on the program and application forms can be obtained from the Department of Political Science.

Course Selection

Within the scope of the regulations, 4000-level undergraduate courses may be taken by M.A. students.

Students are also encouraged to look for graduate courses at Carleton in the Departments of Economics, Geography, History, Law, Philosophy, and Sociology and Anthropology; the Schools of Business, Journalism and Communication, Public Administration, and the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs; and in the Institutes of European and Russian Studies, and Political Economy. Students may also look for courses in the Graduate School of Public Policy and International Affairs and the School of Political Science at the University of Ottawa.

All courses selected will be subject to the approval of the Department, on grounds of appropriateness to the program of study and the avoidance of excessive overlap between courses.

Ph.D. Political Science (10.0 credits)

Details on all program requirements are provided in the departmental Guidelines for Ph.D. Candidates.

All Ph.D. candidates will fulfill a 10.0-credit program requiring departmental approval. The student may choose to take a maximum of 0.5 credit outside the Department of Political Science.

Requirements:

1. **2.0 credits in** courses at the 6000 level in each of the candidate's two major fields of study. A GPA of 9.0 or higher must be obtained in these courses for students to be allowed to proceed to the comprehensive examinations.

2. **1.0 credit in:**
   - PSCI 6900 [0.5] Ph.D. Field Examination I
   - PSCI 6905 [0.5] Ph.D. Field Examination II

   Field examinations normally take place once per year, in August. At the discretion of the Department, candidates may be required to take an oral examination following the written examination. Full-time students are normally required to complete the comprehensive examinations within 24 months of entering the program.

3. Proficiency in a research skill, as outlined below under Research Skill Requirement

4. **1.0 credit in** electives at the graduate level, normally taken during the first or second year of the program, in fields allied to the major topics of the thesis. This credit will normally be fulfilled through regular course work rather than tutorials. A maximum of .5 credits can be fulfilled by tutorials.

5. **1.0 credit in:**
   - PSCI 6907 [0.5] Research Methods and Design
   - PSCI 6908 [0.5] Thesis Proposal Workshop

6. A public defence of a written dissertation proposal. Full-time students must normally complete the public defence of the proposal, preceded by its formal acceptance by the supervisory committee, in the third year of their doctoral program.

7. **5.0 credits in:**
   - PSCI 6909 [5.0] Ph.D. Thesis

Total Credits 10.0

Ph.D. Political Science with Specialization in Political Economy (10.0 credits)

Requirements:

1. **2.0 credits in** courses at the 6000 level in each of the candidate's two major fields of study

2. **1.0 credit in:**
   - PSCI 6900 [0.5] Ph.D. Field Examination I
   - PSCI 6905 [0.5] Ph.D. Field Examination II

   Field examinations normally take place once per year, in August. At the discretion of the Department, candidates may be required to take an oral examination following the written examination. Full-time students are normally required to complete the comprehensive examinations within 24 months of entering the program.

3. Proficiency in a research skill, as outlined below under Research Skill Requirement

4. **0.5 credit in:**
   - PECO 6000 [0.5] Political Economy: Core Concepts

5. **0.5 credit in:**
   - A relevant political economy course from the approved list

6. **1.0 credit in:**
   - PSCI 6907 [0.5] Research Methods and Design
   - PSCI 6908 [0.5] Thesis Proposal Workshop

7. A public defence of a written dissertation proposal. Full-time students must normally complete the public defence of the proposal, preceded by its formal acceptance by the supervisory committee, in the third year of their doctoral program.

8. **5.0 credits in:**
   - PSCI 6909 [5.0] Ph.D. Thesis

Total Credits 10.0

Research Skill Requirement

Ph.D. candidates must demonstrate the ability to use a research skill appropriate to their program. The research skill requirement will normally be satisfied before the defence of the thesis proposal, and will take one of the following forms:

- An ability to read and translate French or another language appropriate to their course of study; or the ability to speak a language other than English sufficient to conduct interviews in that language. The other language must be one which is incorporated
into the final thesis and has the approval and acknowledgement of the supervisor; or

• An approved graduate level social science methods course equivalent to 0.5 credit. This may be any one of the following courses (or an approved alternative):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSCI 5700 [0.5]</td>
<td>Basic Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSCI 5701 [0.5]</td>
<td>Intermediate Polimetrics for Micro Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSCI 5702 [0.5]</td>
<td>Intermediate Research Methods for Applied Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSCI 5705 [0.5]</td>
<td>Approaches to the Study of Political Theory</td>
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</tbody>
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**Regulations**

See the General Regulations section of this Calendar.

All master's candidates must obtain a B standing or higher (GPA 8.0). One grade of C+ may be allowed.

**Regulations**

See the General Regulations section of this Calendar.

Details on all program requirements are provided in the departmental Guidelines for Ph.D. Candidates.

All Ph.D. candidates will fulfill a 10.0-credit program requiring departmental approval. The student may choose to take a maximum of 0.5 credit outside the Department of Political Science.

**Admission**

The normal requirement for admission to the master's program is B.A.(Honours) (or the equivalent) in Political Science, with at least high honours standing.

The Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs requires applicants whose native language is not English to be tested for proficiency in English. Applicants to the Political Science graduate program must meet the General Regulations requirements.

It is anticipated that candidates will enter having taken some political theory at the undergraduate level. Those who have not will be required to take PSCI 2301 and PSCI 2302, 1.0 credit over and above the normal M.A. program requirements.

Honours graduates in fields other than political science will be considered on the basis of their academic background and standing, and will be judged on a case-by-case basis. Those with only minor deficiencies may be required to take certain specified courses, while others whose degrees are less closely related to political science may be required to register in the qualifying year, at the discretion of the Department. Graduates of three-year programs in political science will be required either to complete the fourth year of an honours degree and reapply, or register in the qualifying year, depending on work completed to date and academic standing. The qualifying year is intended only for those students (with at least an 8.0 grade point average) whose universities do not offer an Honours degree or for graduates in other fields who did not major in political science. The qualifying year program is not intended to be a method for improving a student's undergraduate record.

Admission to the qualifying-year program does not imply automatic admission to the master's program.

**Accelerated Pathway**

The accelerated pathway in the Department of Political Science is a flexible and individualized plan of graduate study. Students in their final year of a Carleton B.A. Honours degree in Political Science with demonstrated academic excellence and aptitude for research may qualify for this option.

Students in their third-year of study in the B.A. Honours degree in Political Science should consult with both the Undergraduate Supervisor and the Graduate Supervisor to determine if the accelerated pathway is appropriate for them and to discuss the selection of courses for their final year of undergraduate studies.

**Accelerated Pathway Requirements**

1. At least 0.5 credit in PSCI courses at the 5000#level with a grade of B+ or higher.
2. Minimum overall CGPA of 10.5.

Students may receive advanced standing with transfer of credit of up to 1.0 credit which can reduce their time to completion.

**Admission**

The Ph.D. program in political science normally will be undertaken on a full-time basis. However, in cases of exceptional merit, the Department may accept a few candidates for the degree on a part-time basis.

The normal requirement for admission to the Ph.D. program is a master's degree (or its equivalent) in political science with high honours standing or better.

It is anticipated that Ph.D. candidates will enter having taken some political theory at the undergraduate level, regardless of their desired field of specialization. Those who have not will be required to take PSCI 2301 [0.5] and PSCI 2302 [0.5] in addition to the normal Ph.D. requirements.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs requires applicants whose native language is not English to be tested for proficiency in English. Applicants to the Political Science graduate program must meet the General Regulations requirements.

Upon entry to the program, each Ph.D. candidate will be assigned a faculty member to advise them on their studies. Students’ programs, including the choice of supervisor and the thesis committee, must be approved by the Department. The thesis supervisor will normally be chosen from among faculty members in the Department of Political Science. Upon approval of the thesis supervisor and the Department, committee members may be chosen from elsewhere within the University.