

# POLITICAL SCIENCE, MA

*for the degree of Master of Arts in Political Science*

## Admission to the Ph.D. Program

The Graduate College admission requirements apply. The student should have a minimum of 20 hours of undergraduate work in political science and cognate disciplines such as economics, psychology, finance, sociology, or history. All applicants are required to submit an application and fee, academic statement of purpose, personal statement, and sample of written work. Applicants whose native language is not English must submit the TOEFL iBT or IELTS score. The Ph.D. program typically admits students for the fall semester. Application deadline is December 1st.

## Admission to the Master of Arts with Concentration in Civic Leadership

Admission is restricted to students who were accepted to the Civic Leadership Program as undergraduates at the University of Illinois. Application deadline is December 1st. Applicants who wish to obtain a joint MA-JD degree program must apply separately for admission to the Law School.

## Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience in this program and is essential for students whose career goals include college teaching.

## Financial Aid

Students accepted into the department's Ph.D. program are eligible to apply for financial aid. Most incoming students with good credentials and continuing students demonstrating satisfactory progress will receive some type of financial aid, but the type and amount will vary. The Department of Political Science provides, on a competitive basis, aid packages up to \$22,000, plus waivers of tuition and some fees. Financial aid is usually a combination of fellowship money and assistantships. Limited amounts of aid are also available for dissertation field research, internships, and the presentation of papers at professional meetings.

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Students enrolled in the Ph.D. program can usually earn a Master of Arts in Political Science within three semesters. It entails the completion of 32 graduate hours and the achievement of a 3.0 GPA in all courses taken. A master's paper is required.

For additional details and requirements refer to the department's graduate handbook (<https://pol.illinois.edu/academics/graduate-program/graduate-handbook/>) and the Graduate College Handbook (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/>).

## Thesis Option

Code	Title	Hours
Tools of Inquiry Coursework		24-32
PS 599	Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree)	0-8
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>32</b>

## Other Requirements

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
A concentration is not required.	
Minimum Hours Required Within the 24 Unit:	
Minimum 500-level Hours Required	24
Overall:	
Minimum GPA:	3.0

## Non-Thesis Option

Code	Title	Hours
Tools of Inquiry Coursework		24-32
Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (min/max applied toward degree):		0-8
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>32</b>

## Other Requirements

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
A concentration is not required.	
A master's paper is required	
Minimum Hours Required Within the 24 Unit:	
Minimum 500-level Hours Required	24
Overall:	
Minimum GPA:	3.0

## Graduate Degree Programs in Political Science

- Political Science, MA (p. 1)
  - concentrations:
    - Civic Leadership (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/political-science-ma/civic-leadership/>)
    - African American Studies (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/african-american-studies/>)
- Political Science, PhD (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/political-science-phd/>)
  - concentration:
    - African American Studies (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/african-american-studies/>)
- Joint Programs:
  - Political Science, PhD & Law, JD ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las\\_law/joint-degree/political-science-phd-law-jd/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las_law/joint-degree/political-science-phd-law-jd/))
  - Political Science: Civic Leadership, MA & Law, JD ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las\\_law/joint-degree/political-science-ma-civic-leadership-law-jd/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las_law/joint-degree/political-science-ma-civic-leadership-law-jd/))

The Department of Political Science offers graduate programs leading to the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy. Students are not admitted to the master's degree program in Political Science, except for the Civic Leadership concentration. The department is not accepting applications to the Public Administration program.

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**Department of Political Science**

Head of Department: Thomas Rudolph

Director of Graduate Studies: Jeffery Mondak

Department of Political Science website (<http://www.pol.illinois.edu/>)

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**College of Liberal Arts & Sciences**

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences website (<https://las.illinois.edu/>)

**Admissions**

Graduate College Admissions & Requirements (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)