



POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

GRADUATE PROGRAM BULLETIN

(Effective Fall 2015 Semester)

For the Degrees

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

or

MASTER OF ARTS

144 Frederick Douglass Hall

202.806.6720

<http://www.coas.howard.edu/politicalscience/graduateprogram.html>

polisci@howard.edu

Contents

Contents	1
Political Science at Howard University	3
Mission of the Graduate Program	3
Graduate Program Administration	4
Admission Policies and General Information	4
<i>Graduate Program Admission</i>	4
<i>Admissions and Financial Aid Calendar</i>	4
<i>Application Forms and Process</i>	5
<i>Graduate Record Examination</i>	5
<i>Admission to the Master of Arts Degree Program</i>	5
<i>Admission to the Doctor of Philosophy Program</i>	5
<i>Financial Aid: Political Science Department</i>	5
<i>Financial Aid: The Graduate School</i>	6
<i>Faculty Advising and Program of Study/Graduation Scheme</i>	6
<i>Expository Writing Requirement</i>	6
<i>English as a Second Language</i>	7
<i>Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Workshop</i>	7
<i>Consortium of Universities Washington Metropolitan Area</i>	7
<i>Undergraduate Student Enrollment in Graduate Courses</i>	8
<i>Credit for Master's Level Course Work in Other Disciplines</i>	8
<i>Credit for Master's Level Course Work in Political Science</i>	9
Degree Requirements and Regulations	9
<i>Grading System</i>	9
C, D, and F Grades	10
Pass/Fail Grades	10
<i>Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree</i>	10
MA Course Requirements	10
Courses	10
Number of Credits	10
Master's Thesis Option	11
Non-Thesis Option Paper	11
Master of Arts Comprehensive Examination	11
Research Tool Requirement	12
Political Theory Requirement	12
Independent Study at the Master's Level	12
Master of Arts Degree Candidacy	13
Course Viability	13
Master of Arts Degree Matriculation Period	13
<i>Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree</i>	13
Ph.D. Course Requirements (with MA degree in hand)	13
Fields of Concentration	14
Academic Credits	14
Field Requirements	14
Research Tool Requirements	14

Political Theory Requirement	15
Core Doctoral Curriculum	15
Doctoral Seminar Requirement	15
Doctoral Independent Study	15
POLS 350–354 (<i>Advanced Research and Survey Design</i>)	16
Doctoral Comprehensive Examination	16
Admission to Doctoral Candidacy	17
Institutional Review Board for Dissertation Research	18
Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI)	
Basic Course in Social-Behavioral Research	18
Doctoral Dissertation Proposal & Dissertation Thesis	18
Graduate School Guidelines	18
Department of Political Science Guidelines	19
Dissertation Thesis Oral Defense	19
Course Viability	20
Doctor of Philosophy Degree Matriculation Period	20
Fields of Concentration and Courses	20
<i>Field A: Black Politics</i>	20
About the Field	20
Field Requirements	21
Black Politics Courses	22
<i>Field B: International Relations & Comparative Politics</i>	22
Mission	22
Objectives	23
International Relations Field Requirements & Courses	23
<i>About the Field</i>	23
<i>Field Requirements</i>	23
<i>Courses</i>	23
Comparative Politics Field Requirements & Courses	25
<i>About the Field</i>	25
<i>Field Requirements</i>	25
<i>Courses</i>	25
<i>Field C: American Government & Political Behavior</i>	26
About the Field	26
American Government/Political Behavior Requirements	27
Courses	27
<i>Field D: Public Administration & Policy</i>	28
About the Field	28
Objectives	28
Courses	29
<i>Political Theory & Research Methodology Courses</i>	30
<i>Graduate Courses by Academic Field</i>	30
Full-Time Faculty & Administrative Staff	34

POLITICAL SCIENCE AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY

The Department of Political Science, under the leadership of statesman Ralph J. Bunche, began offering bachelor's degrees in 1928. By 1940, the Department had awarded two Master of Arts degrees. The Department awarded its first Doctor of Philosophy degree to Hanes Walton, Jr. in 1967; more than 160 doctoral degrees have been awarded since. Howard University-trained political scientists are accomplished professors, university administrators, elected and appointed officials, lawyers, and civic leaders.

The study of Political Science at Howard University transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries found at most other institutions of higher learning. While many Political Science programs across the globe refrain from serious study of Black political life, at Howard the study of African American and Black Diaspora politics is a treasured legacy. For eight decades Howard political scientists have defined and refined the conceptual boundaries of the emergent field of scholarship known as Black Politics. Ralph Bunche pioneered the nascent scholarly discipline in an atmosphere at best indifferent to the significance of systematic study of state-society relations of those of African descent. Hanes Walton, Jr., Robert C. Smith, Paula McClain, and Ronald Walters, by contrast, made outstanding scholarly contributions to political science during an era marked by greater openness to intellectual inquiry focused on Black political thought and behavior.

Currently the Department's Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Arts programs exist alongside a vibrant undergraduate program comprising four areas of concentrations – *Black Politics*, *International Relations/Comparative Politics*, *American Government and Political Behavior*, and *Public Administration/Policy*. The Department's teaching and research examine the political challenges and opportunities facing African Americans and other historically underrepresented communities; complexities of domestic and international governance; the rich insights derived from empirically grounded comparative analysis of state and non-state political phenomena; and local, state, and national politics and policy. The Department's undergraduate curriculum is ideal for those pursuing careers in law, policy making, public service, and advanced study in the social sciences.

MISSION OF THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Graduate Program in Political Science “is dedicated to attracting and sustaining a cadre of faculty who are, through their teaching, research and service, committed to the development of distinguished, historically aware, and compassionate graduates and to the discovery of solutions to human problems in the United States and throughout the world” (*Howard University Mission Statement*). The Graduate Program prepares students for careers in academia and senior level research or administrative positions in the public and private sectors. We seek to retain and expand the Political Science Department's position as a major source of political scientists concerned with issues impinging on the lives of peoples of African descent. The Department serves as a forum for constructive and innovative ideas about political leadership, public policy making, and the provision of services to enhance the lives of local, national and international communities.

GRADUATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Faculty. The Political Science Department Graduate Faculty makes curricular and programmatic decisions.

Chair. The Chair is charged with general administration of the Department.

Graduate Program Committee. The Committee comprises Field Chairs, the Department Chair, Graduate Program Director, other interested Faculty elected annually by the Department, plus one graduate student representative selected by the Graduate Political Science Student Association.

Graduate Program Director. One member of the Graduate Program Committee is recommended to the Department Chair to serve as Graduate Program Director. The Department Chair recommends the candidate to the Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. The Graduate Program Director serves as Chair of the Graduate Program Committee and reports to the Department Chair and Faculty on behalf of the Committee.

Graduate Political Science Association. The Graduate Political Science Student Association is the official graduate student organization in the Department. Students elected by the Association serve on most department committees and vote on matters that come before the faculty with the exception of financial aid and the budget. The Executive Committee of the Association may meet with the Department Chair, Graduate Program Director, and Graduate Program Committee to consider Graduate Program issues.

ADMISSION POLICIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Graduate Program Admission. Applicants may seek admission to one of the Department's two graduate programs: Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Arts. The Department's **Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid** reviews applications and makes admissions decisions. When the Committee is not in session, the Department Chair and the Graduate Program Director act on its behalf.

Admissions applications must include all of the following before consideration begins:

1. Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate studies;
2. Three letters of recommendation from members of the academic community who are familiar with the applicant's record;
3. A brief autobiographical sketch;
4. A statement of educational and professional objectives;
5. Other evidence – for example the Graduate Record Examination score or work experience – that may be pertinent to the applicant's potential for the successful pursuit of a graduate degree.

Admissions and Financial Aid Calendar

- January 15 Admission applications deadline for fall semester
- March 1 Assistantship applications deadline for next academic year
- July 31 Announcement of financial aid awards

See <http://www.coas.howard.edu/politicalscience/graduateprogram.html> for revised deadlines.

Application Forms and Process

You may download a graduate program application:
<http://www.gs.howard.edu/admissions/default.html>.

Graduate Record Examination

New applicants to the Graduate School must submit scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Revised General Test <https://www.ets.org/gre/>. GRE scores more than five years old are not accepted.

Admission to the Master of Arts Degree Program

Unless otherwise specified, all application and admission requirements to the Graduate Program in Political Science pertain to the Master's degree program. The Graduate School requires applicants to have an undergraduate baccalaureate degree, or its equivalent, from an accredited institution. Generally, students with unsatisfactory performance at other graduate schools will not be admitted. Applicants should have a cumulative and major discipline grade point average of B or higher. Particular weight is given to the student's record in Political Science and related fields. Applicants who did not major in Political Science during their undergraduate career *may* be required to successfully complete undergraduate Political Science courses as a condition for admission. Credits from these classes would not count toward graduate course requirements.

Admission to the Doctor of Philosophy Program

Students with a Master's degree, or its equivalent from an accredited institution, may be admitted to the Doctor of Philosophy Program. Prospective applicants must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average (on a 4–point scale) in all courses above the Bachelor's degree.

Admission to the Master of Arts Program is not equivalent to admission to the Doctor of Philosophy Program. Master of Arts students seeking admission to the Ph.D. program must request approval from the Committee on Admission and Financial Aid. The Committee may admit exceptional students directly into the Ph.D. program. Students with a Master's degree must complete a minimum of 48 credit hours for the Ph.D. This includes 12 credit hours for the dissertation. The Doctor of Philosophy degree requires a minimum of 72 credit hours beyond the undergraduate degree.

Financial Aid – Political Science Department

Acting on the recommendation of the Department's Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid, the Political Science Graduate Program annually awards merit-based fellowships and assistantships that include remission of tuition and a stipend. Award recipients must be registered as full-time students during the award period. *Recipients may not be employed outside the Department while receiving University financial aid.* Failure to report outside employment upon acceptance of Political Science financial aid is grounds for loss of departmental support. In awarding fellowships and other forms of financial

assistance, the Department considers demonstrated and potential academic performance, as well as faculty reference letters. Recipients of Political Science financial aid are required to perform 6 to 12 hours of work each week for the Department. Students seeking renewal of Departmental financial aid are evaluated on the basis of:

- Cumulative grade point average
- Reference letters from faculty mentors
- Satisfactory progress toward completion of degree requirements
- In the case of graduate assistants quality of performance in departmental responsibilities is taken into account

Financial Aid – The Graduate School

The Graduate School provides merit-based financial aid. Details may be found here: <http://www.gs.howard.edu/financialaid.html>

Faculty Advising and Program of Study/Graduation Scheme

The Graduate Program Director – after consultation with the student and the appropriate Field Chair – assigns each graduate student a Faculty Advisor. Students are expected to meet their Faculty Advisor at least once per semester to review academic progress, obtain approval of registration, and discuss other academic concerns. Each student is required to maintain a current Program of Study (Graduation Scheme). The Doctoral Program of Study and Master of Arts Program of Study are available from the Graduate School, and the Political Science Graduate Program office (Douglass Hall room 112).

- Master's: www.gs.howard.edu/omrs/word/masters_pos.doc
- Doctoral: www.gs.howard.edu/omrs/word/program_of_study.doc

Expository Writing Requirement

The English Proficiency Examination (EPE) in Expository Writing is a diagnostic and teaching vehicle to ensure that all students in the Graduate School demonstrate proficiency in academic writing. Such proficiency is a prerequisite for admission to candidacy for the master's or doctoral degree. All graduate students, unless exempt, are required to take the EPE in the beginning of the graduate program. Students who score at least a 5 (commendable response) on the 6-point rubric will receive a certificate of competence; those who score a 4 (adequate response) must schedule an appointment with a writing instructor of the Program for Academic Support Services (PASS); those who score below a 4 must enroll in and successfully complete a set of writing courses and/or workshops/tutorials offered by the PASS. Students may only be exempt from the EPE if they have scores of 5 and above on the GRE Analytical Writing Assessment. These students are required to submit official documentation of their scores to the PASS program assistant in order to receive a certificate of competence. The examination is given during the fall (August), spring (January), and first summer session (May) of each academic year. The EPE consists of a 500-word essay written in a two-three hour period on a topic chosen by the student from a list provided by PASS. The essay is evaluated by the use of a 6-point rubric.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Self-identified English as a Second Language (ESL) students may desire to take the Academic Communication Course before taking the English Proficiency Examination (EPE) in Expository Writing, after which they will receive the Expository Writing Certificate. All students who take the Expository Writing Examination who are successful in passing the examination are required to pass the Academic Communication Course, after which they will receive the Expository Writing Certificate.

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Workshop

The Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Workshop is designed to provide graduate students with information and training on research ethics and integrity. The objective of the RCR workshop is to discuss and provide knowledge-based tools to address the often complex issues which confront scholars during the course of their research careers. The lecture-discussion based two-half day workshops are offered each semester of the academic year. The topics include core areas associated with research ethics and integrity:

- Guidelines and Regulations
- Plagiarism
- Institutional Review Board (IRB) / Human and Animal Subjects
- Ethical Reasoning / Conflict of Interest
- Data Management
- Authorship and Publication Practices / Collaborative Research
- Mentorship
- Informed Consent
- Intellectual Property

Graduate students are required to successfully complete the RCR workshop prior to advancing to candidacy. The suggested time to take the RCR workshop for Master's and Ph.D. students is during the fall semester of the second year of residence.

Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area (CUWMA)

The student's Faculty Advisor, and the Graduate Program Director or the Department Chair must approve courses pursued through the Consortium. The CUWMA is a cooperative arrangement in post-secondary education designed to permit the sharing of academic resources by member institutions and to offer qualified students the opportunity to enroll at other institutions for courses not available on their own campus.

Howard University offers its qualified undergraduate and graduate degree seeking students the opportunity to enroll in courses at American University, Catholic University, Corcoran College, Gallaudet University, Georgetown University, George Mason University, George Washington University, Marymount University, Trinity College, University of the District of Columbia and University of Maryland-College Park.

Students must be registered at Howard University for the same semester they are interested in taking a Consortium course. Consortium registration forms are available in Suite 105 "A" Bldg. during the registration period each semester. For more information on the CUWMA and participating universities course schedules, please visit <http://www.consortium.org>.

To be eligible for this program a student must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a fully admitted degree-seeking student;
2. Be actively enrolled in courses at Howard University at the same time that the Consortium course is being taken;
3. Not exceed the amount of credits they are registered for at Howard University;
4. Be in good academic/financial standing (3.0 GPA);
5. Obtain the following approvals to participate in the Consortium Program.
 - (a) ACADEMIC APPROVAL-Signature of the Academic Dean and Department Chairperson
 - (b) ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL- Return Consortium form to the Consortium Coordinator for signature and validation stamp - Administration Bldg, Suite 105.

Once the form is signed and validated with the Consortium stamp, the student copy (buff) will be returned to the student. This copy is to be shown to the instructor at the host institution, but retained by the student for identification purposes at the host institution.

For special courses (private instruction in music or tutorial study) if a special fee is charged, such a fee is not covered by the Consortium Agreement and must be paid by the student to the host institution. This applies to any fee assessed to a course. If fees are not paid by the end of the semester in which they occur, a “Hold” will be placed on future registrations at Howard University until such fees are paid.

Consortium courses are not approved for “audit.” Courses pursued through the Consortium Program must be courses not available at Howard University during the given semester or year. Students must follow the general registration procedures and pay the applicable tuition rate of Howard University. For further information see: <http://www.howard.edu/enrollment/exchange/cuwma.htm>.

Undergraduate Student Enrollment in Graduate Courses

With the explicit, written approval of the faculty member *before* registration, an undergraduate student will be permitted to register for a graduate course. The faculty member will determine the grading requirements for undergraduates and provide the student and Graduate Program Director written course requirements prior to course registration.

Credit for Master’s Level Course Work in Other Disciplines

The Graduate Program Committee – on the advice of the appropriate Field Chair – reviews and determines the number of credit hours doctoral students may receive for courses completed in other disciplines from graduate-level programs. The credit hours awarded must be for graduate courses that are equivalent or closely related to those in the Political Science Department. In no case may the credit hours awarded exceed fifteen (15) or replace major field core courses. Students are required to provide the following documentation to the appropriate Field Chair for approval prior to formally applying for credit with the Graduate Program Director:

- Form *Request for Transfer of Credit for MA Level Courses Not in Political Science* (available from Douglass Hall 112 and Graduate Program web page)
- Graduate School of Arts & Sciences form *Request for Transfer of Credit*
<http://www.gs.howard.edu/FAForms%20and%20Applications.htm>

- Appropriate official academic transcript for course under consideration
- Official syllabus for course under consideration

Credit for Master's Level Course Work in Political Science

Howard Political Science Master of Arts Courses

Students are required to provide the following documentation to the appropriate Field Chair for approval prior to formally entering these courses on the *Recommendation to Candidacy for the PhD Degree* form.

<http://www.gs.howard.edu/FA-Forms%20and%20Applications.htm>

- Form *Request for Transfer of Credit from Howard University MA in Political Science* (In Douglass Hall 112 and on Graduate Program web page)
- Latest unofficial Howard University academic transcript
- Official syllabus for course under consideration

Upon examination by the appropriate Field Chairs and the Graduate Program Director, a *maximum* of 24 credit hours *may* be applied to the required 72 credit hours for the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

Master of Arts in Political Science Courses from Another Academic Institution

Students are required to provide the following documentation to the appropriate Field Chair for approval prior to formally applying for transfer credit with the Graduate Program Director:

- Form *Request for Transfer of Credit for MA Level Courses in Political Science from Another Institution* (available from Douglass Hall 112 and Graduate Program web page)
- Graduate School of Arts & Sciences form *Request for Transfer of Credit*
<http://www.gs.howard.edu/FA-Forms%20and%20Applications.htm>
- Appropriate official academic transcript for course under consideration
- Official syllabus for course under consideration

Upon examination by the appropriate Field Chairs and the Graduate Program Director, a *maximum* of 24 credit hours *may* be accepted as part of the required 72 credit hours for the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS

The Graduate School's bylaws outline degree requirements and regulations. They are found in *Rules and Regulations for the Pursuit of Academic Degrees in the Graduate School*. To obtain a copy go to <http://www.gs.howard.edu/>, then "Academics," then "Rules & Regulations," to download [GSRulesRegs2007_FINAL.pdf](#). Prospective and current students should carefully review this document.

Grading System

Grades in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences are calculated as follows:

- A= four (4) points per credit hour
- B = three (3) points per credit hour
- C = two (2) points per credit hour
- D = one (1) point per credit hour
- F = zero (0) points per credit hour

C, D, and F Grades

Graduate degree credits are not awarded for courses in which a student earns a C, D, or F grade. Such courses must be repeated for a passing grade if they are to be counted as credit toward a Doctor of Philosophy or Master of Arts degree. However, grades of C, D and F are a permanent part of the student's record and are used in the calculation of the cumulative grade point average. A graduate student is permitted to earn only two grades of C or lower. After receiving a third grade of C or lower, the student will be dropped from the graduate program. The Political Science Graduate Program Committee may recommend the dismissal of a student who generally demonstrates an inability to perform satisfactorily at the graduate level. Plagiarism and cheating are grounds for dismissal from the Political Science Graduate Program.

Pass/Fail Grades

The following courses receive the grade Pass (P) or Fail (F):

- POLS 308 *Directed Research MA Thesis*
- POLS 350–354 *Advanced Research and Survey Design*
- POLS 399 *Directed Research PhD Dissertation*

Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

MA Course Requirements

- Major core course = 3 credit hours
- Minor core course = 3 credit hours
- Political Theory core course = 3 credit hours
- Major Field = 9 credit hours after core course
- Minor Field = 6 credit hours after core course
- Two Research Tools = 6 credit hours
- *OPTION ONE: Master of Arts Thesis = 6 credit hours*
- *OPTION TWO: Non-Thesis Option Paper (NTOP) = 6 credit hours* comprising two additional courses in the major or minor field

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS equals thirty-six (36)

General Course Requirements and Fields of Concentration

Courses.

Students enrolled in the Master of Arts degree program are required to complete course requirements in *two fields of concentration* designated as a *major* and *minor*. They must complete four (4) courses to satisfy a major concentration, and three (3) courses (not including independent study) from a field other than the major field to satisfy a minor concentration.

Number of Credits.

To receive the Master of Arts degree students must complete thirty-six (36) credit hours. This includes required courses in research methodology that satisfy the research tool requirement.

Master's Thesis Option.

Students who choose to write a master's thesis must complete twenty-one (21) hours in two fields – *major* (12 credit hours) and *minor* (9 credit hours) as described above, and six (6) credit hours in research methodology that also satisfy the research tool requirement. Six (6) credit hours are awarded for the Master of Arts thesis, which must be written under the direction of a Graduate Faculty member, evaluated by a three-member Graduate Faculty Committee, and successfully defended. Based on the recommendation of the Graduate Program Director, the Master of Arts Thesis Graduate Faculty Committee is formally constituted by the Department Chair.

Non-Thesis Option Paper (NTOP).

Students who choose to write a *non-thesis option paper* must complete twenty-one (21) hours in two fields – *major* (12 credit hours) and *minor* (9 credit hours) as described above, six (6) credit hours in research methodology that also satisfy the research tool requirement; plus six (6) credit hours from two additional courses related to the Non-Thesis Option Paper. A major research paper must be written in one of these two additional major/minor courses under the direction of a Graduate Faculty member. This original research paper is evaluated by a three-member committee, and successfully defended. Based on the recommendation of the Graduate Program Director, the non-thesis option paper faculty committee is formally constituted by the Department Chair.

Master of Arts Comprehensive Examination.

Master of Arts students are required to pass a *comprehensive examination* in one field. Eligibility requires a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 at the time the exam is taken. The following stipulations apply:

- Comprehensive examinations are administered once per semester;
- Examinations last four hours;
- All required coursework must be completed before applying for the exam;
- Formal application to sit for the exam is mandatory;
- Political Science application form is available in Douglass Hall room 112 and on the Graduate Program website;
- Graduate School of Arts and Sciences form *Application to Schedule a Comprehensive Examination* is available at <http://www.gs.howard.edu/FA-Forms%20and%20Applications.htm>;
- Field Committees must certify in writing that a student is eligible;
- Students who fail to meet the comprehensive examination application deadline must formally reapply in a subsequent semester;
- Students must pass the exam prior to writing a Master's Thesis or non-thesis option paper;
- Students have two (2) opportunities to pass the examination;
- Students who fail are allowed to sit for the exam a second time. However, the second exam must be passed within a maximum of three (3) semesters, including the semester in which it was first taken. If not, the student is considered to have failed the second attempt;

- Students who fail both examinations must withdraw from the Master of Arts program.

Research Tool Requirement.

Each Master of Arts student is required to satisfy two (2) *research tool* requirements by completing the following courses with the grade of B or higher:

- Research Tool #1: POLS 217 *Methods of Political Science*
- Research Tool #2: POLS 254 *Behavioral Research Methods*
- *Only one (1) of these courses may be transferred from another graduate department.*

The research methodology requirement is designed to ensure that Master of Arts students have the quantitative and qualitative methodological sophistication necessary to conduct scholarly research in Political Science. The Department recognizes that the research needs of students may vary according to interest and fields of specialization. All Master of Arts students – particularly in International Relations and Comparative Politics – are encouraged to acquire writing and speaking skills in a second language. Courses taken or fluency in a foreign language may not be substituted for the mandatory research methodology requirement.

Political Theory Requirement.

Each Master of Arts student must complete the course POLS 232 *Nature and Uses of Political Theory* with the grade of B or higher. This course may not be transferred from another graduate department.

Independent Study at the Master's Level.

Independent study is intended to be a systematic, rigorous, and closely supervised research/tutorial collaboration between a faculty member and graduate student. The purpose of the independent study course is to increase student and faculty interaction and enable students to pursue a new research interest or to develop an area of inquiry originating in previous Master of Arts course work in the Department. The Master's student and faculty member are, in effect, agreeing to a scholarly contract for work, services, or both, to be performed within a semester. Independent study may *not* duplicate or substitute for Department course offerings. The proposed course of study must be in the form of a written proposal specifying the problem, scholarly readings, data sources, research questions or hypotheses, methodology, and anticipated results. Students in the Master of Arts program may take two independent study courses – one per academic field (major and minor). The student's Graduate Faculty Advisor, the Graduate Program Director and Department Chair must approve independent study requests. The Graduate Program Director or the Department Chair must approve student registration for independent study prior to course registration, preferably during the semester before the course is to be taken. Under no circumstances will registration be approved after the close of the "change of program" period designated by the University. The independent study approval form is available in the Graduate Program Office in Douglass Hall room 112.

Master of Arts Degree Candidacy.

To be advanced to candidacy for the Master of Arts in Political Science degree, students must:

- Complete all required courses;
- Pass qualifying comprehensive examination in one (1) major field;
- Satisfy the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences *Expository Writing* requirement;
- Satisfy the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences *Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)* requirement;
- Satisfy the research methodology requirement;
- Obtain formal approval of a thesis problem, or indicate in writing that the non-thesis option paper will be pursued;
- Complete the *Recommendation to Candidacy for the Master's Degree* form <http://www.gs.howard.edu/FA-Forms%20and%20Applications.htm>

Course Viability.

Courses completed more than five (5) years prior to the semester in which the student applies to take the qualifying comprehensive examination will not be credited toward the fulfillment of Master of Arts degree requirements. Upon the recommendation of the Graduate Program Director, the Department Chair may recommend to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences that the student be permitted to recertify the expired courses.

Master of Arts Degree Matriculation Period.

Students are expected to complete a Master of Arts degree within a maximum of five (5) years from the date of initial registration in the Political Science Graduate Program. Those who do not complete the degree within this time frame will be dropped from the program. These students may petition for readmission and reenroll upon the recommendation of the Department's Graduate Faculty and approval by the Executive Committee of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree

Ph.D. Course Requirements (with MA degree in hand)

- Five core courses = 15 credit hours
- Political Theory core course = 3 credit hours
- Major Field #1 = 9 credit hours after core course
- Major Field #2 = 9 credit hours after core course
- Minor Field = 6 credit hours after core course
- Three Research Tools = 9 credit hours
- Doctoral dissertation = 12 credits (One of these credits is for the mandatory "Doctoral Seminar"/POLS 398)
- TOTAL CREDIT HOURS equals at least 51 credit hours of required courses plus 12 credit hours for the dissertation

Fields of Concentration.

The Political Science Department offers doctoral degrees in these fields of concentration:

Field A: Black Politics

Field B: International Relations and Comparative Politics

Field C: American Government and Political Behavior

Field D: Public Administration and Policy

The Political Science Department also offers courses in Research Methods, Political Theory, and Political Economy.

Academic Credits.

Students pursuing the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Political Science are required to complete seventy-two (72) credit hours beyond the baccalaureate degree. Students with a Master of Arts degree must complete a minimum of forty-eight (48) credit hours. In either case, twelve (12) of these credits will be applied to the doctoral dissertation. One (1) of the twelve (12) credits applied to the doctoral dissertation is earned for successful completion of the mandatory *Doctoral Seminar* (POLS 398).

Field Requirements.

Doctoral students must complete course work in *two major fields* and *one minor field*. Course work for the two major fields must be taken in the Political Science Department. To satisfy a major field requirement, students must take at least four (4) courses (12 credit hours) in the field. To satisfy the minor field requirement, students must take at least three (3) courses in a field other than the two major fields, or by combining courses from a third field with courses from another department in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. The Graduate Program Director – on the advice of the appropriate Field Chair – must approve courses taken outside the Political Science Department to satisfy the minor concentration.

Research Tool Requirements.

Doctoral students must satisfy *three research tools* with the grades of B or higher.

- Research Tool #1: POLS 217 *Methods of Political Science*
- Research Tool #2: POLS 254 *Behavioral Research Methods*
 - *Only one (1) of the above courses may be transferred from another graduate department.*
- Research Tool #3:
 - POLS 257 *Multivariate Statistics*, or
 - POLS 279 *Survey Research Methods*, or
 - Another graduate research methods course, or
 - Proficiency in a foreign language to be used for scholarly work.

Students who wish to pursue training in other research techniques to satisfy the third research tool requirement must do so with the written approval of their Graduate Faculty Advisor and the Graduate Program Director. Under no circumstances may a student fulfill the third research tool with course work of less than three (3) credit hours.

Political Theory Requirement.

Each Doctor of Philosophy student must complete the course POLS 232 *Nature and Uses of Political Theory* with the grade of B or higher. This course may not be transferred from another graduate department.

Core Doctoral Curriculum.

Each Doctor of Philosophy student is required to take five (5) core courses (15 credit hours) with the grade of B or better:

Field A: Black Politics

POLS 227 *Introduction to Black Politics*

Field B: International Relations and Comparative Politics

POLS 287 *Theories of International Relations*

POLS 204 *Approaches to Comparative Politics*

Field C: American Government and Political Behavior

POLS 292 *Seminar in American Politics*

Field D: Public Administration and Policy

POLS 209 *Organization Theory*

Doctoral Seminar Requirement.

Ph.D. students must pass the one-credit *Doctoral Seminar* (POLS 398) offered by the Graduate Program Director before being admitted into candidacy. One (1) of the twelve (12) credits applied to the doctoral dissertation is earned for successful completion of the *Doctoral Seminar*.

Only students who have completed all required courses (including incompletes) and passed comprehensive examinations in two major fields may register for the course. The seminar provides a forum for formal presentation, discussion, and honing of the dissertation proposal. *Permission of the Graduate Program Director is required before students are allowed to register for the seminar. Students must notify the Graduate Program Director in writing the semester before they intend to register for the Doctoral Seminar.*

Doctoral Independent Study.

Independent study at the doctoral level is intended to be a systematic, rigorous, and closely supervised research/tutorial collaboration between a faculty member and graduate student. The purpose of the independent study course is to increase student and faculty interaction and enable students to pursue a research interest or to develop an area of inquiry originating in previous graduate course work in the Department that is pertinent for the doctoral thesis. The doctoral student and faculty member are, in effect, agreeing to a scholarly contract for work and/or services to be performed within a semester. Independent study may *not* duplicate or substitute for Department course offerings. The proposed course of study must be in the form of a written proposal specifying the problem, scholarly readings, data sources, research questions or hypotheses, methodology, and anticipated results. Students in the Doctor of Philosophy program may take a maximum of three (3) independent study courses – one per academic field (two majors, one minor). The student's Graduate Faculty Advisor, the Graduate Program Director and Department Chair must approve independent study requests. The Graduate Program Director or the Department

Chair must approve student registration for independent study prior to course registration, preferably during the semester before the course is to be taken. Under no circumstances will registration be approved after the close of the “change of program” period designated by the University. The independent study approval form is available in the Graduate Program Office in Douglass Hall room 112.

POLS 350–354 *Advanced Research and Survey Design*.

Doctoral students who have completed all coursework may be registered and continue preparation for either comprehensive examinations and/or preparation of a dissertation thesis proposal, prior to being admitted to candidacy for the Doctor of Philosophy degree. Master of Arts students preparing for the comprehensive examination also may register for POLS 350-354 *Advanced Research and Survey Design*. These courses have no academic content, cannot substitute for Independent Study courses, and are only open to Political Science graduate students. **ALL COURSEWORK AND PRE-CANDIDACY REQUIREMENTS MUST HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BEFORE A STUDENT IS ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER FOR:**

- POLS 350 1 Credit Hour
- POLS 351 3 Credit Hours
- POLS 352 4 Credit Hours
- POLS 353 6 Credit Hours
- POLS 354 9 Credit Hours

Doctoral students sign up for one of these courses with the understanding that the *Advanced Research and Survey Design* series was created for the purpose of allowing students to register for minimal course credit hours AFTER all other coursework is finished and ONLY comprehensive examinations and/or a dissertation remain prior to candidacy for the Doctor of Philosophy degree. FINAL APPROVAL OF THESE COURSES COMES FROM THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL.

Doctoral Comprehensive Examination.

Doctor of Philosophy students are required to pass *comprehensive examinations* in *two (2) major fields*. No examination is required for the minor field. Eligibility requires a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 at the time the exam is taken. The *minor field* is satisfied by the successful completion of coursework in a field as approved by the student’s Graduate Faculty Advisor. The following stipulations apply:

- Comprehensive examinations are administered once per semester, but not during summer session;
- Examinations last six (6) hours;
- All required coursework must be completed before applying for the exam;
- Formal application to sit for the exam is mandatory;
- Political Science application form is available in Douglass Hall room 112 and on the Graduate Program website;
- Graduate School of Arts and Sciences form *Application to Schedule a Comprehensive Examination* is available at <http://www.gs.howard.edu/FA-Forms%20and%20Applications.htm>;

- Field Committees must certify in writing that a student is eligible;
- Students who fail to meet the comprehensive examination application deadline must formally reapply in a subsequent semester;
- Students must pass the exams prior to writing a doctoral thesis;
- With faculty approval, a student shall be given a maximum of five (5) semesters to successfully complete all comprehensive examinations;
- Students have two (2) opportunities to pass examinations;
- Students who fail are allowed to sit for the exam a second time. *The second exam must be repeated within one (1) calendar year from the date when the examination was initially taken. If not, the student is considered to have failed the second attempt;*
- Students who fail an examination twice will be dropped from the Ph.D. program.

Admission to Doctoral Candidacy.

Department of Political Science Guidelines

To be advanced to candidacy for the Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science degree, students must have:

- Completed all required courses;
- Passed qualifying comprehensive examinations in two (2) major fields;
- Satisfied the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences *Expository Writing* requirement;
- Satisfied the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences *Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)* requirement;
- Satisfied the research methodology requirement;
- Submitted an approved topic and proposal for dissertation research;
- Received approval of the student's Graduate Faculty Advisor, the Graduate Program Director, and Department Chair;
- Completed the *Recommendation to Candidacy for the PhD Degree* form <http://www.gs.howard.edu/FA-Forms%20and%20Applications.htm>;
- Secured the approval of the Executive Committee of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Graduate School Guidelines

The Graduate School requires students to meet the following requirements to be admitted to candidacy for the Doctor of Philosophy degree:

- Secured an admission to candidacy form from the Office of the Dean for completion by a departmental representative;
- Submitted a list of graduate courses completed, being taken, and yet to be pursued in the student's chosen field of graduate study;
- Completed the number of credits in graduate courses specified by the department in which the student is enrolled;
- Passed the qualifying examination administered by the department in which the student is specializing;

- Satisfactorily demonstrated proficiency in expository writing to the Office of Educational Affairs;
- Passed the foreign language examination or fulfilled an approved substitute (where applicable);
- Applied for Institutional Review Board approval for dissertation research
- Completed the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Basic Course in Social-Behavioral Research
- Received the recommendation of the student's major department;
- Secured the approval of the Executive Committee of the Graduate School.

The student's research/dissertation proposal along with the application for candidacy must be submitted to the Office of the Associate Dean for Educational Affairs. Individual departments may elect to require the student's research proposal to be submitted at some specified time prior to his/her application for candidacy. The proposal must bear the signatures of approval of the student's major adviser and by the departmental committee members appointed to supervise the studies upon which the student's dissertation will be based. The proposal also should include an outline of the projected research; a description of the nature, scope, and significance of the problem chosen for investigation; a sketch of the methodology to be used in the study; and a tentative dissertation topic.

Candidacy for the Ph.D. degree shall be valid for no more than five (5) calendar years. Any student whose candidacy has expired may apply for readmission to the Executive Committee of the Graduate Committee of the Graduate School.

The responsibility for fulfilling these requirements on time is that of the student.

Institutional Review Board Approval for Dissertation Research

All doctoral students must obtain approval from the Institutional Review Board for dissertation research involving human subjects. For details visit the website of the *Howard University Human Research Protections Program (HRPP)*
<http://www.orrchoward.com/humanresearchmain.html>.

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Basic Course in Social-Behavioral Research

Political Science doctoral students are **required** to take the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Basic Course in Social-Behavioral Research. The course and exam are web-based and can be accessed at www.citiprogram.org. All the modules listed for HU must be completed. There is a short quiz after most modules. An aggregate passing score of 80% is required.

Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and Doctoral Dissertation Thesis.

Graduate School Guidelines

The candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is required to present a dissertation that is the result of significant and sustained research in the student's major field. The student must demonstrate an ability to organize and present effectively the findings and results of this research. When completed, the research is expected to make a contribution to knowledge.

Acceptance of the dissertation will be contingent upon a critical examination by a committee of at least three readers approved by the Dean of the Graduate School, the recommendation of the department in which the student is specializing, and the approval of the Executive Committee of the Graduate School.

Students seeking the Ph.D. degree are required to submit to the Graduate School three copies of the dissertation for distribution as follows: a copy for the University Library, a copy for the student's department, and a personal copy for the student.

As long as a student is using the University's facilities, or is conferring in person with his/her dissertation adviser, the student must continue to enroll in a dissertation course. Such a student shall register as an auditor if the maximum number of hours permitted for the dissertation courses have been accumulated. A student is advised to consult with the departmental chair or the director of graduate studies for specific information regarding credit hours for the dissertation course. Incomplete (I) grades assigned to dissertation courses shall be removed after the final oral examination.

Department of Political Science Guidelines

Each doctoral student is required to write and defend a dissertation thesis proposal as a precondition for conducting dissertation research. Upon the completion of a final and acceptable draft of the dissertation thesis, the candidate is required to participate in a formal oral defense of the dissertation open to the Howard University community. The dissertation examination committee shall include five (5) Graduate Faculty members:

- Four (4) from the Political Science faculty; or related departments at Howard University approved by the Political Science Graduate Faculty;
- One (1) external examiner with academic credentials comparable to the Howard University examination committee members.

The Dean of the Graduate School appoints members of the dissertation examination committee in response to the recommendations of the Department's Graduate Program Director and Chair.

Dissertation Thesis Oral Defense.

Each doctoral candidate must orally defend a dissertation thesis in compliance with the following stipulations:

- The Department shall communicate to the Graduate School Dean that it wishes to conduct a final oral examination;
- The Department shall submit to the Dean a list of suggested examiners;
- The Dean shall appoint an examination committee and notify each member of the committee of the date, time, and place of the examination;
- The Dean and Associate Deans of the Graduate School shall be ex-officio members of the examination committee;
- The final examination shall be open to members of the faculties of the university and other persons who may be invited by the Department and the candidate;
- Final approval of the dissertation thesis in all aspects is the responsibility of the committee acting on behalf of the Graduate School;
- If in the opinion of the examination committee a student fails the initial oral defense of the dissertation thesis, the second oral defense must take place within six (6) months of the first attempt;

- A student who fails the examination for a second time will be dropped from the Ph.D. program;
- The Department may recommend dismissal of a student who, after failing the first dissertation thesis oral defense, does not resubmit the dissertation thesis and stand for reexamination within a six (6) month period.

Course Viability.

Except upon written recommendation of the Department Chair – based upon special examination of the candidate – no course that was pursued more than seven (7) years prior to the term in which the student applies for the final examination will be credited toward fulfillment of the requirements for the degree. Under no circumstances, however, may a student receive credit toward the doctoral degree for a course completed more than ten years prior to the time the student presents himself or herself for the final examination. Such course(s) must be repeated.

Doctor of Philosophy Degree Matriculation Period.

The Graduate School requires students to complete all requirements for the doctoral degree within seven (7) calendar years from the date of initial registration in the doctoral program. Students who do not meet this requirement will be dropped from the program. Students dropped in this manner may be readmitted for a specified period, upon recommendation of the Department's Graduate Program Committee and approval of the Executive Committee of the Graduate School.

FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION & COURSES

FIELD A: BLACK POLITICS

About the Field.

The field of Black Politics seeks to open political science to the analysis of the full range of political behavior and theory in racially and ethnically diverse societies through the recognition and elimination of racial, cultural, ideological or social bias in the discipline. The Field is committed to the understanding and explanation of political life among African Americans, among other groups in their relations with African Americans, and among other racial and ethnic minorities with whom African Americans may share a strong linkage and rapport based on common history and shared experiences.

Black Politics generates special perspectives on a broad range of political science. In the area of theory, Black Politics seeks a reexamination of empirical theory and methodology to ensure that standard concepts laden with historical, cultural and racial significance are understood and measured in appropriate cultural and racial contexts. In normative theory, Black Politics seeks a better understanding of the ethical frameworks and values that, in some cases, have impeded a full awareness of racial and ethnic inequality and, in other cases, may lead to more egalitarian or racially sensitive social outcomes. In political economy Black Politics is concerned with the assessment of the overlap between class and race, and between political authority and group inequality on the theoretical and empirical levels.

By contrast, in American Politics Black Politics seeks both to understand the roots and reach of racial differences in this country and reform misconceptions of those

differences in traditional American politics. In Public Policy the goal is also to bring assessments of racial differences to bear on the overall analysis of the policy making process and the impact of administrative structures. Similarly, an understanding of electoral politics in the Field requires that the structure of electoral participation and the ideological limits of voting behavior be reassessed, to some extent, for all participating groups in an unequal political system in the United States or abroad. Likewise, the definition of urban politics will only be tenable when influenced by the insights provided by Black Politics given the integral role of race relations in the development of the American city.

Black Politics is also concerned with the international sphere. Given the historical importance of relations among constituent groups in the African Diaspora, Black Politics is concerned both with the racial components of relations among states and with the interstate patterns of alliance and conflict that race differences may support in international relations. Patterns of racial differentiation have been so closely linked to ethnic inequality in the Diaspora that Black Politics finds an understandable place through comparative politics in the assessment of such ethnic politics.

The study of Black Politics is intended to provide specific outcomes for students as well as broad and enduring, though often intangible, intellectual accomplishments. Among the more measurable products, we expect the following from our students:

1. Written evidence of the ability to critically analyze literature in the field;
2. Written evidence of the ability to analyze relevant public policy issues;
3. Demonstrated familiarity with African American electoral behavior;
4. Demonstrated familiarity with conceptual and methodological issues in the field;
5. Evidence of familiarity with organizational and community development issues in the Black community;
6. Evidence of familiarity with issues in comparative race relations involving two or more countries; and
7. A demonstrated awareness of Black political history and the ability to apply historical data to current issue analysis.

Finally, Black Politics intends to prepare students to analyze all aspects of politics related to race and to the patterns of political behavior most familiar to African Americans. It seeks to prepare them as officials or influential actors to engage efficaciously in the structures of government that may affect their life chances. It also intends to prepare students to engage effectively in other forms of political participation –including movement politics – that draw on the well-established patterns of African American political history. Along with its openness to activism and service, Black Politics retains an indelible commitment to scholarship.

Field Requirements.

The course *Introduction to Black Politics* (POLS 227) is required of all students proposing Black Politics as a major or minor field.

Black Politics Courses.

- POLS 227 *Introduction to Black Politics* – Concepts and theory for each area of study, together with its relevant literature, within the framework of behavioral or topical approaches to the presentation of the literature.
- POLS 233 *Pan-Africanism* – Analysis of the origins of Pan-Africanism within the framework of the interactions between it and the political, economic, and cultural forces which produce it.
- POLS 234 *Black Ideology* – Study of the major political ideologies and analysis of their formation, content, and impact on the process of types of Black political activity.
- POLS 236 *Black Leadership, Organizations, and Movements* – A study of the anatomy of Black movements with particular attention to the leadership and organizational goals, strategies, and results.
- POLS 253 *Black Political Theory and Behavior* – An introduction to the major theoretical frameworks in Black politics and their application to substantive problems of political behavior.
- POLS 260 *Electoral Politics* – Analysis of Black activities in electoral politics, voting trends, party allegiance, and other important factors.
- POLS 263 *Seminar in Black Politics I* – Advanced seminar in Black Politics.
- POLS 268 *Seminar in Black Politics II* – Continuation on POLS–263
- POLS 307 *Independent Study: Black Politics* – Open to students who have completed nine (9) credits in Black Politics. Permission of instructor, Graduate Program Director, and Chair is required.

FIELD B: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Mission.

The International and Comparative Politics fields have a four-fold mission:

- To prepare students for careers in academia, research, foreign affairs, diplomacy, government, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations;
- To produce theoretically sophisticated and methodologically competent scholars and policy makers concerned with state and civil society relations outside the United States;
- To provide opportunities for students of color to increase their presence in academia, the public sector and civil society in the United States and the global community;
- To develop knowledge of and familiarity with African and Afrocentric perspectives on national and international issues and policies.

Major areas of expertise in International Relations include:

- Theories of International Relations
- Foreign policy and security studies
- International law and organizations
- International Politics of Africa and the African Diaspora
- Middle Eastern and North African affairs

- Caribbean Basin affairs

Major areas of expertise in Comparative Politics include:

- Theories of Comparative Politics
- Politics of Africa and the African Diaspora
- Comparative studies of race, ethnicity and gender
- Middle Eastern and North African politics
- Caribbean Basin politics

Objectives.

- Revise and reformulate course offerings with an emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches to international relations and comparative politics;
- Include African and African American perspectives in the way each course is organized and taught;
- Collaborate with the Ralph Bunche Center for International Affairs and other Howard University units and international affairs initiatives;
- Expose our students to contemporary developments and events in the nation's capital.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FIELD REQUIREMENTS AND COURSES

About the Field.

Traditionally a subfield of Political Science, International Relations studies interactions between states, the workings of the international system of power, production, exchange, cooperation and conflict, plus other activities of human communities that are transnational – crossing the territorial confines of nation–states. The field of International Relations is multi-disciplinary, despite being anchored in relationships of power. It draws from economics, history, law, sociology, and increasingly the nexus of human beings with the natural world. Its principal areas of scholarly research include international political economy, international organization, foreign policy–making, strategic (security) studies, and peace research.

Field Requirements.

Students who choose International Relations as a major field or a minor field must take POLS 287 *Theories of International Relations*. Students who elect to sit for the comprehensive examination in International Relations are expected to master the field's basic theoretical concepts. Areas of concentration include theory, international law and organization, foreign policy, political economy, security, contemporary problems, Africa, the Middle East, and the Caribbean.

International Relations Courses.

Theory.

- POLS 287 *Theories of International Relations* (core, fall semester)
- POLS 228 *Non-Traditional Approaches to World Politics* (spring, alternate years)
- POLS 284 *Third World Political Theory* (cross-listed with Comparative Politics)

International Law and Organization.

- POLS 208 *Problems of World Organizations* (fall semester)
- POLS 259 *International Law*

Foreign Policy.

- POLS 213 *American Foreign Policy-Making Process* (cross-listed under American Government)

Political Economy.

- POLS 226 *World Imperialism/Globalization*
- POLS 244 *Seminar in Political Economy* (spring semester)
- POLS 245 *Seminar in International Development Policies*

Security.

- POLS 249 *Comparative Perspectives in International Security* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 264 *Problems in International Security* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)

Contemporary Problems and Independent Study.

- POLS 210 *Selected Problems of Contemporary International Politics*
- POLS 304 *Independent Study: International Relations*. Open to students who have completed POLS 287 and two other International Relations courses. Permission of instructor, Graduate Program Director, and Chair is required.

Regional Perspectives.

- POLS 222 *Caribbean Politics and Political Economy* (Caribbean Political Systems); cross-listed under Comparative Politics
- POLS 269 *Contemporary Issues in African Politics* (Problems in African Politics); cross-listed under Comparative Politics
- POLS 270 *Middle East in the World System* (spring, alternate years) (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 271 *Government and Politics of Southern Africa* (Problems of Southern Africa); cross-listed under Comparative Politics
- POLS 273 *Africa in World Politics*

COMPARATIVE POLITICS FIELD REQUIREMENTS AND COURSES

About the Field.

Comparative politics deals with the study of political structures, processes, and outcomes within and across the nation-state boundaries. Scholars of comparative politics analyze electoral behavior, political networks, political institutions, contentious politics, political instability and political conflict, mass political mobilization, comparative political economies, welfare states, states and state formation, political consent and inclusion, political regimes and transitions, and the salience of race, ethnicity, nationalism, gender, identity, class, civil society, and intergenerational differences in politics and governance. As the theoretical and methodological center of political science, comparative politics emphasizes the centrality of comparison in generating useful knowledge. The field focuses on what appear to be the crucial aspects of political systems, searching for laws, verifiable generalizations, or tendencies; providing thick descriptions, and creating empirically grounded, historically aware explanations of political phenomena.

Field Requirements.

Students who choose Comparative Politics as a major field (4 courses) or a minor field (3 courses) must take the core course POLS 204 *Approaches to Comparative Politics*. A major field includes POLS 204 plus three (3) additional courses. Students selecting Comparative Politics as a minor field include POLS 204 toward the three (3)-course requirement. Students who elect to sit for the comprehensive examination in Comparative Politics are expected to master the field's basic theoretical concepts and must declare in their first year a geographical area of interest. Areas of concentration include theory, public administration, contemporary problems, security, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

Comparative Politics Courses.

Theory.

- POLS 204 *Approaches to Comparative Politics* (core, fall semester)
- POLS 252 *Social Movements*
- POLS 255 *Political Revolutions*
- POLS 284 *Third World Political Theory*

Public Administration.

- POLS 224 *Public Administration in the Third World* (Development Administration); cross-listed under Public Administration/Public Policy

Contemporary Problems and Independent Study.

- POLS 207 *Selected Problems of Comparative Politics*
- POLS 303 *Independent Study: Comparative Politics*. Open to students who have completed POLS 204 and two other Comparative Politics courses. Permission of instructor, Graduate Program Director, and Chair is required.

Regional Perspectives.

- **Africa.**
 - POLS 267 *Political Leadership in Africa*
 - POLS 269 *Contemporary Issues in African Politics* (cross-listed under International Relations)
 - POLS 271 *Government and Politics of Southern Africa* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- **Asia.**
 - POLS 289 *Government and Politics of the People's Republic of China*
- **Caribbean.**
 - POLS 222 *Caribbean Politics and Political Economy* (fall, odd years cross-listed under International Relations)
- **Middle East.**
 - POLS 270 *Middle East in the World System* (spring, alternate years) (cross-listed under International Relations)

Security.

- POLS 249 *Comparative Perspectives in International Security* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 264 *Problems in International Security* (cross-listed under International Relations)

FIELD C: AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL BEHAVIOR

About the Field.

The mission of the American Government and Political Behavior Field is to provide students with a deep and thorough understanding of the theory and practice of:

1. The structure, function, and behavior of American national, state and local governments;
2. The development, articulation, and advancement of interests within subgroups and political parties;
3. The impact of public opinion, political socialization, and cultural events on political behavior, societal change, and electoral outcomes.

The pedagogical approach and curricular structure of the Field are designed to make sure students are conversant in the political science literature on such topics as the relationship between government and liberty; separation of powers, and checks and balances; public opinion and political socialization; civic participation and group behavior; structure and function of federal and state judicial systems; the role of government in facilitating economic prosperity and social welfare; and foreign policymaking.

American Government and Political Behavior Field Requirements.

Students who concentrate in American Government and Political Behavior are required to complete four field courses. *At least one course must be in each of the Field sub-categories:*

- American National Government
- State and Local Government
- Political Behavior

American National Government Courses.

- POLS 201 *The Legislative Process* – Examination of institutions, government agencies, and public's action as related to legislative law-making and operations.
- POLS 202 *Approaches to the Study of Public Law* – Analysis of constitutional law derived from examination of Supreme Court decisions.
- POLS 206 *Administration of the National Government* – Overall organization and structure of the administrative departments and independent agencies of national government. (cross-listed under Public Administration and Policy)
- POLS 212 *American Political Parties* – Intensive analysis of selected problems in American politics and political parties.
- POLS 213 *American Foreign Policy-Making Process* – Examination of the legal, behavioral, and political pressures that influence the making of U.S. foreign policy.
- POLS 219 *Presidential Policy-Making* – Study of institutional mechanisms and processes of policy formulation at the Presidential level (cross-listed under Public Administration and Policy).
- POLS 230 *American Political Thought* – Examination of documents and writings of American political theorists and practitioners from colonial to modern times.
- POLS 290 *Administrative Law and Regulatory Policy* – Examination of institutions, government agencies, and public actions as related to the quasi-judicial policy-making operations of the executive branch.
- POLS 292 (Core) *Seminar in American Politics* – Examination of components of the American political system, including the constitutions, structures, and political institutions of national and sub-national governments.
- POLS 293 *The Judicial Process* – Examination of the legal and political factors that influence the rule- adjudication process in the federal system. (cross-listed under Public Administration and Policy).

State and Local Government Courses.

- POLS 203 *State and Local Government and Politics* – Analysis of legal and political aspects of government institutions, politics, and functions in subnational political arenas.
- POLS 220 *Intergovernmental Relations in the United States* – Study of issues and problems involved in the relationships among national, state, and local governments. (cross-listed under Public Administration and Policy)
- POLS 229 *Urban Government and Politics* – Analysis of urban government and political systems in metropolitan areas and neighborhood centers.

Political Behavior Courses.

- POLS 214 *Public Opinion and Propaganda* – Analysis of public opinion and the psychological factors involved in the development of political attitudes of citizens and officials.
- POLS 225 *Interest Groups in American Politics (Pressure Groups)* – Analysis of the purposes, techniques, history and influence of pressure groups in American government.
- POLS 294 *Selected Topics in American Government* – Analysis of research, concepts, theories, and literature of major topics in American government.
- POLS 301 *Independent Study: American Government* – Prerequisites: nine (9) hours of graduate course credit completed in the field, plus permission of the instructor, Graduate Program Director, and Chair of Department.

FIELD D: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY**About the Field.**

The mission of the Public Administration and Policy field is to provide students with a thorough understanding of the theories and deep knowledge of the practices, processes and structures of governance, policymaking and the administration of public law. The Public Administration and Policy field focuses on the articulation of government decision makers, interests groups, and public citizens in formulating, implementing and administering laws to serve the public good, interest and necessity. Therefore, the field challenges students to address national and international questions of governance and to formulate solutions to problems of social welfare, commerce, the administration of justice, and national security. The Department of Political Science masters degree and doctoral degree programs in Public Administration and Policy provide the fundamental skills and competencies required for future leaders seeking careers in public service. The field also advances Howard University's special commitment to serve the global community. Our programs draw and build upon the University's location in and service to the Nation's Capital, the Washington metropolitan region, the City of Washington DC, the African American and other minority communities as well as the local communities adjacent to Howard University.

Objectives.

The objectives are:

- To promote and facilitate student mastery of both the scholarly literature and governance practices of public administration and public policy;
- To provide students with the critical thinking, problem solving and research skills and competencies that prepares them to examine a range of sub-national, national, and international policy issue areas; and
- To prepare students for careers in academia, public service and private sector with an emphasis on understanding the social, economic, cultural and political conditions of people of African descent and other minority communities.

Core Course Requirements for Field.

Students choosing Public Administration and Policy as a major field (4 courses) or minor field (3 courses) must take POLS 209 *Organization Theory*; POLS 215, *Public Administration and Management*; POLS 218 *Public Policy Formulation* and/or POLS 216 *The Budget as an Instrument of Public Policy*.

Public Administration and Policy Courses.

- POLS 209 *Organization Theory* - Seminar focuses on theories of organization. In addition to defining types of organizations (profit, non-profit and public) and approaches to the study of formal organizations, students identify, describe and discuss organization structures, behavior and processes in order to understand why and how people organize and for what purposes.
- POLS 215 *Public Administration and Management* - Seminar focuses on the evolution, history and practice of American public administration. The course identifies basic principles of public administration and public management.
- POLS 216 *The Budget as an Instrument of Public Policy* (Federal Budget Process) - Seminar focuses both on the federal budget (process and politics) as an instrument of public policy and on how and why this process constrains policy implementation, effectiveness and efficiency in government-financed organizations.
- POLS 218 *Public Policy Formulation* - Seminar introduces students to the policy making process. Emphasis is on the policy process—from the mobilization of support for policy change to the formulation of policy objectives, targets, and instruments as well as the assessment of policy outcomes.
- POLS 206 *Administration of National Government* - Overall organization and structure of the administrative departments and independent agencies of national government. (cross-listed under American Government and Political Behavior)
- POLS 220 *Intergovernmental Relations* - Study of issues and problems involved in the relationships among national, state, and local governments. (cross-listed with American Government).
- POLS 224 *Public Administration in Developing Societies* - Course provides a basic knowledge of the major issues, concepts, problems, theories and approaches associated with developing society's efforts to improve or alter political, economic and administrative systems.
- POLS 231 *Program Evaluation and Public Policy Analysis* - The purpose of this course is threefold: (1) to impart knowledge of program evaluation and public policy analysis, (2) to practice the skills of policy analysis and (3) to estimate the consequences of specific public policy initiatives.
- POLS 246 *Seminar in Science and Technology Policy* - This course examines public policy issues that have deep connections to science and technology and its expertise. It examines environmental, energy, and economic policy in the United States and their local, state, national and global implications. Topics covered may include air and water policy, energy production and regulation, STEM education and labor markets, trade, innovation, intellectual property, federal research & development. (New course).
- POLS 250 *Social Justice Policy* – This seminar course focuses on western approaches to rendering social justice in New World nations forged by colonization of indigenous, slave, and immigrant population by settler populations. Particular attention is given to both

processes and policies that abrogate and restore full citizenship rights and benefits. New course cross-listed with POLS 207 Selected Problems in Comparative Politics.

- POLS 290 *Fiscal Management* – This course focuses on government policies of taxing and spending. Attention is given to national, state, and municipal decision making in revenue generation, allocation, administration and oversight.
- POLS 261 *Comparative Administrative Systems* - Seminar compares and contrasts public policy making and management structures, processes and patterns of postwar transformation in industrialized nations.
- POLS 299 *Current Problems in Public Policy* - Seminar focuses on specific policy sector issues, e.g., transportation, social welfare, education, security, environment, urbanization, etc. Emphasis is on the acquisition of analytical skills, evaluation of policy instruments and their administration and management.
- POLS 302 *Independent Study: Public Administration/Public Policy*

POLITICAL THEORY AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY COURSES

Political Theory.

- POLS 230 *American Political Thought* (cross-listed under American Government)
- POLS 232 *Nature and Uses of Political Theory* (required)
- POLS 284 *Third World Political Theory* (cross-listed under International Relations and Comparative Politics)
- POLS 297 *Special Topics in Political Theory*

Research Methodology.

- POLS 217 *Methods of Political Science* (core)
- POLS 254 *Behavioral Research Methods* (core)
- POLS 257 *Multivariate Data Analysis*
- POLS 279 *Survey Research Methods*
- POLS 306 *Independent Study: Methodology* – Open to Master of Arts students after completion of two required research tools. Open to Doctor of Philosophy students after completion of three required research tools. POLS 306 *cannot* be substituted for research tool requirements.

GRADUATE COURSES BY ACADEMIC FIELD

Field A. Black Politics (9 courses).

- POLS 227 *Introduction to Black Politics*
- POLS 233 *Pan-Africanism*
- POLS 234 *Black Ideology*
- POLS 236 *Black Leadership, Organizations, and Movements*
- POLS 253 *Black Political Theory and Behavior*
- POLS 260 *Electoral Politics*
- POLS 263 *Seminar in Black Politics I*

- POLS 268 *Seminar in Black Politics II*
- POLS 307 *Independent Study: Black Politics*

Field B. International Relations and Comparative Politics

International Relations (15 courses).

- POLS 208 *Problems of World Organizations*
- POLS 210 *Selected Problems of Contemporary International Politics*
- POLS 226 *World Imperialism/Globalization* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 228 *Non-Traditional Approaches to World Politics*
- POLS 244 *Seminar in Political Economy*
- POLS 245 *Seminar in International Development Policies*
- POLS 249 *Comparative Perspectives in International Security* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 259 *International Law*
- POLS 264 *Problems in International Security* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 269 *Contemporary Issues in African Politics* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 270 *Middle East in the World System* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 271 *Government and Politics of Southern Africa* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 273 *Africa in World Politics*
- POLS 287 *Theories of International Relations* (core)
- POLS 304 *Independent Study: International Relations*

Comparative Politics (15 courses).

- POLS 204 *Approaches to Comparative Politics* (core)
- POLS 207 *Selected Problems of Comparative Politics*
- POLS 222 *Caribbean Politics and Political Economy* (Caribbean Political Systems); cross-listed under International Relations
- POLS 249 *Comparative Perspectives in International Security* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 252 *Social Movements*
- POLS 255 *Political Revolutions*
- POLS 261 *Comparative Administrative Systems* (cross-listed under Public Administration and Policy)
- POLS 264 *Problems in International Security* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 267 *Political Leadership in Africa*
- POLS 269 *Contemporary Issues in African Politics* (Problems in African Politics); cross-listed under International Relations

- POLS 270 *Middle East in the World System* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 271 *Government and Politics of Southern Africa* (Problems in Southern Africa); cross-listed under International Relations
- POLS 284 *Third World Political Theory*
- POLS 289 *Government and Politics of the People's Republic of China*
- POLS 303 *Independent Study: Comparative Politics*

Field C. American Government and Political Behavior (17 courses)

- POLS 201 *The Legislative Process*
- POLS 202 *Approaches to the Study of Public Law*
- POLS 203 *State and Local Government and Politics*
- POLS 206 *Administration of the National Government*
- POLS 212 *American Political Parties*
- POLS 213 *American Foreign Policy-Making Process* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 214 *Public Opinion and Propaganda*
- POLS 219 *Presidential Policy-Making* (cross-listed under Public Administration and Policy)
- POLS 220 *Intergovernmental Relations in the United States* (cross-listed under Public Administration and Policy)
- POLS 225 *Interest Groups in American Politics (Pressure Groups)*
- POLS 229 *Urban Government and Politics*
- POLS 230 *American Political Thought*
- POLS 290 *Administrative Law and Regulatory Policy*
- POLS 292 *Seminar in American Politics*
- POLS 293 *The Judicial Process* (cross-listed under Public Administration and Policy)
- POLS 294 *Selected Topics in American Government*
- POLS 301 *Independent Study: American Government*

Field D. Public Administration and Policy (13 courses)

- POLS 209 *Organization Theory* (core)
- POLS 215 *Public Administration and Management*
- POLS 216 *The Budget as an Instrument of Public Policy (Federal Budget Process)*
- POLS 218 *Public Policy Formulation*
- POLS 219 *Presidential Policy-Making* (cross-listed under American Government and Political Behavior).
- POLS 220 *Intergovernmental Relations in the United States* (cross-listed under American Government and Political Behavior)
- POLS 224 *Public Administration in the Third World (Development Administration)*; cross-listed under Comparative Politics
- POLS 246 *Seminar in Science and Technology Policy*
- POLS 250 *Public Finance*

- POLS 261 *Comparative Administrative Systems* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 293 *The Judicial Process* (cross-listed under American Government and Political Behavior)
- POLS 299 *Current Problems in Public Administration and Policy*
- POLS 302 *Independent Study: Public Administration*

Non-Field Specific (8 courses).

- POLS 217 *Methods of Political Science* (required)
- POLS 232 *Nature and Uses of Political Theory* (required)
- POLS 254 *Behavioral Research Methods* (required)
- POLS 257 *Multivariate Data Analysis*
- POLS 279 *Survey Research Methods*
- POLS 297 *Special Topics in Political Theory*
- POLS 306 *Independent Study: Methodology*
- POLS 398 *Doctoral Seminar* (required/1 credit)

Full-Time Political Science Faculty

Niambi Carter, Ph. D. Duke University. Public Opinion, Methodology, Political Behavior, Racial and Ethnic Politics

John W. Cotman, Ph.D. Boston University. Comparative Politics, International Relations (Caribbean)

Josephine Jarpa Dawuni, JD, Ph.D. Georgia State University. Comparative Politics (Africa), Gender and Human Rights Law

Michael K. Fauntroy, Ph.D. Howard University. American Political Parties, American National Government Institutions, and Black Politics

Michael Frazier, Ph.D. University of Maryland. Public Administration, International Relations

Ben K. Fred-Mensah, Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University. International Relations

Keneshia Grant, Ph.D. Syracuse University. American Government and Political Behavior, State and Local Government, Public Administration

Daryl Harris, Ph.D. Howard University. Black Politics, Political Theory

Mervat Hatem, Ph.D. University of Michigan. International Relations (Middle East)

Ronil Hira, Ph.D. George Mason University. American Government and Political Behavior, Offshoring, High-Skilled Immigration, Public Policy

Marilyn Lashley, Ph.D. University of Chicago. Public Policy, Comparative Politics (Pacific and Asia)

Clarence Lusane, Ph.D. Howard University. International Relations, Comparative Race Relations, Comparative Politics, Black Politics

Lorenzo Morris, Ph.D. University of Chicago. Black Politics, Public Policy

Michael C. Nwanze, Ph.D. University of Leeds. International Relations, Comparative Politics (Africa)

Richard Seltzer, Ph.D. University of Denver. Research Methodology

Alvin Thornton, Ph.D. Howard University. American Government and Political Behavior

Administrative Staff

Ms. Saphronia Drake. Administrative Secretary to the Chair