POLITICAL SCIENCE, PH.D.

Credits: 72
CIP Code: 451001

Program Overview

For the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in political science, the Department requires a minimum of thirty (30) graduate hours of course work beyond the Master's degree. Twelve (12) hours are awarded upon completion of the dissertation. The minimum credit hours requirement for the Ph.D. is forty-two (42) hours beyond the Master's. Blacks and the American Political System, Scope and Methods of Political Inquiry, and Government and Politics of Modern Africa courses are required of all students pursuing the Doctoral degree in Political Science. If any of these courses have been taken in our M.A. program they need not be repeated but the minimum number of credit hours must be satisfied with elective courses.

Admissions Requirements

In addition to the General Admissions Requirements as published in this Catalog, applicants to the **Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Political Science** should have been awarded a **Master of Arts Degree in Political Science** from a regionally accredited college or university. Consideration may be given to other applicants who have earned a master's degree in one of the social sciences related disciplines. In such cases, students should expect to be admitted conditionally and will normally be required to take additional credits beyond the minimum to complete degree requirements. Graduate Records Examination (GRE) required.

Program Objectives

1. Introduce students to theoretical, analytic, and substantive approaches to public policy analysis and administration.
2. Prepare students to design and conduct original high-quality research in Political Science
3. Prepare students with skills necessary to communicate, in written and oral formats, significant issues, scholarly works and practices in Political Science to multiple audiences.
4. Train students to teach political science at the post-secondary level.
5. Prepare students for careers in political science or related fields.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students pursuing the **Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Political Science** will:

1. Apply theoretical and literary concepts and analytical approaches to public policy analysis and administration.
2. Review, evaluate and communicate, in written and oral formats, major issues, scholarly debates, and practices in subfields related to Political Science.
3. Utilize methodological skills to design and conduct original scholarly research in the field of Political Science.
4. Synthesize large quantities of information and rigorously evaluate the merits of competing theoretical and empirical arguments.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the General Degree Requirements as published in this Catalog, students pursuing the **Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Political Science** must complete the following requirements. Doctoral students must complete a minimum of forty-eight (48) graduate credits in residence.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
Before being admitted to candidacy, all students must complete the following courses with minimum final grades of "B":		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPSC 553	Blacks & the Amer Pol System	3
CPSC 591	Gov't & Politics of Modern Afr	3
CPSC 602	Scope & Method of Polt Inquiry	3
Electives in Political Science		
Select 51 credits of the following subfields:		51
African Politics:		
CPSC 572	Int'l Relations of Afr Studies	
CPSC 590		
CPSC 595	Seminar in African Politics	
CPSC 596		
CPSC 598	African Political Economy	
CPSC 599	Soc Clev & Political Conflict.	
Comparative Politics:		
CPSC 529	Comparative Political Systems	
CPSC 530	Gov't & Politics of Latin Amer	
CPSC 531	Politics in Developing States	
CPSC 532		
CPSC 534		
CPSC 535	Politics of Revolutionary..	
CPSC 536	Comparative Political Parties	
CPSC 537	Gov't & Politics of Caribbean	
CPSC 538		
CPSC 539	Third World Women & Dev.	
CPSC 540	Politics of Multinational Corp	
CPSC 541	Politics and Education	
CPSC 542	Seminar on Comparative Politic	
International Politics:		
CPSC 533		
CPSC 570	International Relations	
CPSC 571		
CPSC 573	U.S. Foreign Policy	
CPSC 574	Third Nations & Int'l Politics	
CPSC 575		
CPSC 576	Military Power in Int'l Rel.	
CPSC 577	International Organizations	
CPSC 578		
CPSC 579	Politics of Int'l Trade	
Theory and Methodology:		
CPSC 543	Political Theory	
CPSC 560	Afr Amr Political Thought	
CPSC 600	African Political Ideas	
CPSC 601	Philosophy of Science	
CPSC 603		
CPSC 605	Seminar in Political Theory	
CPSC 606	Feminist Theory	

CPSC 608	Problems in Political Sci Res.
CPSC 609	American Political Thought
US Government and Politics:	
CPSC 502	Government & Business
CPSC 503	
CPSC 504	
CPSC 505	Political Parties
CPSC 506	
CPSC 507	
CPSC 508	Seminar in Southern Politics
CPSC 509	The United States Presidency
CPSC 510	The Congressional Process
CPSC 511	American Federalism
CPSC 513	American Political Process
CPSC 514	
CPSC 515	
CPSC 516	
CPSC 517	Women in Political Seminar
CPSC 548	U.S. Constitutional Law
CPSC 550	
CPSC 551	
CPSC 552	Seminar in US Gov"t & Politics
CPSC 554	State & Local Politics
Urban Politics:	
CPSC 512	Black City Politics
CPSC 518	Seminar in Urban Problems
CPSC 519	Urban Politics
CPSC 520	Politics of Public Finance
CPSC 522	Urban Political Movements
CPSC 523	Atlanta City Politics
CPSC 525	Political Demo & Urban Change
CPSC 526	Approaches..Study of Urban Pol
CPSC 640	Independent Research
Total Hours	**60**

Departmental Seminar

The Department of Political Science Graduate Seminar is a long-standing tradition that is central to the vision and mission of the graduate program. The Departmental Seminar brings together all faculty and students in a mandatory weekly discussion that includes:

- Departmental orientation
- An exchange of ideas and understandings about political theory, praxis, and contemporary issues often with invited guests
- Presentations of faculty and student research
- Student organization meetings

Departmental Seminar attendance is mandatory. Students in the Ph.D. program are required to attend until the successful completion of the comprehensive examination. Doctoral students must attend at the very minimum, three (3) full semesters of the Departmental Seminar. Students receiving extended financial support beyond the completion of coursework or the comprehensive examination may be required to attend additional semesters of the Departmental Seminar.

Research Tools

Candidates for the Ph.D. degree must demonstrate proficiency in the use of two research tools from among the following: a foreign language, statistical analysis, or computer information systems. Each student, through consultation with their adviser, will decide which research tools best align with their program of study.

Comprehensive Examination

Students seeking the **Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Political Science** must pass a comprehensive Examination prior to admission to candidacy. The comprehensive Examination includes four (4) written examinations in subfields of each candidate's choice followed by a formal oral examination based upon each candidate's responses to written examination questions. The political science subfields from which students may select to be examined include:

1. African Politics
2. Comparative Politics
3. International Politics
4. Methodology
5. Pan-African Politics
6. Political Economy
7. Political Theory
8. U.S. Government and Politics
9. Urban Politics
10. Women Politics

Students are permitted two (2) attempts to successfully complete the Comprehensive Examination.

Dissertation Research: 12 Credits

Code	Title	Hours
CPSC 801	PHD Dissertation Consultation [1]	1-12
or CPSC 805	PHD Dissertation Research	
Total Hours		**1-12**

[1] Students may need to take CPSC 801 PHD Dissertation Consultation (1 credit) depending on progress toward dissertation research

All students pursuing the **Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Political Science** must complete a scholarly analysis and presentation of a significant research problem in political science. As a preliminary phase to this process, each candidate must fully constitute a dissertation committee and submit and orally defend a dissertation proposal that outlines the methodological procedures and theoretical framework that will be employed in completing the proposed research. Students must enroll in at least twelve (12) hours of dissertation research or consultation courses. Twelve (12) hours thereof will be awarded upon completion of the thesis

Final Examination

The final examination for Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Political Science candidates entails an oral defense of the doctoral dissertation. Members of the candidate's formal dissertation committee, as well as the Chair of the Department of Political Science and interested faculty and students are invited to attend this oral defense.

Political Science, Ph.D.

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPSC 553	Blacks & the Amer Pol System	3
CPSC 591	Gov't & Politics of Modern Afr	3
CPSC 602	Scope & Method of Polt Inquiry	3
	Hours	**9**
Second Semester		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
	Hours	**9**
Second Year		
First Semester		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
	Hours	**9**
Second Semester		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
	Hours	**9**
Third Year		
First Semester		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
	Hours	**9**
Second Semester		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
	Hours	**9**
Fourth Year		
First Semester		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPSC 801 or CPSC 805	PHD Dissertation Consultation [2] or PHD Dissertation Research	1-6
	Hours	**4-9**
Second Semester		
CPSC 500	Departmental Seminar	0
CPCS XXX	Graduate Elective [1]	3
CPSC 801 or CPSC 805	PHD Dissertation Consultation [2] or PHD Dissertation Research	1-6
	Hours	**4-9**
	Total Hours	**62-72**

[1] All electives must be at graduate level in Political Science.

[2] Students may need to take CPSC 801 PHD Dissertation Consultation (1 credit) depending on progress toward dissertation research