



POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

GRADUATE PROGRAM BULLETIN

For the Degrees

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

or

MASTER OF ARTS

144 Frederick Douglass Hall

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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; American Government, Politics, and Policy; and Comparative Politics*. 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 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, Director of Graduate Studies, other interested Faculty elected annually by the Department, plus one graduate student representative selected by the Graduate Political Science Student Association.

Director of Graduate Studies. One member of the Graduate Program Committee is recommended to the Department Chair to serve as Director of Graduate Studies. The Department Chair recommends the candidate to the Dean of the Graduate School. The Director of Graduate Studies 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, Director of Graduate Studies, 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 Director of Graduate Studies 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. An academic writing sample
6. 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

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

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. Applicants must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average (on a 4.0 point scale) in all courses above the Bachelor's degree and significant coursework in political science. The admissions committee reserves the right to admit M.A. holders from other disciplines to the M.A. program in political science to ensure sufficient academic and research background.

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 Director of Graduate Studies ó after consultation with the student and the appropriate Field Chair ó 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 Director of Graduate Studies 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 Washington University, 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 the Mordecai Wyatt Johnson Administration Building, Suite 105, 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 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 Director of Graduate Studies 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 Director of Graduate Studies:

- 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 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 Director of Graduate Studies, 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 Director of Graduate Studies:

- 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 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 Director of Graduate Studies, 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. Please see section "Rules and Regulations for the Pursuit of Academic Degrees in the Graduate School" on the Graduate School's website. 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 points per credit hour
- B = three points per credit hour
- C = two points per credit hour
- D = one point per credit hour
- F = zero points per credit hour

C, D, and F Grades and Program Dismissal

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 3506354 *Advanced Research and Survey Design*
- POLS 399 *Directed Research PhD Dissertation*
- POLS 398 *Doctoral Seminar*

Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

MA Course Requirements

É Major core course = 3 credit hours

É Minor core course = 3 credit hours

É Political Theory core course = 3 credit hours

É Major Field = 9 credit hours after core course

É Minor Field = 6 credit hours after core course

É Two Research Tools = 6 credit hours

É *OPTION ONE: Master of Arts Thesis = 6 credit hours*

É *OPTION TWO: Non-Thesis Option Paper (NTO) = 6 credit hours* comprising two additional courses in the major or minor field

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 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 courses to satisfy a major concentration, and three 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 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 hours in two fields ó *major* (12 credit hours) and *minor* (9 credit hours) as described above, and six credit hours in research methodology that also satisfy the research tool requirement. Six 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 Director of Graduate Studies, 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 21 credit hours in two fields ó *major* (12 credit hours) and *minor* (9 credit hours) as described above, six credit hours in research methodology that also satisfy the research tool requirement; plus six 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 Director of Graduate Studies, the non-thesis option paper faculty committee is formally constituted by the Department Chair.

Master of Arts Comprehensive Examination.

Students are required to pass a comprehensive examination in one field before being admitted into degree candidacy and submitting a thesis or non-thesis option paper. Examinations are offered in February and October of each year. The examination is conducted in two parts. Part one is a written, take home examination, which must be completed within 96 hours of receipt. A grading rubric, see Appendix 3, is used by all field faculty to grade the examination. Part two is an oral examination, which are conducted by at least three field faculty members. Students must complete all required courses before applying to take the examination.

Students must apply to take the examination. They have two opportunities to pass the examination. Those who fail their first attempt are allowed to sit for the exam a second time. However, the second exam must be passed within the next two semesters. If not, the student is considered to have failed the second attempt. Students who fail both examinations will be dismissed from the Master of Arts program.

Research Tool Requirement.

Each Master of Arts student is required to satisfy two *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 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 ó particularly in International Relations and Comparative Politics ó 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 ó one per academic field (major and minor). The student's Graduate Faculty Advisor, the Director of Graduate Studies and Department Chair must approve independent study requests. The Director of Graduate Studies 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 óchange of programö period designated by the University.

Master of Arts Degree Candidacy.

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

- Complete all required courses;
- Pass qualifying comprehensive examination in one major field;
- Satisfy the Graduate School's *Expository Writing* requirement;
- Satisfy the Graduate School's *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

Course Viability.

Courses completed more than five 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 Director of Graduate Studies, the Department Chair may recommend to the Graduate School that the student be permitted to recertify the expired courses.

Master of Arts Degree Matriculation Period.

Students must complete a Master of Arts degree within five 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.

Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree**Ph.D. Course Requirements (with MA degree in hand)**

- É Five doctoral core courses = 15 credit hours
- É Political Theory core course = 3 credit hours
- É Major Field #1 = 9 credit hours after core course
- É Major Field #2 = 9 credit hours after core course
- É Minor Field = 6 credit hours after core course
- É ~~Three~~ Research Tools = 9 credit hours
- É Doctoral dissertation = 12 credits (One of these credits is for the mandatory POLS 398 Doctoral Seminar)
- É 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 has four major field concentrations:

Field A: Black Politics

Field B: International Relations

Field C: American Government, Politics, and Policy

Field D: Comparative Politics

The Department also offers courses in Research Methods, Political Theory, and Political Economy. Students may, with prior approval of the Director of Graduate Studies, select graduate courses from other departments to fulfill their minor field requirement. Students may also declare a minor in Research Methods or Political Theory by successfully completing three courses beyond those required in the respective degree programs.

Academic Credits.

Students pursuing the Doctor of Philosophy degree are required to complete 72 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate degree. Students with a Master of Arts degree must complete a minimum of 48 credit hours. In either case, 12 of these credits will be applied to the doctoral dissertation. One of the 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 Howard University's Department of Political Science.** To satisfy a major field requirement, students must take at least four courses in the field. To satisfy the minor field requirement, students must take at least three 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. The Director of Graduate Studies or on the advice of the appropriate Field Chair or 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 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 cannot test out in their native language)

Students must take POLS 217, *Methods of Political Science* before enrolling in POLS 257, *Multivariate Statistics*. 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 Director of Graduate Studies. Under no circumstances may a student fulfill the third research tool with course work of less than three 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 four core courses with the grade of B or better:

- Field A:** Black Politics
POLS 227 *Introduction to Black Politics*
- Field B:** International Relations
POLS 287 *Theories of International Relations*
- Field C:** American Government, Politics, and Policy
POLS 292 *Seminar in American Politics*
- Field D:** Comparative Politics
POLS 204 *Approaches to Comparative Politics*

Doctoral Seminar Requirement.

Ph.D. students must pass the one-credit *Doctoral Seminar* (POLS 398) offered by the Director of Graduate Studies before being admitted into candidacy. One of the twelve 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 Director of Graduate Studies is required before students can register for the seminar. Students must notify the Director of Graduate Studies 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 independent study courses ó one per academic field (two majors, one minor). The student's Graduate Faculty Advisor, the Director of Graduate Studies and Department Chair must approve independent study requests. The Director of Graduate Studies 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.

Students are required to pass a comprehensive examination in two fields before being admitted into degree candidacy and preparing a dissertation. Comprehensive examinations are not required to complete a minor field of study. Examinations are offered in February and October of each year. The examination is conducted in two parts. Part one is a written, take home examination, which must be completed within 96 hours of receipt. A grading rubric, see Appendix 3, is used by all field faculty to grade the examination. Part two is an oral examination, which are conducted by at least three field faculty members. Students must complete all require coursework before applying to take the examination.

Students must apply to take the examination. They have two opportunities to pass the examination. Those who fail their first attempt may sit for the exam a second time. However, the second exam must be passed within the next two semesters. If not, the student is considered to have failed the second attempt. Students who fail both examination attempts will be dismissed from the doctoral 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 major fields;
- Satisfied the Graduate School's *Expository Writing* requirement;
- Satisfied the Graduate School's *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 Director of Graduate Studies, 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.

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 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 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 members:

- Four from the Political Science faculty, or related departments at Howard University, approved by the Political Science Graduate Faculty;
- One 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 upon the recommendation of the Department's Director of Graduate Studies 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 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 month period.

Course Viability.

Except upon written recommendation of the Department Chair ó based upon special examination of the candidate ó no course that was pursued more than seven 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 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 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 of African Americans, of other groups in their relations with African Americans, and 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. 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. 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. 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.

In contrast with 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. 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 ó that draw on the wellóestablished 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.

Field 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* ó Advanced seminar in Black Politics.
- POLS 268 *Seminar in Black Politics II* – Continuation of POLS6263
- POLS 307 *Independent Study: Black Politics* – Open to students who have completed nine credits in Black Politics. Permission of instructor, Director of Graduate Studies, and Chair is required.
- POLS 400 *Race and Ethnicity in the Americas* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 401 *Racism in Europe* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)

FIELD B: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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 ó crossing the territorial confines of nationóstates. While rooted in political science and anchored in power relationships, the field of International Relations is multi-disciplinary. 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 policyómaking, strategic (security) studies, and peace research.

The International Relations field has a four-fold mission. First, field faculty seek to prepare students for careers in academia, research, foreign affairs, diplomacy, government, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations. Second, field faculty aim to produce theoretically sophisticated and methodologically competent scholars and policy makers concerned with state and civil society relations outside the United States. Third, field faculty strive 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. Finally, field faculty work to develop knowledge of and familiarity with African and Afrocentric perspectives on national and international issues and policies.

Major areas of field expertise include, but are not limited to: theories of international relations; foreign policy and security studies; international law and organizations; international relations of Africa and the African Diaspora; Middle Eastern and North African affairs; and Caribbean Basin affairs.

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.

Field Courses.

- POLS 208 *Problems of World Organizations* -- An examination of the organization, structure, and problems of the League of Nations, the United Nations, NATO, etc.
- POLS 210 *Selected Problems of Contemporary International Politics* ó Selected problems of current world affairs.
- POLS 213 *American Foreign Policy-Making Process* (cross-listed under American Government) ó Examination of the legal, behavioral, and political pressures that influence the making of American foreign policy
- POLS 222 *Caribbean Politics and Political Economy* (Caribbean Political Systems); cross-listed under Comparative Politics ó A graduate seminar that addresses the domestic and international complexities of contemporary politics in the Caribbean. (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 226 *World Imperialism/Globalization* ó Comparative examination of historical and contemporary forms of imperialism, with emphasis placed on such institutions of imperial control as the state and transnational corporations.
- POLS 228 *Non-Traditional Approaches to World Politics*
- POLS 243 *Political Economy of Advanced Capitalism* An in-depth examination of the strategic role played by the U.S., E.U., and other economic powers in leading the capitalist development, the role of the state, and the internationalization of capital and labor.
- POLS 244 *Seminar in Political Economy* An in-depth examination of advanced topics including crisis theories, industrial restructuring, state monopoly capitalism, role of research and development in technological and scientific evolutions, etc.

- POLS 245 *Seminar in International Development Policies*
- POLS 249 *Comparative Perspectives in International Security* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 259 *International Law* ó Examination of the roles, nature, effects, and limitations of international law in contemporary world politics.
- POLS 264 *Problems in International Security* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics) ó An examination of critical political, military, and economic issues affecting world order with emphasis on the dynamics of East-West relations.
- POLS 269 *Contemporary Issues in African Politics* (Problems in African Politics); cross-listed under Comparative Politics ó Seminar on selected problems in African politics, nationalism, integration, military politics, liberation movements, and ideologies. (cross-listed under Comparative Politics).
- POLS 270 *Middle East in the World System* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 273 *Africa in World Politics* ó Study of Africa's role in the international political system and its relations to the major powers and developing nations.
- POLS 274 *Government and Politics of Southern Africa* (cross-listed under International Relations) An exploration Southern African political activity, with emphasis on the regional political economy including the Southern African Development Economic Community (SADEC) as a regional economic community.
- POLS 287 *Theories of International Relations* (core) ó Study of the various theoretical formulations involved in the examination of the behavior of the international political system.
- POLS 284 *Third World Political Theory* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 304 *Independent Study: International Relations*. Open to students who have completed POLS 287 and two other International Relations courses. Permission of instructor, Director of Graduate Studies, and Chair is required.

FIELD C: AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, AND POLICY

About the Field.

The American Government, Politics, and Policy field provide students with a deep and thorough understanding of political theory and practice in three areas: 1) the structure, function, and behavior of American national, state and local governments; 2) the development, articulation, and advancement of interests within subgroups, political parties, and political action committees; and 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; foreign policymaking; and the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of public policy.

Field Requirements.

All students who concentrate in American Government, Administration, and Policy must successfully complete the Seminar in American Politics (POLS 292) and three additional field courses. *At least one course must be in each subfield:*

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

Field Courses.

American National Government.

- POLS 201 *The Legislative Process* ó Examination of institutions, government agencies, and public action as related to legislative lawmaking and operations.
- POLS 202 *Approaches to the Study of Public Law* ó 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.
- POLS 212 *American Political Parties and Politics* ó Intensive analysis of selected problems in American politics and political parties.
- POLS 213 *American Foreign Policy-Making Process* ó Examination of the legal, behavioral, and political pressures that influence the making of U.S. foreign policy.
- 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 219 *Presidential Policy-Making* ó Study of institutional mechanisms and processes of policy formulation at the presidential level.
- POLS 230 *American Political Thought* ó Examination of documents and writings of American political theorists and practitioners from colonial to modern times.
- POLS 231 *Program Evaluation* - Study of the basic methods used to evaluate programs and policies, including an examination of the impact that selected policies have had on intended target populations.
- POLS 246 *Seminar in Science and Technology Policy* ó Examination of the 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.
- POLS 250 *Social Justice Policy* ó 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.
- POLS 290 *Administrative Law and Regulatory Policy* ó 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* ó Examination of components of the American political system, including the constitutions, structures, and political institutions of national and subnational governments.
- POLS 293 *The Judicial Process* ó Examination of the legal and political factors that influence the rule- adjudication process in the federal system.
- 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 Policy*. Prerequisites: nine hours of graduate course credit completed in the field, plus permission of the instructor, Director of Graduate Studies, and Chair of Department.

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* ó Study of issues and problems involved in the relationships among national, state, and local governments.
- 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* ó 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)* ó Analysis of the purposes, techniques, history and influence of pressure groups in American government.
- POLS 294 *Selected Topics in American Government* ó Analysis of research, concepts, theories, and literature of major topics in American government.
- POLS 301 *Independent Study: American Government* ó Prerequisites: nine hours of graduate course credit completed in the field, plus permission of the instructor, Director of Graduate Studies, and Chair of Department.

FIELD D: COMPARATIVE POLITICS REQUIREMENTS AND COURSES

About the Field.

Comparative politics studies 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. Major areas of field expertise include, but are not limited to: theories of comparative politics; politics of Africa and the African Diaspora; comparative studies of race, ethnicity and gender; Middle Eastern and North African politics; and Caribbean Basin politics.

Field Requirements.

Students must take the core course POLS 204 *Approaches to Comparative Politics* plus three additional courses. Students who 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.

Field Courses.

- POLS 204 *Approaches to Comparative Politics* (core) ó A graduate seminar that reviews the traditional and contemporary literature in comparative politics, focusing on macro level analysis. Themes examined include: social
- POLS 207 *Selected Problems of Comparative Politics* ó Selected problems of foreign governments and politics, with an emphasis on comparative political institutions
- POLS 222 *Caribbean Politics and Political Economy* (Caribbean Political Systems); cross-listed under Comparative Politics ó A graduate seminar that addresses the domestic and international complexities of contemporary politics in the Caribbean. (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 224 *Public Administration in the Developing World* (Development Administration)
- POLS 243 *Political Economy of Advanced Capitalism* An in-depth examination of the strategic role played by the U.S., E.U., and other economic powers in leading the capitalist development, the role of the state, and the internationalization of capital and labor.
- POLS 244 *Seminar in Political Economy* An in-depth examination of advanced topics including crisis theories, industrial restructuring, state monopoly capitalism, role of research and development in technological and scientific evolutions, etc.
- POLS 249 *Comparative Perspectives in International Security* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 252 *Social Movements* A seminar on classic and contemporary literature on the origins and outcomes of social movements.
- POLS 255 *Political Revolutions* A seminar on classic and contemporary literature on the origins and outcomes of political revolutions.

- POLS 264 *Problems in International Security* (cross-listed under International Relations) ó An examination of critical political military and economic issues affecting world order with emphasis on the dynamics of East-West relations.
- POLS 267 *Political Leadership in Africa* ó A study of the role of political leadership in the development of African nations, with special reference to the influence of major personalities.
- POLS 269 *Contemporary Issues in African Politics* (Problems in African Politics); cross-listed under Comparative Politics ó Seminar on selected problems in African politics, nationalism, integration, military politics, liberation movements, and ideologies. (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 270 *Middle East in the World System* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 274 *Government and Politics of Southern Africa* (cross-listed under International Relations) An exploration Southern African political activity, with emphasis on the regional political economy including the Southern African Development Economic Community (SADEC) as a regional economic community.
- POLS 276 *Political Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean* Reading and analysis of Latin America and Caribbean politics and economics, with emphasis on the impact of political and economic forces.
- POLS 284 *Third World Political Theory* Examination of the contribution of third world theorists and leaders to the development of political theory. Topics include dependency theory, nonalignment, and alternative political and economic models.
- POLS 289 *Government and Politics of the People's Republic of China* In-depth examination of the government institutions, political dynamics, and international relations of the Peoples Republic of China.
- POLS 303 *Independent Study: Comparative Politics*. Open to students who have completed POLS 204 and two other Comparative Politics courses. Permission of instructor, Director of Graduate Studies, and Chair is required.
- POLS 400 *Race and Ethnicity in the Americas* (cross-listed under Black Politics) An examination of the political and historical context of Black and indigenous movements, policies, politics, and state actions in the Americas.
- POLS 401 *Racism in Europe* (cross-listed under Black Politics) An examination of the movements, policies, politics, and state actions regarding people of African descent, the Roma, and the Muslim community in contemporary Europe.

POLITICAL THEORY AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY COURSES

Political Theory.

- POLS 230 *American Political Thought*. An examination of the documents and writings of American political theorists and practitioners from colonial to contemporary times. (cross-listed under American Government)
- POLS 232 *Nature and Uses of Political Theory*. (required) Review of the categories of the field and the basic questions of epistemology and social analysis.
- POLS 284 *Third World Political Theory*. Examination of the contribution of developing world theorists and leaders to the develop of political theory. Topics

- include dependency theory, nonalignment, and alternative political and economic models. (cross-listed under International Relations and Comparative Politics)
- POLS 297 *Special Topics in Political Theory* ó Special topics of importance within political theory.

Research Methodology.

- POLS 217 *Methods of Political Science* (required) Examination of the fundamentals of research design, measurement, data collection, and data analysis. *It is the prerequisite for the higher-level courses including Behavioral Research Methods, Survey Research Methods, and Multivariate Data Analysis.*
- POLS 254 *Behavioral Research Methods* (required) ó Presentation of the fundamentals of experimental surveys of aggregate and mixed data type designs.
- POLS 257 *Multivariate Data Analysis* Analysis of the General Linear Model in social science research: statistical theory and the matrix approach in multivariate data analysis.
- POLS 279 *Survey Research Methods* Students collectively design, implement, and analyze a major survey.
- 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.

- POLS 227 *Introduction to Black Politics (core)*
- 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*
- POLS 400 *Race and Ethnicity in the Americas* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)
- POLS 401 *Racism in Europe* (cross-listed under Comparative Politics)

Field B. International Relations-

- 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*

Field C. American Government, Politics, and Policy.

- 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 and Politics*
- POLS 213 *American Foreign Policy–Making Process* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 214 *Public Opinion and Propaganda*
- POLS 218 *Public Policy Formulation*
- POLS 219 *Presidential Policy–Making*
- POLS 220 *Intergovernmental Relations in the United States*
- POLS 225 *Interest Groups in American Politics (Pressure Groups)*
- POLS 229 *Urban Government and Politics*
- POLS 230 *American Political Thought*
- POLS 231 *Program Evaluation and Public Policy Analysis*
- POLS 246 *Seminar in Science and Technology Policy*
- POLS 250 *Social Justice Policy*
- POLS 290 *Administrative Law and Regulatory Policy*
- POLS 292 *Seminar in American Politics* (core)
- POLS 293 *The Judicial Process*
- POLS 294 *Selected Topics in American Government*
- POLS 299 *Current Problems in Public Policy*
- POLS 301 *Independent Study: American Government*
- POLS 302 *Independent Study: Public Policy*

Field D. Comparative Politics.

- 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 243 *Political Economy of Advanced Capitalism*
- POLS 244 *Seminar in Political Economy*
- POLS 249 *Comparative Perspectives in International Security* (cross-listed under International Relations)
- POLS 252 *Social Movements*
- POLS 255 *Political Revolutions*
- 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*
- POLS 400 *Race and Ethnicity in the Americas* (cross-listed under Black Politics)
- POLS 401 *Racism in Europe* (cross-listed under Black Politics)

Appendix 1
Recommended Matriculation Scheme
(Full-Time Master of Arts Students)

Course Category	Number of Courses
Year One	
Major Field Core Course	1
Research Tool #1	1
Field Courses	3
Political Theory Course	1
Total Number of Courses (Year One)	6
Year Two	
Research Tool #2	1
Minor Courses	3
Major Field Comprehensive Examination	Recommend that you take during 1 st semester of 2 nd year
Additional Courses for Non-Thesis Option Paper Students	2
Submission of thesis or non-thesis option paper	Not later than March 1
Total Number of Courses (Year Two)	4 (6 for Non-Thesis Option Students)

Appendix 2
Recommended Matriculation Scheme
(Full-Time Doctoral Students)

Ph.D. Students	
Course Category	Number of Courses
Year One	
Major One, Field Courses	4
Research Tool #1 and #2 (POLS 217 and 254)	2
Total Number of Courses (Year One)	6
Year Two	
Major Two, Field Courses	4
Research Tool 3	1
Political Theory Course (POLS 232)	1
Major Field One Comprehensive Examination	--
Present Research Paper at Academic Conference	--
Total Number of Courses (Year Two)	6
Year Three	
Minor Field Courses	3
Research Tool #3 (POLS 257 or 279, other graduate methods course, or demonstrated proficiency in foreign language related to dissertation research)	1
Doctoral Course Elective (if necessary)	1
Remaining Doctoral Core	2
Major Field Two Comprehensive Examination	--
Present Research Paper at Academic Conference	--
Total Number of Courses (Year Three)	7
Year Four	
Doctoral Seminar	1
Dissertation Proposal Defense	--
Admission to Candidacy	--
Dissertation	--
Year Five	
Dissertation	--
Year Six (if necessary)	
Dissertation	--
Year Seven (if necessary)	
Dissertation (last year to finish)	--

Appendix 3

Comprehensive Examination Grading Rubric

Each graduate comprehensive examination response is graded by field faculty using the following rubric. Each professor gives each question three scores, one for each of the categories below. These scores are averaged, then the professors' composite scores are averaged. A student must receive an average of 4 to pass the examination.

Standard 1: Knowledge of Relevant Literature on the subject

1. **Not Demonstrated**
ó No or few authors/concepts cited
2. **Significant Problems**
ó Some literature is present but concepts and authors are wrong, discussed in a cursory fashion, or both
3. **Adequate**
ó Enough authors and concepts are discussed to demonstrate marginally deep knowledge of the literature
4. **Mastered Material**
ó Demonstrates a broad knowledge and understanding of the literature
5. **Outstanding Response**
ó Demonstrates the ability to critically analyze debates in the field AND use the literature to assert an independent opinion

Standard 2: Ability to Directly, Critically, and Insightfully Respond to Questions

1. **Not Demonstrated**
ó Does not address questions asked and does not link literature to questions
2. **Significant Problems**
ó Addresses some of the question but does not support it with sufficient literature or argument, OR cites literature unrelated to question
3. **Adequate**
ó Provides some synthesis of the relevant literature AND answers questions based on literature and argument
4. **Mastered Skill**
ó Synthesizes material AND discusses notable and relevant debates and critiques about literature to answer questions. Also demonstrates understanding of multiple angles of a particular debate.
5. **Outstanding Response**
ó Goes beyond the mastery of issue to assert own assessments that add originality to the answer

Standard 3: Written Communication Skills

1. **Not demonstrated**
ó Response is incomprehensible
2. **Significant Problems**
ó Essay contains some answers to question, but uses extremely poor grammar and has substantial organizational problems
3. **Adequate**
ó Essay is reasonably organized and responsive to all parts of question; may contain some minor lapses in organization or grammar
4. **Mastered Skill**
ó Essay is well-organized, answers all parts of the question in some detail, contains few but largely minor grammatical problems.
5. **Outstanding Response**
ó Essay is well organized with thesis statements and continuous flow, answers all parts of the question in a detailed, concise manner, is easy to read, and has very few grammatical errors

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

Kwame Dixon, Ph.D. Clark-Atlanta University. Comparative Politics, Latin America and the Caribbean, Afro-Politics and democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean

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

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

Keneshia N. Grant, Ph.D. Syracuse University. American Government and Policy, State and Local Government

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

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

John-Patrick Ifedi, Ph.D. Howard University. International Relations, Political Economy, Comparative Politics

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

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

Robinson Woodward-Burns, Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania. American Politics and Constitutional Law

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