Master of Arts (M.A.), Major in Political Science

Admission Policy
For information regarding admission application requirements and deadlines, please visit The Graduate College website at http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/posi.html.

Degree Requirements
The master of arts (M.A.) degree with a major in political science consists of 24 hours of political science (POSI) course work (9 of which can be course work in a field related to political science with approval of the program director), a 3 hour required course (POSI 5359, Approaches to the Study of Political Science), and 6 hours of thesis. There is also a non-thesis option. Students in the non-thesis option are required to take 36 hours of political science course work (9 of which can be course work in a field related to political science). Non-thesis students must take POSI 5359, Approaches to the Study of Political Science, as part of their degree hour requirements. Except for the 9 hours that may be taken in a related field (with approval of the M.A. political science graduate advisor) and POSI 5359, M.A. students are limited to selection of electives from the courses listed in the table below. Students who have earned at least a 3.5 GPA in political science course work may, upon completion of 21 credit hours with no incomplete grades on their transcript, petition for the thesis option. Students should regularly consult with the graduate advisor for selection of course work.

Non-thesis Option

Required Core Course
POSI 5359 Approaches to the Study of Political Science 3
Political Science Electives (See table below) 33
Total Hours 36

Thesis Option

Require Core Course
POSI 5359 Approaches to the Study of Political Science 3
Political Science Electives (See table below) 24
Thesis Courses (Choose a minimum 6 hours) 6
POSI 5199B Thesis 3
POSI 5299B Thesis 3
POSI 5399A Thesis 3
POSI 5399B Thesis 3
POSI 5599B Thesis 3
POSI 5999B Thesis 3
Total Hours 33

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must demonstrate the student’s capability for research and independent thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with the Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or Dissertation. The thesis handbook may be accessed at http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/Thesis_Diss_Guide.pdf.

Thesis Proposal
The student must submit an official Master’s Thesis Proposal form to their thesis committee. The required thesis proposal form may be obtained from The Graduate College at http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/gcforms.html. After signing the form and obtaining committee members’ signatures, graduate advisor’s signature (if required by the program), and the department chair’s signature, the student must submit the thesis proposal form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College. If the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended the thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College by the end of the student’s enrollment in 5399A.

Thesis Committee
The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three approved graduate faculty members.

Thesis Enrollment and Credit
The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. Enrollment for the thesis will be in course number 5399A for a student’s initial thesis enrollment and a thesis B course for each subsequent thesis enrollment in the field in which the subject matter of the thesis falls, e.g., ENG 5399A, ENG 5199B, ENG 5299B, ENG 5399B, ENG 5599B, and ENG 5999B. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

A student will be required to enroll in and pay the fee for at least one hour of the thesis course during any term in which the student will receive thesis supervision or guidance and/or in which the student is using university resources. Failure to register for the

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>POSI 5300</td>
<td>Topics in Ancient and Medieval Political Thought</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5301</td>
<td>Problems in American Foreign Relations</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POSI 5303</td>
<td>Political Research and Methodology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POSI 5319</td>
<td>Seminar in Constitutional Law and Theory</td>
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<td>POSI 5325</td>
<td>Roots of American Constitutionalism</td>
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<td>POSI 5327A</td>
<td>Texas Politics and Administration</td>
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<td>POSI 5350</td>
<td>Problems in American Politics</td>
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<td>POSI 5360</td>
<td>Problems in International Politics</td>
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<td>POSI 5364</td>
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<td>POSI 5365</td>
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<td>POSI 5370</td>
<td>Internship in Government</td>
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<td>POSI 5380</td>
<td>Problems in International Political Economy</td>
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<td>POSI 5382</td>
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<td>POSI 5384</td>
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<td>POSI 5385</td>
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<tr>
<td>POSI 5398</td>
<td>Directed Reading and Research</td>
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Texas State University
thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B. The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrew), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit (“CR”) will be awarded only after the thesis is filed in the Alkek Library and the librarian has electronically returned the thesis card to the office of The Graduate College.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during summer the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

Fee Reduction

A master’s degree candidate for graduation may be eligible for a one-time fee reduction under V.T.C.A. Education Code, Section 54.054. Please refer to the section titled Fee Reduction in the Additional Fees and Expenses chapter of this catalog for more information.

Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process

Thesis deadlines are posted at the following web page: http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/Thes-Diss_Info/T-D_Deadlines.html. The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee no later than 41 days before the date of the commencement at which the degree is to be conferred.

The following must be submitted to the office of The Graduate College no later than 24 days, not counting weekends or holidays, before the date of commencement at which the degree is to be conferred (see The Graduate College webpage for specific deadlines):

1. The Thesis/Dissertation Committee Approval form bearing original signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) copy of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, on standard paper (Hard-copy Submission Option) or PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the on-line Vireo submission system (Vireo On-line Submission Option).

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, the process is as follows:

1. For the Vireo On-line Submission Option:
   a. No copies are required to be submitted to the Alkek Library. However, Alkek will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to the Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Courses Offered

Political Science (POSI)

POSI 5100. Practicum in Teaching Political Science. An introduction to key concepts and practices in the teaching of college introductory Political Science courses. Provides regular in-service training and planned periodic evaluations of instructional responsibilities. Required for first-year teaching and instructional assistants in the Political Science Department. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Repeatable with different emphasis. Graded on a credit (CR), no-credit (F) basis.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Graduate Assistantship
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships
about Practicum in Teaching Political Science

POSI 5199B. Thesis. This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
about Thesis

POSI 5299B. Thesis. This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.

2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
about Thesis

POSI 5300. Topics in Ancient and Medieval Political Thought. Selected topics in Greek and Roman political theory, patrician understanding of politics, and the political theory of the Middle and High Middle Ages. Includes study of the writings and thought of Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Seneca, Augustine, Gelasius, Al-Farabi, Avicenna, Averroes, Maimonides, John of Salisbury, Aquinas, Marsilius of Padua, William of Occam, and others.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Topics in Ancient and Medieval Political Thought

POSI 5301. Problems in American Foreign Relations. Seminar based on selected topics in American foreign policy and United States involvement in international relations. May be repeated once with different emphasis and professor for additional credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Problems in American Foreign Relations

Master's level courses in Political Science: POSI
POSI 5303. Political Research and Methodology.
Topical seminar for the exploration of problems in the scope and the
methods of political science and public administration. The course
emphasizes quantitative methods.
about Political Research and Methodology
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Political Research and Methodology

POSI 5306. Foundation Studies in Political Science.
Students develop knowledge and skills required for success in graduate-
level coursework in Political Science. Course content varies depending
on academic preparation. This course does not earn graduate degree
credit. Repeatable up to 12 hours with different emphasis. Prerequisite:
Approval of graduate program director.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships
about Foundation Studies in Political Science

POSI 5311. Public Finance Administration.
Study of the formation, management, and administration of fiscal policy
at the levels of government in the United States, particularly budgeting as
the ultimate expression of public policy.
about Public Finance Administration
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Public Finance Administration

POSI 5312. Public Sector Economics.
Advanced study of allocation, tax, and tax incidence theories; distribution
policy, fiscal federalism; public debt and debt management. Evaluation
of stabilization policy and its impact on unemployment, inflation, and
economic growth.
about Public Sector Economics
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Public Sector Economics

POSI 5314. Organization Theory.
Analysis of the theoretical perspectives of organizations, with particular
reference to public organizations and public administration.
about Organization Theory
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Organization Theory

POSI 5315. Problems in Public Personnel Administration.
Analyses and evaluations of major personnel management problems in
government; employee-management relations; interagency and
inter-governmental relationships. Impact of automation. Evaluation of
personnel systems.
about Problems in Public Personnel Administration
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Problems in Public Personnel Administration

POSI 5316. Labor Management Relations.
An examination of the historical development of public employee
unions and the reaction of public employers and the effect of collective
bargaining agreements on personnel policy development. The legal
position of public laws concerning collective bargaining arguments as well
as analysis of organizing procedures and strategy on the part of public
managers will be covered.
about Labor Management Relations
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Labor Management Relations

Examines recent developments in Public Personnel Administration.
Special attention will be paid to the use of the Personnel Office as
a center for job assignment, employee development, organizational
development, and affirmative action. In addition, students will become
familiar with specific personnel practices including the development of
pay plans, job classifications, and employee manuals.
about Management Practices in Public Personnel Administration
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Management Practices in Public Personnel Administration

POSI 5318. Public Management and Ethics.
Analysis of public management principles and functions in the context of
ethics and accountability, including bureaucratic discretion, constitutional
values, and professionalism.
about Public Management and Ethics
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Public Management and Ethics

POSI 5319. Seminar in Constitutional Law and Theory.
In-depth analysis of selected issues in constitutional theory including
the theory of judicial review, and constitutional interpretation. Examines
the debate on constitutional interpretation in light of cases dealing with
the First Amendment Freedom of Speech, Press, and Religion, and with
substantive due process and the equal protection clause.
about Seminar in Constitutional Law and Theory
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Seminar in Constitutional Law and Theory

POSI 5321. Introduction to Public Policy & Administration.
An introduction to the policy and administration institutional environment
with special emphasis on intergovernmental relations in the federal
system.
about Introduction to Public Policy & Administration
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Introduction to Public Policy & Administration
POSI 5325. Roots of American Constitutionalism.
An examination of the origins and evolution of the ideas which inform the American constitutional system, includes examination of the strands of thought in the classical, Christian, medieval, Renaissance, and Enlightenment periods that combined with the British liberal tradition, laid the groundwork for the American experiment. Examines the pre-independence evolution of the American Constitutional tradition that informed the constitutional debates.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Roots of American Constitutionalism

POSI 5327A. Texas Politics and Administration.
The course examines both the theory and practice of Texas politics and administration. The focus is on how policy is formulated and implemented by the governor, the legislature, and the state bureaucracy. It also examines how that policy is influenced by external factors such as political and interest groups.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Texas Politics and Administration

POSI 5330. Problems in Public Law.
Problems in American public law and judicial processes. Addresses the policy environment in which the American judicial system operates.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Problems in Public Law

An examination of major issues, theoretical, involved in the crisis areas of declining energy resources, arable land, water, and food, amidst increasing population and pollution of the environment.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Ecology and the Politics of Scarcity

POSI 5334. Problems in Quantitative Analysis.
Topics in political science and public administration methodology with special emphasis on quantitative techniques.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Problems in Quantitative Analysis

POSI 5335. Problems in Research Methodology.
A course that emphasizes qualitative and conceptual aspects of research. Topics include: social science research paradigms, defining the research question, linking theory to methods, field research the focus group technique, literature review and research prospectus development. Prerequisite: POSI 5334 Problems in Quantitative Analysis.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Problems in Research Methodology

This course examines the provision of public services that occur outside the public sector. Privatization (the reliance on market mechanisms) and third sector (nonprofit) service provision are explored. Management and policy issues associated with each are highlighted.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Alternative Public Delivery Systems: Privatization and the Third Sector

POSI 5336B. Ensuring Public Sector Performance and Deterring/Detecting Fraud.
This course examines the issues surrounding governmental performance. Management and policy issues such as performance measurement, evaluation, and citizen participation will be explored. In addition, serious problems associated with performance, such as fraud deterrence and detection, are examined.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Ensuring Public Sector Performance and Deterring/Detecting Fraud

POSI 5336C. The Legal Basis of Public Administration.
This course examines the legal environment of public management in the United States, a subject matter central to public administration. The course will emphasize how the Constitution affects the administrative state and how the federal judiciary shapes the public administrative process in its own image.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About The Legal Basis of Public Administration

This course is an examination of the social contract, consent, and popular sovereignty in early modern thought. Attention will be given to the work of Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Jean Jacques Rousseau, and Immanuel Kant (as well as others) and to their critics both then and now.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About Social Contract Theory

POSI 5338. The Problem of Power and the Crisis of Modernity.
This course is an examination of the crisis of modernity and its implications for humanity’s future.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
About The Problem of Power and the Crisis of Modernity
POSI 5339. Contemporary Perspectives in Modern Liberalism.
This course is a brief review of history/development of modern liberalism and the ensuing response and contemporary alternatives. about Contemporary Perspectives in Modern Liberalism
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Contemporary Perspectives in Modern Liberalism

POSI 5340. Problems in American Public Policy.
Problems arising in the area of political decision-making, executive-legislative relationships, functions of government, and regulatory activities of the government. May be repeated once with different emphasis and professor for additional credit. about Problems in American Public Policy
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Problems in American Public Policy

Critical examination of the policy process with emphasis on analytical applications in the administrative and management environment. about Seminar in the Policy Process
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Seminar in the Policy Process

An advanced course in the application of quantitative methods to the evaluation of public policies and programs with emphasis on the administrative and management environment. Prerequisite: Grade of "B" or better in a statistics course. about Seminar in Program Evaluation
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Seminar in Program Evaluation

POSI 5343. Seminar in American Political Institutions.
An overview of American political institutions including the presidency, Congress, judiciary, and bureaucracy which examines the history, structure, and relationship of these institutions of one another and to American politics in general. about Seminar in American Political Institutions
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Seminar in American Political Institutions

POSI 5344. American Political Culture and Discourse.
This class identifies the way political discourse and social and political cultures connect within Americans’ minds. Diverse theoretical perspectives will be used to explore the phenomena involved in social and political issues regarding values, meanings, norms, and prejudices and methods of improving political discourse within American political culture. about American Political Culture and Discourse
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about American Political Culture and Discourse

A study of the theoretical assumptions, conceptual foundations, and design of government information systems. about Conceptual Foundations of Government Information Systems
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Conceptual Foundations of Government Information Systems

A study the technological foundations and implications of computer-based government information systems in government. about Technology of Government Information Systems
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Technology of Government Information Systems

Advanced theory and application of computer-based financial information systems in government; system analysis and design; hardware configurations and software attributes. about Public Finance Information Systems
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Public Finance Information Systems

POSI 5348. Problems in American Politics.
Problems arising with respect to parties, legislation, the presidency, and political behavior. May be repeated five times with different emphasis and instructor for additional credit. about Problems in American Politics
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Problems in American Politics

POSI 5349. Seminar in American Political Institutions.
An overview of American political institutions including the presidency, Congress, judiciary, and bureaucracy which examines the history, structure, and relationship of these institutions of one another and to American politics in general. about Seminar in American Political Institutions
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Seminar in American Political Institutions

POSI 5350. Theological Perspectives in Modern Democracy.
This course explores the influence of religion on the rise of modern democracy and the efforts of various religious thinkers to explore the nature and foundations of democratic government. about Theological Perspectives in Modern Democracy
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Theological Perspectives in Modern Democracy

POSI 5351. Seminar in Theological Perspectives in Modern Democracy.
This course is an examination of the nature and intellectual foundations of democratic government. about Seminar in Theological Perspectives in Modern Democracy
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Seminar in Theological Perspectives in Modern Democracy

This course is an examination of the nature and intellectual foundations of the liberal tradition and the implications of the crisis besetting contemporary theory for the future of democratic government. about The Crisis of Liberalism and The Future of Democracy
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about The Crisis of Liberalism and The Future of Democracy
This course will examine the concepts of justice and liberty in American thought from the seventeenth century to the present. Attention will be given both to the nature of liberty and justice and to their practical requirement as understood by various American thinkers, including statesmen, reformers, social scientists, and philosophers. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

POS 5355. Introduction to the Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector.
This course provides a foundation for understanding the history, scope, and function of the American nonprofit and voluntary sector. It includes an examination of the conceptual and theoretical underpinnings of the sector, an assessment of the role of these organizations in society, and their impact on public policy. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

POS 5358. Contract Law.
This course involves a study of the common law and statutory law of contracts (e.g., Statute of Frauds; Uniform Commercial Code; Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act; Uniform Electronic Transactions Act), various types of contracts (e.g., real estate contracts; employment contracts; contracts for services; construction contracts; e-contracts), and contract drafting. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

POS 5359. Approaches to the Study of Political Science.
This course will provide an intensive introduction to the advanced study of political science. It will focus on the key concepts, variables, and approaches used to describe, explain, and predict political phenomena. Discussion of key normative theories and the variety of methodologies used in political science is included. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

POS 5360. Problems in International Politics.
A course dealing with selected topics in the field of international politics. May be repeated once with different emphasis and professor for additional credit. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

This course is a graduate-level exploration of the field of security studies. Security studies focuses on what Clausewitz famously called “politics by other means”: war. This course will center on three enduring topics: the causes of war, the use of force, and the future of warfare. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

POS 5364. Problems in International Organization.
This course is an analysis of the structure, functions, and role of the international organizations in the international system. It assesses the reasons for the emergence of international organization as a means on international interaction, evaluates the historical evolution of this phenomenon from the Ancient Greeks through the Middle Ages to the Concert of Europe, as well as its modern manifestations in the League of Nations and United Nations. The course addresses the role of international regions, regional organizations, functional agencies, and bilateral organizations. The procedures and processes of international argument and policy-making are studied through participation in a Model Security Council. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

POS 5365. Problems in International Law.
This course examines the nature, functions, scope, and practice of international law. It addresses several major areas of the law including legal sources, diplomatic practice, territorial jurisdiction, legal personality, the law of state responsibility, asylum law, human rights, and the law of war. The major legal principles and theories, as well as the political context in which they operate are studied. The course is heavily research oriented and includes moot court arbitration. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

This course in comparative political economy examines some of the factors that account for economic development/underdevelopment in the Third World. The factors examined include political, economic and institutional variables, elucidating the multi-causal nature of socio-economic development. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
POSI 5370. Internship in Government.
Practical experience in the on-going work of a selected governmental unit. The student will be assigned to a unit of federal, state, regional, or local government. A research paper and a journal dealing with the internship experience must be written under the direction of a faculty member. Evaluation will be based on the research paper, journal, and work performance. May be repeated once with different emphasis for additional credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5372. Introduction to the Paralegal Profession and Legal Technology.
This course provides an introduction to the paralegal profession and law office technology, including the history and current issues facing the profession, paralegal associations, paralegal regulation and certification options, paralegal ethics, and the skills necessary to become an effective paralegal, with an emphasis placed on legal technology.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5373. Issues and Problems in Law.
Emphasis will be placed on examining current legal issues and problems through legal analysis and conceptual aspects of legal research and writing. Students will have the opportunity to perform literature reviews of current topics and develop research questions. Prerequisite: A grade of "B" or better in POSI 5387.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course covers principal tenets of intellectual property, including trademarks, copyrights, patents, and trade secrets. Students will analyze a wide variety of intellectual property issues, the impact of intellectual property in our current society, and the practical and theoretical concerns raised by the interplay of state and federal laws.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5375. Comparative Public Administration.
This course studies and compares the public administration systems in countries throughout the world.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5376. Alternative Dispute Resolution.
This course is an in-depth study of procedural and substantive legal principles of alternative dispute resolution. Emphasis will be placed on procedures and practical applications of negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and alternative adjudicative processes with integration of ethical and policy issues.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5377. Criminal Law and Procedure.
Study of the state and federal statutory and common law relative to the criminal justice system. Course includes the study of the criminal litigation process and procedure with emphasis on theory and practical legal assistant skill development.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5378. Social Legislation.
Study of Texas and federal laws established by statute to remedy various social problems including worker's compensation, unemployment compensation, bankruptcy, and commercial transactions. Course will include a study of statutory and case law development. May be repeated with different emphasis for additional credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5379. Legal Drafting.
Study of legal drafting styles, forms and techniques, including legal document drafting, objective, informative document drafting, and persuasive-style drafting of trial and appellate briefs. Prerequisite: POSI 5387 Legal Research.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5380. Problems in International Political Economy.
Deals with selected topics in international political economy.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5381. Advanced Legal Research & Writing.
This course has three related components: (1) Refinement of skills in computer-assisted and manual legal research; (2) Legal analysis, legal writing, and organizing complex legal documents; (3) Techniques of persuasive argument; and (4) Applied research project, persuasive brief and oral examination of course work. Prerequisites: POSI 5379 Legal Drafting and POSI 5387 Legal Research.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
POSI 5382. Seminar in International Relations Theory.
A course dealing with selected topics in geopolitics and world political geography. May be repeated once with different emphasis and professor for additional credit.

about Seminar in International Relations Theory
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5383. Advanced Litigation.
Study of the use of the American legal system to resolve disputes between individuals and entities. Emphasis will be on trial advocacy planning, analysis, preparation, and strategy. Students will develop skills necessary to understand and to participate as an advocate in the trial process. Prerequisites: POSI 5387 Legal Research and POSI 5394 Litigation.

about Advanced Litigation
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5384. Topics in Modern Democratic Systems.
This course in comparative politics examines the development and interaction of political institutions, policy processes, political culture, public opinion, legal settings and theoretical underpinnings of modern democratic governments. Countries of focus vary with instructor, and include governments of Western, Central and Eastern Europe, Canada, Japan and Australia. May be repeated once with different emphasis and professor for additional credit.

about Topics in Modern Democratic Systems
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5385. Topics in Third World Politics.
This course in comparative politics examines the range of political systems of various regions of the Third World, including Latin America, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. Themes include the politics of the colonial era, the nature of traditional political systems, modernization and development, political institutionalization, interest groups articulation and participation. Topics vary by region. May be repeated once with different emphasis and professor for additional credit.

about Topics in Third World Politics
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5386. Legal Theories And Analysis.
Study of statutory and case law development of basic legal theory including tort theory, contract theory, and evidence theory. Course is intended to assist the student in gaining knowledge of fundamental legal theory, reasoning, and analysis.

about Legal Theories And Analysis
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5387. Legal Research.
A study of the American and Texas legal system including the courts and legislature; primary and secondary sources of the law including finding tools; judicial reports including court, federal and state reports and citation forms, case finding including federal, state, and supreme court digests and encyclopedias; citations, such as Shepard Citations, and digests; annotated law reports; legal periodicals, including periodical indexes and research procedure; the nature, function, and characteristics of treatises; research procedures; state and federal administrative law; federal, state, and local court rules; English legal research of great Britain and Canada; research aids.

about Legal Research
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Students will work with the supervising instructor to complete an applied research project to submit for oral examination. Prerequisite: POSI 5381 with a grade of “B” or better.

about Applied Research Project
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5389. Law Office Internship.
Includes lecture and seminar discussion of topics relating to problems, procedures, and ethics in the legal-working environment. Student is involved in voluntary on-the-job internship consisting of approximately 10-15 hours a week to gain actual experience in the legal-working environment. Course is required unless the student has prior law-related experience and has, with the permission of the program director, elected to take a practicum in lieu of the internship. Graded on a credit (CR), no credit (F) basis.

about Law Office Internship
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

POSI 5390. Administrative Law.
Course deals with the origin, development, and theory of Administrative Law and the agencies and tribunals established to administer the law. Emphasis is on enforcement, quasi-legislative and quasi-judicial powers of federal administrative agencies and state tribunals.

about Administrative Law
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

POSI 5391. Family Law.
Emphasis is on Texas law, dealing with pre-marital contracts, marriage relationships, annulment, abortion, adoption, juveniles, Family Code, divorce, support for children, custody, separation agreements, etc.

about Family Law
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
POSI 5392. Business Organizations.
A study of the federal and Texas law relative to corporations with particular emphasis on the preparation of initial and amended articles of incorporation, satisfaction of state filing requirements, preparations of drafts of stock certificates and securities, the maintaining of stock ledgers and books, the preparation of draft resolutions authorizing cash and stock dividends and stock splits, the drafting of employment agreements, and other activities necessary to the maintenance, merger, and closing corporations.
about Business Organizations
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Business Organizations

POSI 5393. Estates and Trust.
Study of Texas law regarding estates and trusts with emphasis on preparation of documents relating to the administration of estates.
about Estates and Trust
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Estates and Trust

POSI 5394. Litigation.
Study of statutory and case law relative to civil and criminal procedure in order to develop an understanding of litigation.
about Litigation
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Litigation

POSI 5395. Real Estate.
Study of Texas laws concerning real properties, conveyances, recordation, taxation, and sales regarding real property. Student will become familiar with various records maintained dealing with real property by public officials and will develop an understanding of the procedures by which titles are searched. May be repeated with a different emphasis.
about Real Estate
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Real Estate

Problem-oriented applied research project for Master of Public Administration degree. Student will prepare a prospectus to include a statement of the problem, research design, specification of data, questions to be answered concerning problem, and a representative bibliography, and submit it to the supervising instructor prior to registration for the course. Prerequisite: A grade of “B” or better in POSI 5335.
about Applied Research Project
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Applied Research Project

POSI 5398. Directed Reading and Research.
Advanced reading and/or research on various topics in political science under the direction of a graduate faculty member. May be repeated once with different emphasis and professor for additional credit.
about Directed Reading and Research
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Directed Reading and Research

POSI 5399A. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until a student has completed the thesis in Political Science 5399B. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
about Thesis
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
about Thesis

POSI 5399B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
about Thesis
5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
about Thesis

POSI 5999B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
about Thesis