MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (M.P.A.), MAJOR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

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

Degree Requirements
The master of public administration (M.P.A.) degree is a 39-hour program consisting of a core of 30 hours (including a 3-hour written applied research project) and a 9-hour career support area selected from:

- Administration of Criminal Justice Systems
- General Public Administration
- Government Information Systems
- Social Policy
- International Relations
- Legal and Judicial Administration
- Public Finance Administration
- Human Resources in Public Administration
- Urban and Environmental Planning

Course Work Requirements

Required Core

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5311</td>
<td>Public Finance Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5314</td>
<td>Organization Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5315</td>
<td>Problems in Public Personnel Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5318</td>
<td>Public Management and Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5321</td>
<td>Introduction to Public Policy &amp; Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5330</td>
<td>Problems in Public Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5334</td>
<td>Problems in Quantitative Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5335</td>
<td>Problems in Research Methodology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5397</td>
<td>Applied Research Project</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5340</td>
<td>Problems in American Public Policy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5341</td>
<td>Seminar in the Policy Process</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5343</td>
<td>Seminar in Program Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Career Support Area

Nine hours in an approved career support area

Total Hours

39

Career Support Areas

Administration of Criminal Justice Systems

Choose 9 hours in consultation with graduate advisor

Total Hours

9

General Public Administration

Choose 9 hours in consultation with graduate advisor

Total Hours

9

Government Information Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5345</td>
<td>Conceptual Foundations of Government Information Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5346</td>
<td>Technology of Government Information Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5347</td>
<td>Public Finance Information Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours

9

Social Policy

Choose 9 hours from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 5319</td>
<td>Organizational Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5343</td>
<td>Seminar in Program Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5316</td>
<td>Seminar in Deviation and Social Problems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5320</td>
<td>Seminar in Demography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5343</td>
<td>Seminar in Criminology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5353</td>
<td>Seminar in the Community</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5363</td>
<td>Seminar in Medical Sociology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5370</td>
<td>Seminar in Multi-Cultural Relations</td>
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Total Hours

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International Relations

Choose 9 hours from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5301</td>
<td>Problems in American Foreign Relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5360</td>
<td>Problems in International Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5364</td>
<td>Problems in International Organization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5365</td>
<td>Problems in International Law</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5375</td>
<td>Comparative Public Administration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5384</td>
<td>Topics in Modern Democratic Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5385</td>
<td>Topics in Third World Politics</td>
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Total Hours

9

Legal and Judicial Administration

Choose 9 hours from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5319</td>
<td>Seminar in Constitutional Law and Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5343</td>
<td>Seminar in Program Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5379</td>
<td>Legal Drafting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5387</td>
<td>Legal Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5390</td>
<td>Administrative Law</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5394</td>
<td>Litigation</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Total Hours

9

Public Finance Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5312</td>
<td>Public Sector Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5343</td>
<td>Seminar in Program Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5347</td>
<td>Public Finance Information Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
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Total Hours

9

Human Resources in Public Administration

Choose 9 hours from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5316</td>
<td>Labor Management Relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours

9
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.

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.

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.

POSI 5300. Topics in Ancient and Medieval Political Thought.
Selected topics in Greek and Roman political theory, patristic
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.

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.

Background
For M.P.A. students who have a limited statistics background, three
hours of credit in applied statistics will be required. Students may fulfill
this requirement by enrolling in POSI 5303. Students must complete the
statistics requirement prior to enrolling in POSI 5334 and POSI 5335.
Students must earn a grade of “B” or better in POSI 5303. If a student
has completed an undergraduate statistics course within the last three
academic years, prior to starting the M.P.A. program, and received a
grade of “A”, the background requirement of POSI 5303 may be waived.
Students who do not have administrative experience must take POSI
5370 Internship in Government in the first 24 hours. This background
can be waived by sending documentation of administrative experience
directly to the M.P.A. director.

Comprehensive Examination
An oral comprehensive examination over the applied research project is
required for completion of the M.P.A. degree.

Applied Research Project
The applied research project (POSI 5397) is a required research paper for
the M.P.A. degree. Students who intend to register for POSI 5397 must
prepare a prospectus to include a statement of the problem, theoretical
framework, research design, specification of data, and a representative
bibliography. The proposal should be presented to the supervising
instructor prior to registration for the course.

Prerequisite: A grade of “B” or better in POSI 5335.

Master’s level courses in Political Science: POSI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5317</td>
<td>Management Practices in Public Personnel Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5343</td>
<td>Seminar in Program Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5345</td>
<td>Conceptual Foundations of Government Information Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 5319</td>
<td>Seminar in Social Psychology</td>
</tr>
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Total Hours  9

Urban and Environmental Planning
Choose 9 hours from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEO 5312</td>
<td>Managing Urbanization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEO 5313</td>
<td>Environmental Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEO 5314</td>
<td>Geographic Elements of Environmental Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEO 5336</td>
<td>Transportation Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEO 5339</td>
<td>The Geography of Land Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEO 5351</td>
<td>Regional Waste Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEO 5408</td>
<td>Web Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5333</td>
<td>Ecology and the Politics of Scarcity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 5343</td>
<td>Seminar in Program Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSI 7330</td>
<td>Environmental Policy, Politics, and Law</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Total Hours  9

About Practicum in Teaching Political Science

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Graduate Assistantship|Exclude from Graduate GPA
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

About Thesis

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

About Topics in Ancient and Medieval Political Thought

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

About Problems in American Foreign Relations

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
about Political Research and Methodology  

POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling  

POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  

POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  

POS1 5314. Organization Theory.  
Analysis of the theoretical perspectives of organizations, with particular reference to public organizations and public administration.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  

POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  

POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  

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

POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  

POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  

POS1 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.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
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

POSI 5343. Seminar in Program Evaluation.
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 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 5350. 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 5351. 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 5352. 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

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.

about Justice and Liberty in American Thought

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

POSI 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.

about Introduction to the Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Introduction to the Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector

POSI 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.

about Contract Law

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

POSI 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.

about Approaches to the Study of Political Science

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Approaches to the Study of Political Science

POSI 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.

about Problems in International Politics

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

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.

about International Conflict and Security

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about International Conflict and Security

POSI 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.

about Problems in International Organization

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

POSI 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.

about Problems in International Law

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

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.

about Economic Development in the Third World

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
about Economic Development in the Third World
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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

POSI 5375. Comparative Public Administration.
This course studies and compares the public administration systems in countries throughout the world.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

POSI 5380. Problems in International Political Economy.
Deals with selected topics in international political economy.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

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.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

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

about Seminar in International Relations Theory

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

about Advanced Litigation

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

about Topics in Modern Democratic Systems

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

about Topics in Third World Politics

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

about Legal Theories And Analysis

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

about Legal Research

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: Credit/No Credit

about Applied Research Project

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

about Law Office Internship

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

about Administrative Law

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

about Family Law
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 

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 

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 

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 

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 

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 

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 

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. 

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 
9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours. 
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit 

about Thesis