



# Graduate Student Handbook

## Department of Political Science

2024-2025

## OVERVIEW

The Department of Political Science offers graduate courses leading to the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Political Science, the Master of Arts (M.A.) in



Information Technology Services As information continues to be digitized and automated, information technologies become increasingly more important for communication and research. All graduate students must understand their rights and responsibilities when using the University's information technology services. You can find what you need to know at a [http://www.twi2.gov]

However, at the graduate level a student should not get

## APPLICATION FOR DEGREE

Graduate students must file an application for graduation with the Graduate School by the date specified in the academic calendar, usually a semester in advance. It is the student's responsibility to apply for a degree at the appropriate time.

## UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

- (b) PLSC 475: Political Analysis I
- (c) PLSC 476: Political Analysis II
- (d) Several electives (any graduate courses chosen from at least two subfields).
- (e) Internship, Thesis, or Comprehensive Exam

(3) Thesis Option: Students may satisfy six hours (2 courses) by writing a thesis. Students who choose this option will take PLSC 596 for two semesters (total of 6 credit hours) which count as electives, and take PLSC 595 (zero credit hours) when they are done with the thesis. Students who write a thesis must take the responsible 3 (ns)-4 ( ta3 (i)-2 (.)-2 (e)4 (aot)-2 s)-1 (po2 (s))TJ -1 (t)-2 ()-2 (ount)

## MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.) in International Affairs

### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

(1) Thirty semester hours of course work (10 courses).

(2) Required Coursework: Students will be required to complete the following four core classes

(a) INTA 475 (PLSC 475) Political Analysis I

(b) INTA 420 (PLSC 420) Comparative Political Systems

(c) INTA 430 (PLSC 430): Theories of International Relations

(d) Capstone (Internship, Directed Reading, or Study Abroad) Or MA Thesis (see details below)

(e) Elective Classes an additional six elective courses, with no more than three offered by a single department in the College of Arts and Sciences or another School at Loyola. Students have the option of taking a 200-level language course and having that course count as one of the six elective courses.

(3) Elective Courses: A student may take three Political Science courses in addition to the three core (required) courses. The participating programs that will contribute classes include the following departments and programs: History Department, Philosophy Department, Political Science Department, Psychology Department, Sociology Department, Theology Department, Criminal Justice & Criminology Department, Modern Languages and Literatures Department, as well as the Schools of Business, Communication, Education, Health Sciences, Social Work, and Law.

### TIME LIMITS

Graduate School regulations require M.A. students to complete the program within five years. A student failing to meet this deadline may request an extension from the Graduate School.

### DUAL B.A./M.A. PROGRAM

Loyola undergraduates in participating departments may earn both a B.A. and a M.A. in a shorter period of time than if pursuing each degree separately. Major political science majors with an overall GPA of at least 3.3 and a GPA in all Political Science classes of at least 3.0 are eligible to apply. Students must submit transcripts, two letters of recommendation and a statement of purpose, but do not take the GRE. Students admitted to the program may apply up to 12 semester hours of credit (4 courses) earned toward the MA degree to satisfy the courses required for the BA degree. Graduate courses may count as electives for the undergraduate major in Political Science (01-6 (n)- (r)-1.1 (p) Pecti-0.009 Tc 0.



Schools (Communication, Education, and Social Work), CAS departments (Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Theology) and the Global and International Studies Program. Elective classes can be found on the webpage. The Table below indicates the number of 400 level electives coming from the major, from general electives and from INTA/PLSC required courses for each program.

BA Program	Substituting 400 level electives of the INTA-MA for 300 level courses within the undergraduate major (# of electives)	Substituting 400 level electives of the INTA-MA for general electives outside the undergraduate major (# of electives)	Substituting 400 level required courses of the INTA-MA for 300 level courses within the undergraduate major (# of electives)
Advertising and			

Global Studies BA (CAS)	X (3)	X (1)	
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#### DUAL M.A./J.D. PROGRAM

The School of Law and the Department of Political Science jointly offer a dual degree program that provides students with specialized policy training appropriate for careers in the public sector or for law practices involving administrative agencies or processes. The purpose of the program is to allow students to combine the study of law with an exploration of the political context within which domestic

(2) Forty-eight

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study. Immediately following the oral examination, the student will be notified of the results by the examination committee chair. Students receive either a Pass (P) or Unsatisfactory (U). A grade of Pass requires agreement by two of the three members of the committee. A grade of Unsatisfactory may not necessarily, include an option to retake the oral examination within a time ranging from one to six months, at the discretion of the committee. Re-examination will be allowed only on the recommendation of a majority of the student's oral examination committee and with the concurrence of the Dean of The Graduate School. If all members of the committee concur, the student may be granted a pass with distinction that will go on the official transcript. For a student to pass with distinction, the members of the committee must agree that the student passed with distinction in both the written and oral examinations.

#### DISSERTATION COMMITTEE AND PROPOSAL

The next step for the student is to submit a proposal to the Dissertation Committee. The student must submit a proposal to the Dissertation Committee chair and the committee members. The student must submit a proposal to the Dissertation Committee chair and the committee members. The student must submit a proposal to the Dissertation Committee chair and the committee members.



three letters of recommendation, and undergraduate college transcripts. The applicant does not need to take the GRE exam.

## SECTION VI: AWARDS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### ASSISTANTSHIPS

Assistantships (merit awards) are awarded only to full-time Ph.D. students (taking 9 credit hours each semester), and provide an academic year stipend of \$8,000. Additionally, graduate assistants receive a tuition fellowship covering 21 hours per academic year. Graduate assistants are assigned relevant professional work for no more than 20 hours per week. Merit awards are awarded on an annual basis and can be extended to a total of five years as long as students are making good progress in the program.

### TEACHING SCHOLARS FELLOWSHIPS

Advanced Ph.D. students with teaching experience are eligible to compete for Teaching Scholars Fellowship. Participants in a special teaching fellowship program mentoring other graduate students. The award includes a stipend, a tuition scholarship, and health insurance.

### SCHMITT LEADERSHIP SCHOLARS FELLOWSHIPS

Students who have successfully passed their comprehensive exams and have had their dissertation proposals approved are eligible to compete for Schmitt Leadership Scholars Fellowships, both of which include a stipend, a tuition scholarship, and health insurance. This award requires participation in several events throughout the academic year. The award is not renewable.

Information on the Teaching and Schmitt Fellowships can be found at the following Graduate School web page: <http://www.luc.edu/gradschool/FundingGrad.Education> (click, Fellowship).

### DIVERSIFYING HIGHER EDUCATION FACULTY IN ILLINOIS FELLOWSHIPS

Students who have (1) belong to an underrepresented minority group, (2) obtained a high school or postsecondary degree in Illinois, and (3) have three years of residency in Illinois may apply. Recipients are required to work in higher education or education administration in Illinois upon graduation to avoid partial repayment. The fellowship provides for two years of an MA program or up to four years of a doctoral program.

### ATTOH GRADUATE DIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP

Incoming students from underrepresented minority groups may be nominated by the department for this award, which provides stipend and scholarship support and a \$500 annual professional development stipend. Awards are limited to U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or DACA recipients and are renewable for two years for MA students and five years for doctoral students.

Information on the DFI and Attoh Fellowships can be found at the following Graduate School webpage: <https://www.luc.edu/gradschool/diversityequityinclusion/resources/>

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE





