

# MA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLITICAL THEORY)

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## In Workflow

1. POLS Chair (jhcox@csus.edu)
2. SSIS College Committee Chair (tristan.josephson@csus.edu)
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11. Catalog Editor (torsetj@csus.edu)
12. Graduate Studies (jdsmall@csus.edu)

## Approval Path

1. Wed, 26 Aug 2020 19:22:03 GMT  
Jim Cox (jhcox): Approved for POLS Chair
2. Fri, 09 Oct 2020 17:23:15 GMT  
Tristan Josephson (tristan.josephson): Approved for SSIS College Committee Chair
3. Wed, 14 Oct 2020 17:23:52 GMT  
Marya Endriga (mendriga): Approved for SSIS Dean

## History

1. May 4, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Sep 26, 2018 by 212408496
3. Feb 7, 2019 by 212408496

Date Submitted: Wed, 26 Aug 2020 19:06:35 GMT

## Viewing: MA in Political Science (Political Theory)

**Last approved: Thu, 07 Feb 2019 20:23:07 GMT**

**Last edit: Wed, 26 Aug 2020 19:06:34 GMT**

Changes proposed by: Andrew Hertzoff (101011049)

### Academic Group: (College)

Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies

### Academic Organization: (Department)

Political Science

### Catalog Year Effective:

2021-2022 Catalog

### Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
Andrew Hertzoff	ahertzof@csus.edu	916 278-3495
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**Type of Program Proposal:**

Major

**Program Change Type:**

Substantive

**Title of the Program:**

MA in Political Science (Political Theory)

**Designation: (degree terminology)**

Master of Arts

**Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification:**

Add POLS 201 Writing in Political Science as a required class for all MA candidates. Serves as a required Writing Intensive course and a general overview of the discipline and its application in academic and professional fields.

**Objectives of the degree program:**

Disciplinary Knowledge

PLO 1 : Students will demonstrate knowledge of theories and debates in at least one subfield in our program. These fields include International Relations, Political Theory, and California and its Political Environment.

PLO 2: Students will also demonstrate knowledge of methods in Political Science.

Communication

PLO 3: Students will demonstrate an ability to effectively communicate concepts and arguments relating to Political Science.

Critical Thinking / Analysis

PLO 4: Students will demonstrate an ability to describe, integrate, and analyze major controversies in the field of Political Science.

Information Literacy

PLO 5: Students will be able to obtain and analyze relevant information relating to Political Science and politics.

Professionalism

PLO 6: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the ethics of research in Political Science.

Intercultural / Global Perspectives

PLO 7: Students will demonstrate an understanding of global political issues.

**University Learning Goals**

**Graduate (Masters) Learning Goals:**

Critical thinking/analysis

Communication

Information literacy

Disciplinary knowledge

Intercultural/Global perspectives

Professionalism

Research (optional)

**Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?**

No

**Please attach a Comprehensive Program Assessment Plan (required)**

Program-Assessment-Plan-Political Science[2717].docx

**Please attach a Curriculum Map Matrix (required)**

CurriculumMapMatrixTemplatePOLSCI[4][2716].docx

**Catalog Description:**

**Total units required for MA: 30**

**Program Description**

The Master of Arts program in Political Science is designed to orient the student toward critical investigation of problems in government and politics, and to improve the student's ability for independent study. This program is of special value to teachers of government in the public schools, to persons who contemplate public service or politics as a career, and to persons planning additional graduate study leading to the doctorate. The Political Science Department Graduate Coordinator acts as advisor to graduate students and should be consulted early in each student's program of graduate study.

**Note:** Because most graduate students work during the day, graduate courses are offered in the evening hours.

**Admission Requirements: Course prerequisites and other criteria for admission of students to the degree major program, and for their continuation in it.**

## Admission Requirements

Admission as a classified graduate student in Political Science requires:

- a baccalaureate degree;
- a minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 units attempted and 3.0 GPA in the major;
- a satisfactory score on the aptitude portion of the Graduate Record Examination (the Department expects the student to achieve at least the 50th percentile in the combined verbal/analytic score);
- three letters of recommendation from individuals who can evaluate the applicant's potential for successful graduate study;
- a written statement explaining the applicant's purposes and goals in pursuing a master's degree in Political Science; and
- an example of written work which the applicant considers evidence of his/her best scholarship regardless of the grade received.

Applicants who have deficiencies in Admission Requirements that can be removed by specified additional preparation may be admitted to the degree program with conditionally classified graduate status. Students with an undergraduate major in **any** subject may be accepted; no minimum number of units in Government/Political Science is required. However, if a student's preparation in the field of government or political science is not adequate preparation for graduate study, he/she may be asked to complete some additional coursework before becoming classified. Any deficiencies will be noted on a written response to the student's admission application. No upper division prerequisite courses required as a condition of classification can be counted towards the degree requirement.

### Admission Procedures

Applications are accepted as long as room for new students exists. All prospective graduate students, including Sacramento State graduates, must file the following with the Office of Graduate Studies, River Front Center 215, (916) 278-6740:

- an online application for admission;
- two sets of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, *other than Sacramento State*; and
- Graduate Record Examination scores, aptitude portion only.

For more admissions information and application deadlines please visit <http://www.csus.edu/gradstudies/>.

At the same time, each applicant should forward to the Graduate Coordinator in Political Science the following:

- the three letters of recommendation;
- the applicant's written statement of purposes and goals; and
- the example of the applicant's best written work.

Approximately six weeks after receipt of all items listed above, a decision regarding admission will be mailed to the applicant.

## Minimum Units and Grade Requirement for the Degree

Units required for the MA: 30

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0 with no grade below a 'C' (not a 'C-').

### Advancement to Candidacy

Each student must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy, indicating a proposed program of graduate study. This procedure should begin as soon as the classified graduate student has:

- removed any deficiencies in admission requirements;
- completed STAT 1 or its approved equivalent, a prerequisite to the program (does not count towards the degree) which must be taken before POLS 200;
- completed at least 12 units in the graduate program with a minimum 3.0 GPA;
- taken the Writing Placement for Graduate Students (WPG) or taken a Graduate Writing Intensive (GWI) course in their discipline within the first two semesters of coursework at California State University, Sacramento or secured approval for a WPG waiver; and
- submitted a thesis prospectus (if the student elects to do a thesis).

Advancement to Candidacy forms are available on the Office of Graduate Studies website. The student fills out the form after planning a degree program in consultation with a Political Science Department advisor. The completed form is then returned to the Office of Graduate Studies for approval.

As defined by policy <http://www.csus.edu/umannual/acadaff/fsm00010.htm>, a change in units constitutes a substantive change to the program. If your changes constitute a substantive change, please refer back to the 'Program Change Type' field above to ensure that 'Substantive' is selected.

**Program Requirements: (If new courses are being created as part of a new program, it will be useful to propose courses first.)**

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Units
<b>Required Courses (18 Units)</b>		
POLS 200	Method and Scope in Political Science	3

POLS 201 Writing in Political Science (new course proposal currently in workflow)	3
Select one course in Political Theory:	3
POLS 210 Political Theory	
POLS 219 Specialized Studies in Political Theory	
Select one course in International Relations or Comparative Government:	3
POLS 230 Theories of International Relations	
POLS 240 Comparative Government and Politics	
Select one course in California Government and its Political Environment:	3
POLS 250 Basic Issues of American Government	
POLS 270 Political Behavior and Political Processes: California and Beyond	
POLS 280 California Politics	
POLS 281 Comparative State Government	
Select one additional course in one of the three subfields	3
<b>Other Course Requirements (9 Units) <sup>1</sup></b>	
Select one concentration among the following three fields:	9
Political Theory	
California and its Political Environment	
International Relations/Comparative Government	
<b>Culminating Requirement (3 Units)</b>	
POLS 500 Culminating Experience <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>30</b>

<sup>1</sup> **Three** additional courses which may be completed from graduate seminars in the Department, from 200-level courses in related fields (6 units allowed with graduate coordinator's prior approval), from POLS 295 (3 units allowed), and/or from POLS 299 (6 units allowed). However, a maximum of 6 units of POLS 295 and/or POLS 299 may be applied to the MA. Of these twelve units, up to 6 units may be in 100-level courses within the Political Science Department, chosen from a pre-approved list compiled by the graduate coordinator. Up to six units of coursework from the graduate fellows programs (Assembly Fellow, Executive Fellow or Senate Associates Program) can be counted towards the degree.

<sup>2</sup> By the time of Advancement to Candidacy, students must enroll in POLS 500 and choose either of the following options:

- Plan A: Masters Thesis
- Plan B: Comprehensive Exam (Students will take one exam in their area of emphasis and demonstrate a general comprehensive in that area)

**Note:** Students are not permitted to enroll in the culminating experience until they have Advanced to Candidacy, obtained a sponsor for their thesis, and received the approval of the Graduate Coordinator.

**Note:** Upper division undergraduate courses (100-level courses) which may be used towards the MA program must be individually approved by the Graduate Coordinator and will involve an additional work component over-and-above what is required for undergraduate students. A list of approved 100-level courses will be available semester-by-semester.

### Concentration in Political Theory <sup>1</sup>

Code	Title	Units
POLS 210	Political Theory	3
POLS 213	Special Topics in American Political Thought	3
POLS 218	Special Topics in International Political Thought	3
POLS 219	Specialized Studies in Political Theory	3

<sup>1</sup> Students emphasizing Political Theory must take **three** of the four listed courses in political theory. It is recommended you take four courses.

**For graduate programs, the number of declared undergraduate major and the degree production over the preceding years of the corresponding baccalaureate program:**

Declared undergraduate majors (Fall 2020): 736

In the 2019-2020 year, 297 BA degrees were awarded in undergraduate programs in the Department of Political Science department

### Fiscal Impact to Change an Existing Program

**Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units:**

N/A

**Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes:**

N/A

**How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?**

Department will offer the same number of total graduate courses per semester with coverage by tenure-track faculty

**Will the proposed changes require additional resources?**

No

**What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed?**

N/A

**Estimate the cost and indicate how these resource needs will be accommodated:**

N/A

Key: 370