MASTER OF ARTS: POLITICAL SCIENCE

Student Learning Outcomes
Students graduating from this program will:

• Describe the fundamental theories and key concepts in American politics, comparative politics, and international relations.
• Synthesize and critique the literature in American politics, comparative politics, and international relations.
• Assess a research question by defining concepts, and collecting, measuring, and analyzing data.

Program Requirements
The Master of Arts degree in political science requires the successful completion of either of the following sets of requirements:

• Non-Thesis Option - 30 semester hours of approved coursework.
• Thesis Option - 24 semester hours of approved coursework and 6 hours of thesis (POL-SCI 5599). Students must gain permission to write a thesis. Permission to do so depends on the quality of the thesis proposal, the student's writing skills, and the ability of the Department to supervise the student in the subject area of the proposed thesis. An oral defense of the thesis is required.

Required Coursework
All M.A. candidates must successfully complete the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POL-SCI 5501</td>
<td>Seminar in American Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL-SCI 5513</td>
<td>Seminar in Comparative Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POL-SCI 5530</td>
<td>Seminar in International Relations</td>
<td>3</td>
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With permission of the principal M.A. advisor, students may transfer six credit hours of graduate work from other institutions, and may count no more than six credit hours of pre-approved graduate coursework in other UMKC departments.

Candidates also may take up to six credit hours of 300- or 400-level coursework in political science at UMKC and count them toward the M.A. degree. For a 300- or 400-level course to be accepted for graduate credit, a student must arrange with the instructor in advance to do supplementary work (such as additional reading, writing, and contact hours) and earn at least a B in the course. In addition, the student must not have previously taken an equivalent course at UMKC or elsewhere.

In either the thesis option or the non-thesis option, no more than six hours of readings, independent study or directed studies credit (other than thesis hours) may be counted toward the requirements for the M.A.

In all cases, students in the M.A. program must take at least 15 hours of graduate-level (5500-level) courses in political science at UMKC in fulfillment of their degree requirements. In addition, University of Missouri rules mandate that students in graduate programs must take at least 60% of their course work at the graduate level. Applied to the M.A. program in political science, this means that students must complete at least 18 graduate hours. Graduate courses taken at UMKC in political science and other programs, graduate transfer hours, and thesis hours all count toward fulfillment of this requirement.

Students should consult the MA program faculty advisor upon enrolling to develop a program of study, and meet regularly with the advisor to ensure timely progress toward completion of the degree while meeting their needs and interests in graduate study.

Other information about the Master of Arts in Political Science may be found on the department's website: http://cas.umkc.edu/politicalscience/degree-programs/graduate/master-of-arts-in-political-science/

JD/MA in Political Science Dual Degree Program
The Department of Political Science and the UMKC School of Law offer a dual degree program for the J.D. and M.A. Students must satisfy the admission and degree requirements for each school and program. Students fully admitted to the School of Law are exempt from the GRE requirement for admission to the M.A. program. For further information, contact the School of Law or the Department of Political Science. Additional information can be found on the department's website: http://cas.umkc.edu/politicalscience/degree-programs/graduate/jd-ma/.