

## Political Science

### Credential Program

See the social sciences credential adviser, Jared Stallones, in Social Sciences, Room 215 for advising and refer to *Secondary Teaching Credential* under Social Science Programs.

### Master of Arts Degree in International Relations

The program leading to a Master of Arts degree in International Relations is designed chiefly, but not exclusively, for students preparing for careers involved with global and international politics (e.g., political aspects of: international business, agriculture, health services, education, U.S. foreign service, etc.). The interdisciplinary nature of the program is derived from: (1) the five seminars in political science each of which requires the student to master concepts and materials from other disciplines closely related to global politics, and from (2) the 9-unit component of the program which students select from the approved list of extra-departmental courses related to their career objectives.

The program's flexibility, however, also accommodates the needs of those students who plan to use the master's degree for teaching careers or to pursue a Ph.D. in political science, or both. After completion of 15 of the required 30 units of the program, each student is requested to submit to the graduate adviser a written statement of career objectives so that remaining requirements may be tailored to the needs and desires of the individual.

### Requirements for the Master of Arts in International Relations

Admission to the program is open to all graduates of a duly accredited college or university who meet the requirements for admission (see *Admissions*). Students with background deficiencies in political science usually may remedy these through a few upper-division political science courses selected by the program adviser. Any prerequisites required by extra-departmental courses must also be fulfilled unless waived by the department or program concerned.

**Admission.** Applicants may qualify for admission to the program courses by achieving classified graduate standing. Classified standing requires:

1. An acceptable baccalaureate degree from an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association

2. Good standing at the last college attended
3. Submission to the university of transcripts of college work; scores from the Graduate Record Examination Aptitude Test (GRE); a written statement indicating why the applicant wishes to pursue the M.A. degree; and three letters of recommendation
4. Recommendation for admission by the Admissions Committee of the Graduate Program in International Relations. Candidates will be recommended on the basis of the promise they show for successfully completing the program. Candidates will be evaluated using a combination of:
  - a. grade point average (those with averages of less than 2.8 overall or 3.0 on the last 60 semester units attempted must have compensating strength in other areas)
  - b. aptitude for academic work (those with scores of less than 500 on either the verbal or quantitative part of the GRE must have compensating strength in other areas); applicants whose native language is not English must also achieve a minimum score of 570 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language
  - c. evaluation of the applicants written statement and letters of recommendation

All candidates for the Master of Arts degree in International Relations must complete the 15 units of graduate seminars specified as the core program, which consists of PL SI 200, 210, 220, 240, and 250. Nine units of approved electives from outside the department are also required along with an additional 6 units within the discipline of political science.

The additional 6 units of political science may be earned in one of the following four ways, depending on the interests and career objectives of the candidate:

1. For students declaring their intentions to pursue Ph.D. degrees, a master's thesis amounting to 6 units of credit is required.
2. Students declaring their intentions to teach political science at other than the university level may meet the 6-unit requirement by:
  - thesis or
  - project equivalent to 6 units of thesis.

3. Students declaring their intentions to pursue careers in fields other than political science may meet this 6-unit requirement by:
  - thesis or
  - approved project equivalent to 6 units of thesis or
  - 6 units of additional coursework in political science and written comprehensive examination.
4. Students declaring their intentions to pursue careers in the U.S. Foreign Service or other governmental agencies and international organizations may meet this 6-unit requirement by:
  - thesis or
  - approved project equivalent to 6 units of thesis or
  - 6 units of additional coursework in political science (courses must be in international relations and/or comparative politics) and written comprehensive examination.

A thesis or project must be primarily in the field of international relations and under the direction of the Political Science Department. One reader or assistant project adviser may be chosen from outside political science where the topic makes this appropriate.

Exclusive of the core courses and thesis or project, a maximum of 3 units may be gained through Independent Study. Basic competence in written translation from a foreign language into English is a prerequisite for the M.A. degree in International Relations. This language examination will be required before enrollment in the thesis or taking the written comprehensive examinations. Foreign students may offer English in fulfillment of this requirement.

**Specific Requirements for M.A. in International Relations.** One of the following plans is available to the student in consultation with the graduate adviser:

Plan A. Students declaring their intention to pursue a Ph.D.

	<i>Units</i>
Core Program .....	<b>15</b>
Thesis .....	<b>6</b>
Electives from approved list of extra-departmental courses .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>30</b>

Plan B. Students declaring their intention to teach political science at other than university level.