

Political Science, PhD

Academic Plans

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Political Science, PhD

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
72 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^{a, b, c}		
Graduate College program GPA of at least 3.40 is required. ^d		
Hours		0
First Year		
Fall		
POLI:5000	Introduction to Political Analysis	4
POLI:5001	Introductory Methodology ^a	4
Field Area course ^{e, f}		4
Hours		12
Spring		
POLI:5003	Intermediate Methodology	4
Field Area course ^{e, f}		4
Advanced political science course (prefix POLI, numbered 5000 or above)		4
Hours		12
Second Year		
Fall		
POLI:7003	Advanced Methodology	4
POLI:7270	Responsible Research in Political Science	1
Field Area course ^{e, f}		4
Advanced political science course (prefix POLI, numbered 5000 or above)		4
Hours		13
Spring		
Advanced political science course (prefix POLI, numbered 5000 or above)		4
Elective course ^{g, h}		4
Elective course ^{g, h}		4
Hours		12
Third Year		
Any Semester		
Qualifying Exams ⁱ		
Hours		0
Fall		
Elective course ^{g, h}		4

Elective course ^{g, h}		4
Hours		8
Spring		
Elective course ^{g, h}		4
Elective course ^{g, h}		4
Hours		8
Fourth Year		
Fall		
POLI:7910	PhD Dissertation ^{g, h}	3
Exam: Doctoral Comprehensive Exam ^j		
Hours		3
Spring		
POLI:7910	PhD Dissertation ^{g, h}	2
Hours		2
Fifth Year		
Fall		
POLI:7910	PhD Dissertation ^{g, h}	1
Hours		1
Spring		
POLI:7910	PhD Dissertation ^{g, h}	1
Exam: Doctoral Final Exam ^k		
Hours		1
Total Hours		72

a Students must earn a B or above in all courses except POLI:5000 and POLI:7270.

b Four fields of study are available: American politics, comparative politics, international relations, and methodology.

c Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.

d Graduate College program GPA is comprised of all courses that are approved degree requirements. If a student takes more than the minimum required number of semester hours to complete the degree, but all courses taken are eligible to count toward the degree, those courses will be included in the Graduate College program GPA.

e Complete courses for three of the following field areas: 1) American politics: POLI:5100 and POLI:7150 (taken twice for 4 s.h. each); 2) international relations: POLI:5500 and 8 s.h. from POLI:7502, POLI:7503, POLI:7550; 3) comparative politics: POLI:5400 and POLI:7450 (taken twice for 4 s.h. each); 4) methodology: POLI:7002 (taken twice for 4 s.h. each).

f Students may develop a self-defined field area, drawing upon coursework outside of political science with the permission of their advisor.

g Students may enroll in any course numbered 4000 or above, including additional political science courses (prefix POLI). From these, students are permitted a total maximum of 12 s.h. from POLI:7900, POLI:7901, and POLI:7910.

h Elective courses must bring the total credit for the PhD to a minimum of 72 s.h. Elective coursework is tailored to a student's background and career goals. It is selected in consultation with the student's advisor committee and can include research.

i Must be completed by the end of the third year; students choose three fields of study for qualifying examinations.

j Includes oral defense of the dissertation proposal and must be completed by the middle of the first semester of the fourth year.

k Dissertation defense.