**POLITICS (MA)**

Department Website (http://as.nyu.edu/politics/)

NYSED: 08420  HEGIS: 2207.00  CIP: 45.1001

**Program Description**

The Master of Arts in Politics is a terminal master's degree. The curriculum is designed to expose students to substantive knowledge and scholarly research in political science in order to help students develop critical thinking, analytical, research, and writing skills. Students who pursue a Master of Arts in Politics specialize in one of the following fields of study: political philosophy and theory, American politics, political economy, or comparative politics. Our MA program offers foundational training in the study of politics, and we are committed to providing our students with both practical skills and sound theoretical knowledge. Alumni of the program have embarked on successful professional careers in government and the public sector, nonprofits, and the private sector, while others have gone on to pursue a PhD in political science or other related fields.

**Dual Degree**

The Politics Department offers a dual degree with the NYU School of Law: (https://www.law.nyu.edu/jdadmissions/dualdegreeprograms/jdma/) Politics MA/Law JD.

See Politics (https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc/programs/politics.html) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

**Admissions**

All applicants to the Graduate School of Arts and Science (GSAS) are required to submit the general application requirements (https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc.html), which include:

- Academic Transcripts (https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/academic-transcripts.html)
- Test Scores (https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/test-scores.html) (if required)  
- Applicant Statements (https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/statements.html)
- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- Letters of Recommendation (https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/letters-of-recommendation.html), and
- A non-refundable application fee (https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc.html#fee).

See Politics (https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc/programs/politics.html) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

**Program Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major Requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL-GA 3995</td>
<td>Internship Seminar</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL-GA 4000</td>
<td>Master's Thesis Seminar</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Courses</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will develop:

1. A familiarity and knowledge of the existing political science literature in their subfield of study. This goal is met through the core course requirements as well as the required courses in the student's field of study. Assignments in core courses (whether examinations or literature reviews) are designed with this goal in mind. Finally, by the
time the student is at the thesis writing stage, they should be able to
demonstrate a sufficient command of the literature related to their
thesis topic.

2. The ability to undertake research projects/papers. This includes
identifying research questions, connecting their research to the
existing literature, and developing and evaluating their argument. This
skill is developed through research paper assignments in seminars
and then culminates in the MA thesis seminar. In their master's
thesis, graduates undertake and complete independent research
projects under the guidance of their thesis supervisor and the MA
thesis seminar instructor.

3. A set of analytical and methodological skills that they can apply
to political science research and beyond. Graduates will gain
quantitative methodological skills through the quantitative methods
course sequence. Graduates develop qualitative method and critical
analysis skills through seminars. Subfield seminars and the MA
Thesis Seminar heavily focus on the development of research design.
Graduates ultimately apply and demonstrate these skills by analyzing
data and/or qualitative information in their master's thesis.

4. The ability to write and communicate clearly. Writing skill are
developed throughout the student’s time in the program, through
both research paper and shorter written assignments. The MA thesis
seminar is writing intensive and emphasizes writing as a process;
sections of the thesis are due throughout the semester and extensive
feedback is given to the student. The expectation is that in their
thesis, the student demonstrates their ability to present their research
in a form suitable to the rules and conventions of the academic
community. Finally, oral communication skills are fostered through in-
class presentations.

5. Professional development through internships or research.
Undertaking an internship provides graduates with practical
experience in occupational fields related to political science.
Graduates interested in academic careers gain experience through
research assistantships or by undertaking an independent study
under the supervision of a faculty member.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy
pages (https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/).

Graduate School of Arts and Science Policies

Academic Policies for the Graduate School of Arts and Science can
be found on the Academic Policies page (https://bulletins.nyu.edu/
graduate/arts-science/academic-policies/).