

# POLITICAL SCIENCE (PSCI)

## Political Science Graduate Courses

### **PSCI 8000 SEMINAR IN THE RESEARCH METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the methods of data collection and analysis for political science research.

**Prerequisite(s):** Permission of graduate adviser

### **PSCI 8005 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the techniques that political scientists use to answer research questions with quantitative data, as well as issues of research design, hypothesis formation, and causation. The course emphasizes the methods used to collect, analyze, and extract information from data using statistical computer software. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3000)

**Prerequisite(s):** Permission of graduate advisor

### **PSCI 8015 URBAN POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the development, powers, forms of government, and functions of cities and their suburbs as well as the problems faced by elected officials, business and community leaders, and citizens in the urban setting. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3010)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100.

### **PSCI 8036 THE PRESIDENCY (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the development and modern application of presidential leadership through examination of presidential selection, presidential decision-making, the relationship of the presidency with other governmental and non-governmental actors, and the role of the presidency in making public policy. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4030)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100

### **PSCI 8040 SEMINAR IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to classic and contemporary scholarship on the principles, institutions, processes, and policies of national government in the United States with an emphasis on engaging in thoughtful discussion and individual research.

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

### **PSCI 8045 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF NEBRASKA (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the development, structures, functions and public policies of the government of the state of Nebraska.. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3040)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100.

### **PSCI 8046 CONGRESS AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the development of the Congress and modern application of the legislative process through examination of congressional elections, congressional leadership, congressional decision-making, legislative rules and procedures, the relationship of the Congress with other governmental and non-governmental actors, and the role of the Congress in making public policy. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4040)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100

### **PSCI 8055 STATE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the development, structures, functions and public policies of states. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3050)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100.

### **PSCI 8056 THE JUDICIAL PROCESS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the administration of law in federal and state courts with respect to the organization of the courts, judicial selection, judicial powers, judicial decision-making, judicial policy-making, the bar, and reform movements in the pursuit of justice. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4050)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100 or junior standing or permission of instructor.

### **PSCI 8100 SEMINAR IN POLITICAL ECONOMY (3 credits)**

A comprehensive study of theories of political economy, linkages between politics and economics, and major contemporary issues.

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

### **PSCI 8105 LGBT POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the political struggle for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) equal rights in the United States using a model of political empowerment, which may be applied for all minority or identity groups and social movements, generating operationalized measures of progress toward the loci of political power. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3100, WGST 3100, WGST 8105)

### **PSCI 8106 MONEY IN AMERICAN POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course surveys facts and scholarship about two types of money in American politics: money as a political resource and money as policy. As a political resource, money is critically important for candidates to win elections, for interest groups to exert influence on government, and for policy expertise from civil society to inform government policy. As policy itself, in history or in modern times money has lain at the heart of policy debates like the creation of a national bank, gold and silver as legal tender, and financial regulations, as well as perennial governmental processes like federal budgeting and appropriations and the selection of congressional party leaders. This course trains students to comprehend, analyze, critically evaluate, and build on key research on these topics. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4100).

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100 or equivalent is a strongly recommended prerequisite.

### **PSCI 8116 POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the role of human thought, emotion, and behavior in politics through examination of the psychological factors that motivate political elites and the mass public. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4110, PSYC 4110, PSYC 8116)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100 is recommended.

### **PSCI 8120 SEMINAR IN LEADERSHIP (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to classical and contemporary scholarship on leadership theory, research, and application. Students gain a foundation in models of leadership, assess their own leadership styles, and learn to integrate what they learn in corporate, governmental, non-profit, or community organizations. (Cross-listed with CACT 8510)

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

### **PSCI 8126 PUBLIC OPINION AND POLLING (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the origins, nature, measurement, and consequences of public opinion on policymaking. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4120)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100

### **PSCI 8135 WOMEN AND POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to women's political participation, including holding elective office, socialization, the feminist movement and its opposition, and public policies with particular impact on women. The focus is on contemporary perspectives on women in American political ideas and behavior. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3130, WGST 3130, WGST 8135)

### **PSCI 8136 BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION (3 credits)**

Brown v. Board of Education traces the educational history of African Americans from segregation to desegregation to re-segregation. This course will review the legal cases before and after the Supreme Court's Brown decision, their aftermath, and the effects on educational policies and practices. (Cross-listed with BLST 8716, BLST 4710, PSCI 4130).

**Prerequisite(s):** Graduate standing or instructor permission

**PSCI 8145 LATINO/-A POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the dynamism and growth of the role of Latinos, as a group of political actors, in the United States. This course provides students with an exposure to and understanding of various concepts and dimensions of this phenomenon, including historical and contemporary Latino political thought and the efforts to increase political empowerment (representation and participation) and influence through grassroots, social, and political movements. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3140, LLS 3140, LLS 8145)

**PSCI 8146 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CIVIL RIGHTS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the history, principles, and judicial interpretation of key constitutional provisions and federal statutes regarding civil rights in the United States. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4140)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100 or equivalent.

**PSCI 8150 SEMINAR IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the Constitution and the Supreme Court's exercise of judicial review in relation to governmental powers, civil rights, and civil liberties.

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**PSCI 8165 POLITICAL PARTIES (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the origin, development, structure, and functions of political parties in the United States as political organizations, coalitions of voters, and governing coalitions that seek to hold office and influence public policy. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3160)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100

**PSCI 8175 INTEREST GROUPS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the theories, formation, organization, and activities of interest groups and their impact on public policy, particularly through their role in campaigns and elections and lobbying. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3170)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100

**PSCI 8176 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FOUNDATIONS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the principles, design and operation of the American constitutional system with emphasis on analysis of the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention, and the Federalist Papers. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4170)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100 or junior standing or permission of instructor.

**PSCI 8185 CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the evolution and modern application of campaigns and elections in the United States through examination of campaign management and campaign strategy in congressional and presidential elections. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3180)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100

**PSCI 8186 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: THE FEDERAL SYSTEM (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to American constitutional law as it relates to issues of federalism, the relation of the nation and the states, and separation of powers, the relation of the three branches of the national government. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4180)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100

**PSCI 8196 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CIVIL LIBERTIES (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the philosophy, history, and development of the personal liberties guaranteed by the Constitution including freedom of speech, religion, assembly, petition, and the right of privacy, primarily through examination of Supreme Court decisions. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4190)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 1100

**PSCI 8200 SEMINAR IN FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to classic and contemporary scholarship on the formulation and implementation of foreign and national security policy in the United States with an emphasis on engaging in thoughtful discussion and individual research.

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**PSCI 8206 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF EAST ASIA (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the international politics of East Asia with an emphasis on the contemporary relations among major East Asian states (China, Japan, the Korean peninsula) and the United States. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4200)

**PSCI 8216 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST (3 credits)**

This course focuses on the international politics of the Middle East region, specifically looking at conditions for peace and causes of war. It examines how the international system, domestic politics, ideologies, and leaders influence international politics in the Middle East. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4210)

**PSCI 8220 SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGY (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to international leadership and strategy theory, research, and application. (Cross-listed with CACT 8540).

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**PSCI 8225 INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the history, principles, structures, and processes developed to organize and legitimize peaceful reconciliation of the differences of nation-states and to advance their mutual interests in the contemporary global political and economic system. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3220)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8235 GENDER AND GLOBAL POLITICS (3 credits)**

This seminar introduces students to gender politics in comparative and international politics. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3230, WGST 3230, WGST 8235)

**PSCI 8245 THE POLITICS AND PRACTICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to human rights issues across the globe and explores the theoretical foundations of human rights as well as human rights institutions and transitional justice. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3240)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8246 INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to different approaches to peace, their basic assumptions, and their application to current conflicts.. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4240)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8250 SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to classic and contemporary scholarship on the issues, theories, and methodological approaches associated with the study of the nation-state system, international law, international organizations, international security, and globalization.

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**PSCI 8255 GLOBAL SECURITY ISSUES (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to issues of national and international security that cross boundaries and threaten all countries including issues such as climate change, environmental deterioration, population and demographics, gender issues, disease and public health, the media, asymmetrical warfare, drugs/organized crime, and cyberthreats. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3250)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8256 INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the United States intelligence services, and their relation to broader U.S. national security policy. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4250)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8265 UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the analysis of foreign and defense policy processes in the United States, including the role of the President, Congress, Departments of State and Defense, the intelligence community, and other actors/factors affecting policy formulation and implementation. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3260)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210.

**PSCI 8266 INTERNATIONAL LAW (3 credits)**

The course introduces students to the general principles of international law, including the key actors, the creation and sources of international law, the interpretation of international law by courts and tribunals, and its enforcement. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4260)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8276 GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to issues of global environmental politics and policy, including the science behind issues such as climate change, how environmental policy is made at the national and international levels, and what role politics plays in determining environmental resource use. (Cross-listed with ENVN 4270, PSCI 4270)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8286 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF LATIN AMERICA (3 credits)**

Analysis of the role of Latin American states in the international political arena. Emphasis upon developing, applying and testing an explanatory theory of international politics through the study of the inter-American system: the regional, institutional and ideological environment, power relations, policies and contemporary problems. (This course fulfills the department's international politics requirement). (Cross-listed with PSCI 4280, LLS 4280, LLS 8286)

**PSCI 8296 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABILITY (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to different concepts of international development through the lens of sustainability. The course explores a broad range of activities related to international development, including international aid, trade, philanthropy, interventions in conflict, peacebuilding, public health, human rights, social justice, and the environment. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4290, CACT 8306)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2210 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8300 SEMINAR IN POLITICAL THEORY (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the history of political theory, from its origins in ancient Greece to its manifestations in contemporary thought. (Cross-listed with CACT 8200)

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**PSCI 8316 CLASSICAL POLITICAL THOUGHT (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to key works representative of premodern political thought. Authors examined may include Plato, Aristotle, Xenophon, Cicero, Augustine, and Aquinas. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4310).

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2310 or equivalent is recommended

**PSCI 8326 EARLY MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to key works of the 16th through mid-18th centuries. Authors examined may include Machiavelli, Hobbes, Hume, Smith and Montesquieu. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4320)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2310 or equivalent is recommended

**PSCI 8336 LATE MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to key texts of the mid-18th through 19th centuries. Authors to be examined may include Rousseau, Burke, Mill, Tocqueville, Marx, and Nietzsche. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4330).

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2310 or equivalent is recommended

**PSCI 8345 AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the ideals, ideologies, identities, and institutions of American political thought from the country's origins to the present. Topics to be covered may include the political thought of the early American settlers and of the founding generation, the debates over the creation and implementation of the Constitution, the 19th century arguments over slavery, the rise of progressivism, the New Deal and its critics, and contemporary American conservatism and liberalism. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3340)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2310 is recommended.

**PSCI 8346 CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THOUGHT (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to leading works of contemporary political thought, including Marx, Spencer, Dahl, Rawls, feminism, and rational choice. The theories, their interrelationships, the theorists, and the manifestations of these works will be discussed and analyzed. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4340)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2310 or equivalent is recommended

**PSCI 8356 DEMOCRACY (3 credits)**

A basic study of theory, practice and practitioners of political democracy, its roots, development, present application and problems and future. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4350)

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2500 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8366 AUTHORITARIAN REGIMES (3 credits)**

An analysis of various types of authoritarian regimes, their differences from democratic governments, and the causes of their establishment, maintenance, and failure. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4360).

**PSCI 8376 GENERALS AND POLITICIANS: CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to civil-military relations and military politics across the globe. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4370).

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2500 or equivalent is recommended.

**PSCI 8476 SOUTH AFRICA & THE SOCIO POLITICS OF APARTHEID (3 credits)**

South Africa and the Socio Politics of Apartheid examines the lived experiences of South African people under the Apartheid system, and their long struggle against European colonial oppression and racial segregation throughout the 20th century. Students will examine the laws, tools, and strategies that developed and sustained Apartheid, and the anti-Apartheid movements and international pressure that led to its repeal and South African democratic elections. (Cross-listed with BLST 8476, BLST 4470, PSCI 4470, SOC 8476, SOC 4470).

**Prerequisite(s):** Graduate standing

**PSCI 8500 SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to classic and contemporary scholarship on the issues, theories, and methodological approaches associated with the systematic and comparative study of nation-states and their political systems with an emphasis on engaging in thoughtful discussion and individual research.

**Prerequisite(s):** Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**PSCI 8505 EUROPEAN POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the political institutions, processes, and public policies of the states of Europe, including the European Union. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3500)

**PSCI 8506 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF GREAT BRITAIN (3 credits)**

A comprehensive study of contemporary British politics and government. Emphasis will be focused on the formal institutions and informal customs and practices of the British political system. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4500).

**PSCI 8526 POLITICS OF FRANCE (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the political heritage of France, contemporary political institutions and problems, and political and policy responses to these problems. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4520)

**PSCI 8556 POLITICAL VIOLENCE, INSURGENCY, AND TERRORISM (3 credits)**

This course is a survey on the types of violence used within a political context, focusing on its causes, forms and consequences. Specifically, this course details why and how violence occurs, and its impact on institutions and the people operating within that system. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4550).

**PSCI 8585 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF RUSSIA AND THE POST-SOVIET STATES (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the political cultures, institutions, processes, and public policies of Russia and the states of the former Soviet Union. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3580)

**PSCI 8626 ISLAM AND POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the interaction between religion and politics in the Muslim world, covering various political ideologies in the Muslim world and different experiences of Muslim-majority countries such as Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, Indonesia, and Egypt. It will also analyze mainstream and radical transnational Islamic movements. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4620)

**PSCI 8645 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF CHINA AND EAST ASIA (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the political cultures, institutions, processes, policies, and other characteristics of China and neighboring states, with reference to other major powers engaged in the region. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3640)

**PSCI 8646 ASIAN POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course provides students with a broad understanding of Asian Politics with a focus on Northeast Asia (Mainland China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, and Taiwan) and some emphasis on Southeast Asia (Singapore, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam). Students in this course will investigate these Asian societies and discuss their shared history as well as their common political themes, patterns, and connections. Students will explore state institutions, political parties, and state-society relations through the overarching themes of development, democracy, and nationalism. Specific themes include the economic rise of East Asian states, the emergence and development of democracy in the region, and the persistence of authoritarianism. By the end of the course, students will be able to describe, explain, and critically evaluate from a social science perspective the principal political features and processes of these Asian societies and develop their own research projects based on a topic discussed in the course. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4630).

**Prerequisite(s):** PSCI 2500 or junior standing or permission of the instructor.

**PSCI 8665 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF JAPAN AND EAST ASIA (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the political cultures, institutions, processes, policies and other characteristics of Japan and neighboring states, with reference to other major powers engaged in the region. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3660)

**PSCI 8685 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF LATIN AMERICA (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the political institutions, processes, and public policies of the states of Latin America. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3680, LLS 3680, LLS 8685)

**PSCI 8705 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to government and politics in the contemporary Middle East, including considerations of state formation, authoritarianism and democratization, state-society relations, religion, culture, gender, and economy. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3700)

**PSCI 8716 COMPARATIVE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (3 credits)**

Comparative International Development and Innovation will analyze the rise and fall of civilizations from a historical and theoretical perspective in a comparative manner. The course will address issues concerning political, social, economic, and environmental change in national, and international contexts. Among its major emphases are state institutions, economic growth, entrepreneurship, and the transformation of social structure and culture. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4710, ENTR 4710, ENTR 8716).

**PSCI 8776 POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY (3 credits)**

This course explores political sociology, focusing on political processes and power. Political sociologists investigate relationships between political institutions and various other institutions, including but not limited to the economy, education, media, and religion, and the impacts that these relationships have on society and the individuals that comprise the society. This course will explore the concepts, theories, and knowledge that comprise this field such as power, legitimacy, the state, networks, stratification, and collective action. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4770, SOC 4770, SOC 8776).

**Prerequisite(s):** Graduate standing

**PSCI 8826 POLITICS AND FILM (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the analysis of politics and film, focusing on how politics is portrayed in film and the politics of film making. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4820)

**PSCI 8900 READINGS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (1-3 credits)**

This course provides students an opportunity to study an advanced and specialized subject matter in the field of political science not covered in existing courses. The student must be capable of pursuing a highly independent course of study, which must be approved in consultation with the instructor in advance. This course may be repeated for different topics up to a maximum of six credit hours.

**Prerequisite(s):** Permission of graduate adviser

**PSCI 8910 POLITICAL SCIENCE INTERNSHIP (3 credits)**

This course offers students an opportunity to experience the resolution of public issues through direct involvement in career-oriented policy organizations. The host organization must be approved in advance in consultation with the internship coordinator. This course may be repeated for a maximum of six credit hours.

**Prerequisite(s):** Permission of instructor.

**PSCI 8920 SEMINAR IN SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (1-3 credits)**

This course introduces students to an advanced and specialized subject matter in the field of political science not covered in existing courses. This course may be repeated for different topics up to a maximum of twelve credit hours.

**Prerequisite(s):** Permission of graduate advisor.

**PSCI 8926 ADVANCED SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (1-3 credits)**

This course introduces students to an advanced and specialized subject matter in the field of political science not covered in existing courses. This course may be repeated for different topics up to a maximum of six credit hours. (Cross-listed with PSCI 4920)

**PSCI 8950 GRADUATE PROGRAM COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT (0 credits)**

This zero-credit-hour course is used to assess the knowledge and skills that are imparted by the Political Science Graduate Program to its students. Graduating students must enroll in the class and take the comprehensive assessment, which will test how students can synthesize knowledge in three subfields of Political Science. The students will get pass/fail grades for the course.

**Prerequisite(s):** At least 21 credit hours taken, at least 3 subfield seminars taken, and permission of Graduate Program Chair. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**PSCI 8980 RESEARCH IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (3 credits)**

This course provides students an opportunity to conduct research in a specialized subject matter in the field of political science. The student must be capable of pursuing a highly independent course of study, which must be approved in consultation with the instructor in advance. This course may be repeated for different topics up to a maximum of six credit hours.

**Prerequisite(s):** Permission of graduate advisor, not open to non-degree graduate students.

**PSCI 8990 THESIS (3-6 credits)**

A research project, written under the supervision of a graduate adviser in the Department of Political Science, in which the students establish their capacity to design, conduct and complete an original, independent, scholarly investigation of a high order. The research topic and the completed project must be approved by the student's departmental committee.

**Prerequisite(s):** Permission of graduate program chair. Not open to non-degree graduate students.