

GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE

UNO's Department of Political Science offers an 18 credit hour graduate certificate in government for educators and other professionals who already have an advanced degree in another field and wish to expand their knowledge in political science. This certificate is designed to help educators meet the new requirements set by the Higher Learning Commission to teach government-related courses in institutions of higher education or dual enrollment/concurrent enrollment courses in high schools. This certificate can be earned completely online. This certificate can be earned as a stand-alone program, or in conjunction with the MS in political science.

Program Related Information

Program Contact

casgradonline@unomaha.edu
402.554.4121

Program Website (<http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences/political-science/academics/graduate-programs/>)

Admissions

General Application Requirements and Admission Criteria (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/admission/>)

Application Deadlines

- Spring 2026: Review begins October 1
- Summer 2026: Review begins April 15
- Fall 2026: Review begins February 15

Note: Applications will be received and reviewed until the term begins.

Other Requirements

For current students in good standing in UNO's Master of Science in political science program:

- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Students must be accepted into this certificate program within their first 15 credit hours. Students starting this program after 15 credit hours may not be able to count previous completed coursework towards this certificate.

For students applying for this certificate as a stand-alone program:

- Baccalaureate degree or previous master's degree with a minimum of 3.0 GPA.
- Nine credit hours in political science-related courses is preferred. The selection committee looks for previous coursework and/or professional experience in American government, political theory, international relations, comparative politics, and social science (quantitative) methodology. Students without the noted background may be admitted on a provisional basis and be required to take prerequisite courses before starting graduate work. Students must earn a grade of B or above in each of these courses.
- **English Language Proficiency:** Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the United States, **OR** a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a predetermined country on the waiver list ([https://www.unomaha.edu/office-of-graduate-](https://www.unomaha.edu/office-of-graduate-studies/admissions/entrance-exams.php)

[studies/admissions/entrance-exams.php](https://www.unomaha.edu/office-of-graduate-studies/admissions/entrance-exams.php)), must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission.

- Internet-based TOEFL: 80 (with no sub-score under 15), IELTS: 6.5, PTE: 53, Duolingo: 110
- Passing with a minimum score does not guarantee admission into the program.
- **Statement of Purpose:** The personal statement should be 1-2 pages and address why you are seeking admission to this program, how your academic/professional experiences will contribute to your success in the program, and how the program will contribute to your future academic/professional ambitions.
- **Professional Resume**
- **Letters of Recommendation:** Two letters of recommendation from a former professor (preferred), supervisor, or other professional contact who can speak to one's academic potential in a graduate program. If applicants have recently graduated from UNO, it is expected that one of the letters will be from a UNO political science faculty member. It is preferred that applicants use their references' institutional (.edu) or professional email.
- GRE scores are not required for admission, however, candidates may include them.
- Any certificate must be added at least one semester prior to graduation.

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required: Two Subfield Seminars		6
PSCI 8040	SEMINAR IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS	
PSCI 8250	SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	
PSCI 8300	SEMINAR IN POLITICAL THEORY	
PSCI 8500	SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS	
Required: Four Electives (selected from remaining seminars or list below)		12
PSCI 8000	SEMINAR IN THE RESEARCH METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	
PSCI 8005	QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	
PSCI 8015	URBAN POLITICS	
PSCI 8106	MONEY IN AMERICAN POLITICS	
PSCI 8036	THE PRESIDENCY	
PSCI 8045	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF NEBRASKA	
PSCI 8046	CONGRESS AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS	
PSCI 8055	STATE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS	
PSCI 8056	THE JUDICIAL PROCESS	
PSCI 8100	SEMINAR IN POLITICAL ECONOMY	
PSCI 8105	LGBTQ+ POLITICS	
PSCI 8116	POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY	
PSCI 8120	SEMINAR IN LEADERSHIP	
PSCI 8126	PUBLIC OPINION AND POLLING	
PSCI 8135	WOMEN AND POLITICS	
PSCI 8145	LATINO/-A POLITICS	
PSCI 8146	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CIVIL RIGHTS	
PSCI 8150	SEMINAR IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW	
PSCI 8165	POLITICAL PARTIES	
PSCI 8175	INTEREST GROUPS	

PSCI 8176	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FOUNDATIONS
PSCI 8185	CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS
PSCI 8186	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: THE FEDERAL SYSTEM
PSCI 8196	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CIVIL LIBERTIES
PSCI 8200	SEMINAR IN FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY
PSCI 8206	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF EAST ASIA
PSCI 8216	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST
PSCI 8220	SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGY
PSCI 8225	DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM SOLVING
PSCI 8235	GENDER AND GLOBAL POLITICS
PSCI 8245	THE POLITICS AND PRACTICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS
PSCI 8246	INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION
PSCI 8255	GLOBAL SECURITY ISSUES
PSCI 8256	INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY
PSCI 8265	UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY
PSCI 8266	INTERNATIONAL LAW
PSCI 8276	GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS
PSCI 8286	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF LATIN AMERICA
PSCI 8296	INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABILITY
PSCI 8316	CLASSICAL POLITICAL THOUGHT
PSCI 8326	EARLY MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT
PSCI 8336	LATE MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT
PSCI 8345	AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT
PSCI 8346	CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THOUGHT
PSCI 8356	DEMOCRACY
PSCI 8366	AUTHORITARIAN REGIMES
PSCI 8376	GENERALS AND POLITICIANS: CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS
PSCI 8505	EUROPEAN POLITICS
PSCI 8506	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF GREAT BRITAIN
PSCI 8526	POLITICS OF FRANCE
PSCI 8556	POLITICAL VIOLENCE, INSURGENCY, AND TERRORISM
PSCI 8585	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF RUSSIA AND THE POST-SOVIET STATES
PSCI 8626	ISLAM AND POLITICS
PSCI 8645	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF CHINA AND EAST ASIA
PSCI 8646	ASIAN POLITICS
PSCI 8665	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF JAPAN AND EAST ASIA
PSCI 8685	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF LATIN AMERICA
PSCI 8705	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST
PSCI 8716	COMPARATIVE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION
PSCI 8776	POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

PSCI 8826	POLITICS AND FILM
PSCI 8920	SEMINAR IN SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
PSCI 8926	ADVANCED SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Total Credits **18**

Note: Students who took undergraduate courses at UNO cannot take any dual-listed courses at the graduate level they took as an undergraduate. Students cannot have more than two courses ending in 8–5 counted towards their program. Other courses may be approved at the discretion of the graduate chair.

Courses may not be offered every term. Some courses may only be offered online or on-campus.

Exit Requirements

Students must earn a 3.0 GPA or above to graduate with no more than one course graded as a C+ or below.

Academic Progress Policy

Students may be dismissed from the program after:

1. Not enrolling and/or successfully completing a course after two consecutive years.
2. Earning two or more W grades.
3. Earning more than one grade of C+ or below, even if GPA is a 3.0 or above.

Under extenuating circumstances, students may apply for a waiver through the GPC. If a waiver is granted, students may be updated to the most recent catalog year.

Students who do not successfully complete a course during their admit term, or allowed deferment time, will be dismissed from the program.

Students may reapply to the program if dismissed for inactivity.