

Bachelor of Art in Political Science to Master of Art in Political Science Fast Track

About This Program

Bachelor of Art in Political Science to Master of Art in Political Science Fast Track allows outstanding senior undergraduate Political Science (POLS) students to take up to three graduate courses (5000-level courses) to replace up to nine credit hours of advanced POLS undergraduate courses (3000- or 4000-level courses); the credit hours earned in these graduate courses can then be applied to both the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and to the Master of Arts (MA) in Political Science. Those who successfully complete the program will be automatically admitted to the Graduate School. They will not be required to take any qualifying test, complete an application for admission to the Graduate School, arrange for letters of reference, or pay an application fee. This enables students to complete their MA degree in a shorter time period.

ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

For detailed information about the programs associated with this Fast Track, refer to their individual degree pages.

Political Science BA

Political Science MA

Admissions Criteria

Undergraduate students apply to the Department of Political Science by completing a fast track application form available from the POLS academic advisor. Students will be notified by the Department of their acceptance into the fast track program.

UNCONDITIONAL ADMISSION

1. The student must be within 30 hours of completing a BA in Political Science at UTA.
2. The student must have completed 30 hours of coursework at UTA.
3. The student must have an overall GPA of at least 3.3 in all coursework at all schools and an overall GPA of at least 3.3 in all coursework completed at UTA.
4. The student must have an overall GPA of at least 3.5 in all POLS courses completed at UTA.
5. The student must have completed 12 credit hours of the following specific undergraduate POLS courses, with a GPA of at least 3.5 in these courses. (Courses from other universities or colleges that cover the same or similar material cannot replace any of these specific UTA courses.)
 - a. POLS 2312 STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
 - b. POLS 3310 RESEARCH METHODS AND POLITICAL ANALYSIS
 - c. POLS 3302, POLS 3303, POLS 3304, POLS 3305, POLS 3307, POLS 3311, POLS 3312, or POLS 3333
 - d. A 4000-level POLS course from any area of concentration (excluding internships and conference or directed readings courses).

PROVISIONAL ADMISSION

A student may gain provisional admission if, by the semester in which application is made, he or she has already completed 3 out of the 4 required POLS courses (listed above) with a GPA of at least 3.5 in them, with the 4th course to be completed in the semester of application. All other requirements above must be met. Provisional admission will be changed to unconditional admission upon satisfactory completion of remaining requirements. Students failing to meet all requirements at the end of their semester of application will be removed from the fast track program. Any credits earned prior to removal from the program will be applied to the undergraduate degree only. None of the other benefits of the fast track program will apply. Provisionally admitted students who have been removed from the program may subsequently apply to graduate programs via the normal application process, paying all fees and meeting all relevant admission criteria. Admission will not be automatic as it will be subject to the normal admission practices of the Department of Political Science and of the Office of Graduate Studies.

DENIAL

Students who do not meet the requirements set out shall be denied admission to the fast track program. They may still apply to the graduate program through the regular application process. Admission will not be automatic as it will be subject to the normal admission practices of the Department of Political Science and of the Office of Graduate Studies.

ADMISSION TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

To progress to the MA students must complete at least two graduate courses prior to receiving their bachelor's degree, and receive at least a B in each course.

Curriculum

BA Foundations

Complete general core and Political Science foundations per catalog.

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Political Science BA Specialization

The following general education requirements must be completed as preparation for work in the major:

POLS 2311	GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES	
POLS 2312	STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ¹	
POLS 3310	RESEARCH METHODS AND POLITICAL ANALYSIS ¹	3

Select one course from each of following areas:

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Area 1: American Politics

POLS 3306	LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE	
POLS 3307	COMPARATIVE STATE AND LOCAL POLITICS ¹	
POLS 3311	PUBLIC OPINION ¹	
POLS 4316	WOMEN IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS ¹	
POLS 4317	ETHNIC GROUP POLITICS IN THE UNITED STATES ¹	
POLS 4318	POLITICS OF AFRICAN AMERICANS ¹	
POLS 4319	POLITICS OF MEXICAN AMERICANS ¹	
POLS 4320	CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, CIVIL SOCIETY, AND COMMUNITY ¹	
POLS 4326	ELECTION STRATEGY AND CAMPAIGN MANAGEMENT ¹	
POLS 4330	THE U.S. PRESIDENCY ¹	
POLS 4333	PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP IN DOMESTIC POLICY MAKING ¹	

Area II: International Studies

POLS 3301	INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL ISSUES	
POLS 3302	INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ¹	
POLS 3304	INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS	
POLS 3317	MEXICAN POLITICS AND U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONS	
POLS 3319	CAUSES OF WAR	
POLS 3328	INTRODUCTION TO MIDDLE EAST POLITICS	
POLS 3378	LATINO POLITICS	
POLS 3379	LATINO POLITICAL THOUGHT	
POLS 4312	INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ¹	
POLS 4336	CONTEMPORARY UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY ¹	
POLS 4359	CITIZENSHIP IN THE AMERICAS ¹	
POLS 4360	THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ¹	
POLS 4361	WAR, PEACE, AND POLITICS IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION ¹	
POLS 4362	RUSSIA AND THE POST-SOVIET STATES TODAY ¹	
POLS 4365	RUSSIAN FOREIGN POLICY ¹	
POLS 4369	THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT ¹	
POLS 4370	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST ¹	
POLS 4371	THE POLITICS AND FOREIGN POLICY OF ISRAEL ¹	
POLS 4372	VIOLENCE AND SCARCITY IN WORLD POLITICS ¹	
POLS 4373	POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW ¹	
POLS 4375	SCIENCE FICTION AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ¹	

Area III: Law & Courts

POLS 3330	JUDICIAL POLITICS	
POLS 3331	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN CIVIL LIBERTIES	
POLS 3333	JURISPRUDENCE AND CONSTITUTIONAL CONFLICT ¹	
POLS 3336	STATE COURTS	
POLS 4331	U.S. CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: GOVERNMENT POWER ¹	
POLS 4332	U.S. CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS ¹	

Area IV: Public Policy

POLS 3303	BUREAUCRATIC POLITICS ¹	
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POLS 3305	GOVERNMENT IN URBAN AMERICA ¹
POLS 3309	HEALTH POLITICS, POLICY, AND ADVOCACY
POLS 3312	INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS ¹
POLS 4303	PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND THE POLITICAL PROCESS ¹
POLS 4321	POLICY ENTREPRENEURSHIP ¹
POLS 4340	FEDERAL SOCIAL POLICY ¹
POLS 4350	HEALTH POLITICS AND POLICY ¹

Optional Concentration

Select electives sufficient to complete 120 hours (with at least 36 at the 3000/4000 level). Complete at least 36 hours in POLS (with at least 6 hours at the 3000/4000 level, and at least 6 hours at the 5000 level). Up to three 5000 level courses may count for both the BA and the MA. 42

Political Science MA

Complete Thesis or Non-Thesis MA requirements per catalog. 24-30

Total Hours 144-150

¹ This course satisfies foundation requirement for admission to fast track. See admission criteria.

Program Completion

GOOD STANDING

In order to remain in the Fast Track program, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Students must maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.0 and must earn grades of B or better in all Fast Track-approved graduate courses that will be used to satisfy undergraduate and graduate degree requirements of the Fast Track program.
2. Students must enroll in at least 2 graduate courses prior to receiving their bachelor's degree, and receive at least a B in each course.

Students who, at any time, do not meet these requirements will be obliged to leave the fast track program. Any graduate credits earned will be applied only to the undergraduate degree, and none of the other benefits of participation in the fast track program will apply. They may apply to the MA program as a regular student after receiving their BA.

For more information about the Political Science BA to MA Fast Track, please contact the undergraduate advisor in the Department of Political Science.

Advising Resources

The faculty and staff of Political Science are here to help you however we can. Please consult your adviser on a regular basis regarding your degree plan. It's okay to ask for help, so reach out if you need information about your academic work or other campus resources. GO MAVS!

Location:

University Hall 449

Email:

polsinfo@uta.edu

Phone:

817-272-9194

Web:

Political Science Advising (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/political-science/undergraduate/admissions-and-advising/>)