

POLITICAL SCIENCE (THESIS): DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (M.A.) (45 CREDITS)

Offered by: Political Science (Faculty of Arts)

Degree: Master of Arts

Program credit weight: 45

Program Description

The Development Studies Option (DSO) is a cross#disciplinary M.A. program offered within existing M.A. programs in the Departments of Geography, History, Political Science, Anthropology, Economics, and Sociology. It provides students with broad training in development studies. Students take an interdisciplinary seminar (INTD 657 Development Studies Seminar.) that is co#taught by professors from two different disciplines and a variety of graduate-level courses on international development issues. They write an M.A. thesis on a topic relating to development studies, approved by the DSO Coordinating Committee.

Note: For information about Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 course offerings, please check back on May 8, 2025. Until then, the "Terms offered" field will appear blank for most courses while the class schedule is being finalized.

Thesis Courses (24 credits)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
POLI 697	M.A. Thesis Proposal.	12
POLI 698	Master's Thesis Submission.	12

Required Courses (6 credits)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
INTD 657	Development Studies Seminar.	3
POLI 694	Research Preparation 1.	3

Complementary Courses (15 credits)

9-12 credits of 500- or 600-level courses. A course list is available from the Department.

3-6 credits, either of the following 3-credit options or, preferably, both:

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
POLI 612	Research Methods in Political Science.	3

or a more suitable more advanced 500- or 600- level course or one of the following courses:

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
POLI 561	Seminar: Political Theory.	3
POLI 613	Selected Themes: Political Theory.	3
POLI 614	Proseminar in Political Theory.	3
POLI 616	Modern Political Analysis.	3
POLI 617	Problems in Political Theory.	3

Of the 15 credits of complementary courses, up to 3 credits at the 500 level or higher may be taken from outside the Department.

Candidates for the M.A. degree follow an individual program approved by the Department.