

# POLITICAL SCIENCE (THESIS) (M.A.) (45 CREDITS)

**Offered by:** Political Science (Faculty of Arts)

**Degree:** Master of Arts

**Program credit weight:** 45

## Program Description

The M.A. program is generally recognized as among the most demanding and rewarding in Canada. Students take courses in two or more sub-fields of political science. The focus of the program is to provide training in the discipline of political science and prepare students for further graduate work. Students need to demonstrate an ability to design and execute with competence a major piece of research, comparable to a full-length article in a scholarly journal.

**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)

A thesis is required to demonstrate proficiency in research. It is normally about 100 pages long and is subject to evaluation by one examiner internal to the Department and one examiner external to the Department.

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

## Required Course (3 credits)

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Course	Title	Credits
POLI 694	Research Preparation 1.	3

## Complementary Courses (18 credits)

- 12-15 credits of 500- or 600-level courses as determined by the student's area of study.
- 3-6 credits, either of the following 3-credit options or, preferably, both:
  - or a more suitable advanced course at the 500 level or higher.

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

- or, one of the following courses:

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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 18 credits of complementary courses, up to 3 credits at the 500 level or higher may be outside the Department.

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