Political Science

In the College of Arts and Letters

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Faculty

Madhavi M. McCall, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science,
Chair of Department

Mikhail A. Alexseev, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science

David V. Carruthers, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science

Lei Guang, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science

Dipak K. Gupta, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Political Science,
Emeritus

Edward V. Heck, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Emeritus

Ronald F. King, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science

Farid Abdel-Nour, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

Brian E. Adams, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

Jonathan Graubart, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

C. Richard Hofstetter, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science,
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Carole Kennedy, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

Ahmet T. Kuru, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

Kristen Hill Maher, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

Emanuelle G. Saccarelli, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

Ronnee D. Schreiber, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

Latha Varadarajan, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

(Graduate Adviser)

Dipak K. Gupta, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science

Adam Branch, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science

Ahmet T. Kuru, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

General Information

The political science graduate program emphasizes global diversity
and the interdependence between American society and politics and
other nations through its curriculum in the areas of international
relations, comparative politics, American politics, and political theory
and methods. The department offers courses that contribute to career
development in various professions including teaching, research, and
consulting. Students from nations throughout the world, students in
other disciplines and majors, and students from diverse social and
cultural backgrounds enroll in political science graduate courses.

This graduate program provides core courses and programs of
study for three distinctive groups of students: (1) Academic career
students intending to enter Ph.D. programs and to pursue careers as
professors of political science, as approved by the department. The grade point
average required for admission is 3.0 for the last 60 semester units of
undergraduate work, a 3.0 grade point average in upper division
courses in political science, and a 3.0 grade point average for all work
taken in political science. An applicant who is deficient in any of these
requirements may be considered for conditional admission. The
application deadline for the fall semester is March 1.

Students applying for admission should electronically submit the
university application available at http://www.csumentor.edu along with the $55 application fee.

All applicants must submit admissions materials separately to SDSU Graduate Admissions and to the Department of Political Science.

Graduate Admissions

The following materials should be submitted as a complete
package directly to:
Graduate Admissions
Enrollment Services
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-7416

(1) Official transcripts (in sealed envelopes) from all
postsecondary institutions attended;
Note:
- Students who attended SDSU need only submit tran-
scripts for work completed since last attendance.
- Students with international coursework must submit both
the official transcript and proof of degree. If documents are
in a language other than English, they must be
accompanied by a certified English translation.

(2) GRE scores (http://www.ets.org, SDSU institution code 4682):
Department of Political Science

The following materials should be submitted by March 1 for the fall semester to:

Department of Political Science
(Attention: Graduate Adviser)
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-4427

(1) Two letters of reference;
(2) Personal statement.

Advancement to Candidacy

All students must satisfy the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as stated in Part Four of this bulletin. In addition, students must complete the Empirical Theory and Methods sequence by fulfilling one of the following options:

1. POL S 515 and 516.
2. POL S 515. Pass an examination in statistics at the graduate level.
3. POL S 515. Pass a course in statistics equivalent to POL S 516.
4. POL S 515. Pass an examination in a language other than one's native language and other than English at a level approved by the department.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

(Major Code: 22071) (SIMS Code: 115501)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master's degree as described in Part Four of this bulletin, the student will complete a program of study of 30 units of upper division and graduate courses as approved by the departmental graduate adviser. The program must include a minimum of 24 units in political science selected from courses listed below as acceptable on master's degree programs. Political Science 515 and 516 and at least 18 units in 600- and 700-numbered courses, including Political Science 601, are required. Students who have previously completed Political Science 515 or 516, or the equivalent as determined by the graduate adviser, will enroll in such additional courses in political science as approved by the graduate adviser.

Specific requirements for students selecting the specialization in public policy (SIMS Code: 115560) are:

1. POL S 515 Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)
2. POL S 601 Seminar in the Scope and Method of Political Science (3)
3. POL S 603 Seminar in Theory and Method of Public Policy Analysis (3)
4. POL S 796 Internship in Public Policy (3)
5. Two graduate seminars chosen from among the following:
   - POL S 620 Seminar in American National Government (3)
   - POL S 625 Seminar in Political Behavior (3)
   - POL S 630 Seminar in Politics (3)
   - POL S 635 Seminar in Politics of Public Policy (3)
6. Plan A: Political Science 799A, Thesis, and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer courses or courses outside the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.

Specific requirements for students selecting the general political science specialization (SIMS Code: 115501) are:

1. POL S 515 Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)
2. POL S 516 Statistics for Political Scientists (3), or its equivalent.
3. POL S 601 Seminar in the Scope and Methods of Political Science (3)
4. Four graduate seminars chosen from among the following:
   - POL S 603 Seminar in Theory and Method of Public Policy Analysis (3)
   - POL S 605 Seminar in Political Theory (3)
   - POL S 620 Seminar in American National Government (3)
   - POL S 625 Seminar in Political Behavior (3)
   - POL S 630 Seminar in Politics (3)
   - POL S 635 Seminar in Politics of Public Policy (3)
5. Plan A: Political Science 799A, Thesis, and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer courses or courses outside the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.

Specific requirements for students selecting the international relations/comparative politics specialization (SIMS Code: 115551) are:

1. POL S 515 Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)
2. POL S 651 Seminar in Migration and Border Politics (3)
3. POL S 655 Seminar in General Comparative Political Systems (3)
4. POL S 658 Seminar in Post-Communist Political Systems (3)
5. POL S 661 Seminar in the Political Systems of the Developing Nations (3)
6. POL S 667 Seminar in Latin American Political Systems (3)
7. POL S 675 Seminar in International Relations (3)
8. POL S 676 Seminar in International Political Economy (3)
9. POL S 696 Seminar in Selected Topics in Political Science (3), with permission of the graduate adviser.

4. Plan A: Political Science 799A, Thesis, and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer courses or courses outside the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.

OR

5. Plan B: Comprehensive written and oral examination. One additional seminar chosen from those listed in item 5 above and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer units or courses outside of the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.

Specific requirements for students selecting the specialization in public policy (SIMS Code: 115560) are:

1. POL S 515 Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)
2. POL S 516 Statistics for Political Scientists (3), or its equivalent.
3. POL S 601 Seminar in the Scope and Method of Political Science (3)
4. POL S 603 Seminar in Theory and Method of Public Policy Analysis (3)
5. POL S 796 Internship in Public Policy (3)

Specific requirements for students selecting the general political science specialization (SIMS Code: 115501) are:

1. POL S 515 Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)
2. POL S 516 Statistics for Political Scientists (3), or its equivalent.
3. POL S 601 Seminar in the Scope and Methods of Political Science (3)
4. Four graduate seminars chosen from among the following:
   - POL S 603 Seminar in Theory and Method of Public Policy Analysis (3)
   - POL S 605 Seminar in Political Theory (3)
   - POL S 620 Seminar in American National Government (3)
   - POL S 625 Seminar in Political Behavior (3)
   - POL S 630 Seminar in Politics (3)
   - POL S 635 Seminar in Politics of Public Policy (3)
5. Plan A: Political Science 799A, Thesis, and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer courses or courses outside the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.

Specific requirements for students selecting the international relations/comparative politics specialization (SIMS Code: 115551) are:

1. POL S 515 Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)
2. POL S 651 Seminar in Migration and Border Politics (3)
3. POL S 655 Seminar in General Comparative Political Systems (3)
4. POL S 658 Seminar in Post-Communist Political Systems (3)
5. POL S 661 Seminar in the Political Systems of the Developing Nations (3)
6. POL S 667 Seminar in Latin American Political Systems (3)
7. POL S 675 Seminar in International Relations (3)
8. POL S 676 Seminar in International Political Economy (3)
9. POL S 696 Seminar in Selected Topics in Political Science (3), with permission of the graduate adviser.

4. Plan A: Political Science 799A, Thesis, and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer courses or courses outside the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.

OR

5. Plan B: Comprehensive written and oral examination. One additional seminar chosen from those listed in item 5 above and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer units or courses outside of the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.
Political Science

2. POL S 601 Seminar in the Scope and Method of Political Science (3)
3. POL S 655 Seminar in General Comparative Political Systems (3)
4. POL S 675 Seminar in International Relations (3)
5. Two graduate seminars chosen from among the following:
   POL S 651 Seminar in Migration and Border Politics (3)
   POL S 658 Seminar in Post-Communist Political Systems (3)
   POL S 661 Seminar in the Political Systems of the Developing Nations (3)
   POL S 667 Seminar in Latin American Political Systems (3)
   POL S 676 Seminar in International Political Economy (3)
   POL S 696 Seminar in Selected Topics in Political Science (3), with permission of the graduate adviser.

6. Plan A: Political Science 799A, Thesis, and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer courses or courses outside the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.

7. Plan B: Comprehensive written and oral examination. One additional seminar chosen from those listed in item 5 above and six additional units of coursework at the 500-level or above that may include transfer units or courses outside the department, with permission of the graduate adviser.

Courses Acceptable on Master's Degree Program in Political Science (POL S)

Field I: Political Theory

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

POL S 507. Marx and Marxism (3)
Prerequisite: Three units in political theory.
Marxism as an important tradition in political theory and with its history as a political movement. Theoretical and political debates in development of Marxism.

POL S 510. Contemporary Political Thought (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 301B or 302 or 305 or 406.
Contemporary political questions and theoretical attempts to address them. Debates about justice, citizenship, and multiculturalism; as well as controversies over nature and scope of politics.

Field II: American Politics

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

POL S 530. Political Parties (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or 320.
The political party as a part of the process of government; party organization and activities; nominating and campaign methods; theories and functions of the party system; party responsibility. The functioning of political parties in the American political system. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 531. Interest Groups and Political Movements (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 102.
Pressure group activity, lobbies, mass movements; factors which explain origins and motivations of group behavior; votes, money, information, protest as political resources; theories of pluralism, power elite and mass society; class and ethnic politics. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

POL S 533. Democracy in America (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or 320.
Quality and quantity of democratic experience in contemporary America. Construction of American regime, arrangement of power within that regime, expansion and contraction of citizen participation, and principles that Americans generally espouse.

POL S 535. Gender and Politics (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 101 and 102.
How gender matters in understanding key political science concepts including democracy, public/private participation and representation. Women involved in political institutions as elected officials, activists, and policy makers from U.S. and comparative perspectives.

POL S 541. Special Problems in Public Law (3)
Prerequisite: Three units selected from Political Science 346, 347A, 347B, or 348.
Issues of contemporary relevance in field of public law, examining legal, moral, and political implications.

Field III: Comparative Politics

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

POL S 555. Comparative Political Systems (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 103.
An examination of selected political and governmental systems for purposes of comparative study and analysis to determine similarities, differences and general patterns and universals among political systems.

POL S 560. Comparative Public Policy (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 103 or 335.
How political, social, and economic forces shape public policy in selected countries. Focus on policies related to minority and immigrant populations, environment, or poverty.

POL S 562. Religion and Politics in Comparative Perspective (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 103.
Various types of relationships between contemporary states and religious institutions. Concepts and theories on religion and politics. Cases of state-religion interaction.

POL S 564. Political Ecology of Latin America (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Ecology and politics of Latin America and the Caribbean. Environmental politics with related policy challenges of economic growth, equity, and social justice.

POL S 565. Nations and Nationalism (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
How political, social, and economic forces shape public policy in selected countries. Focus on policies related to minority and immigrant populations, environment, or poverty.

Field IV: International Politics

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

POL S 575. International Relations of the Pacific Rim (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 362 or 375.
Dynamics of conflict and cooperation among nations of the Pacific Rim. Stress on political and economics factors that shape interstate relations.

POL S 577. Principles of International Law (3)
The function of law in the international community. The historical development of the ideas and rules of international law and their place in the modern diplomatic and legal structure.
Elective Courses

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

POL S 515. Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 201.
Does not fulfill undergraduate capstone major requirement. Modeling and design of formal research projects. Theoretical underpinnings and logic of social science analysis. Issues in measurement and scaling. Introduction to testing, including elementary statistical analysis of behavioral data.

POL S 516. Statistics for Political Scientists (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 201.
Does not fulfill undergraduate capstone major requirement. Basic concepts, theories, and methods that are utilized by political and other social scientists using statistics and microcomputers. Intermediate level introduction to statistical methods in political science.

POL S 596. Topics in Political Science (1-3)
Prerequisites: Upper division or graduate standing. Selected topics in political science. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 596, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master’s degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

GRADUATE COURSES

POL S 601. Seminar in the Scope and Methods of Political Science (3)
The discipline of political science and systematic training in its methodology. Required of all applicants for advanced degrees in political science.

POL S 603. Seminar in Theory and Method of Public Policy Analysis (3)
Prerequisites: Political Science 601 and admission to the specialization in public policy. Theoretical approaches used to explain and evaluate public policy performance. Focus on quantitative and qualitative methods of appraising the validity of theories.

POL S 605. Seminar in Public Policy (3)
Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

POL S 620. Seminar in American National Government (3)
Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

POL S 625. Seminar in Political Behavior (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 601.
Political science literature focusing on major areas of political behavior including study of political attitudes, voting, and political communication.

POL S 630. Seminar in Politics (3)
Prerequisites: Six upper division units in political science, three units of which must come from political science courses 320 through 335; 422 through 436; 531. Process by which individuals and groups make demands upon political decision makers; emphasis on the styles, structures, channels and consequences of interest articulation. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

POL S 635. Seminar in Politics of Public Policy (3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
How processes and outcomes of public policy relate to quality of democracy and distribution of power and resources. Debates about policy within frame of theories of justice. Focus on policy issues such as welfare, environment, housing, privatization, or others.

POL S 651. Seminar in Migration and Border Politics (3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Migration and border politics within a global perspective. Transformations of sovereignty, territory, identity, and rights in an era of mass migration. May focus on U.S.-Mexican border region or other migration contexts internationally. May be repeated with different content.

POL S 655. Seminar in General Comparative Political Systems (3)
Prerequisites: Political Science 555, and three additional upper division units in political science.
The field of comparative politics, including historical developments, major theoretical approaches, substantive concerns, uses and limitations of the comparative method, methodological innovations in study of foreign political systems.

POL S 658. Seminar in Post-Communist Political Systems (3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Nature of Communist political systems and processes of transition to post-communist forms of government. Possibilities for development of democratic institutions examined theoretically and empirically.

POL S 661. Seminar in the Political Systems of the Developing Nations (3)
Prerequisite: Six upper division units in political science.
Theoretical analysis of political development, modernization and industrialization in the emerging nations. Search for valid generalizations about the non-Western political process. Political trends and developments in the developing nations.

POL S 667. Seminar in Latin American Political Systems (3)
Prerequisite: Political Science 555 or 566.
Political developments in selected Latin American nations. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

POL S 675. Seminar in International Relations (3)
Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

POL S 676. Seminar in International Political Economy (3)
Prerequisite: Six upper division political science units in international relations.
Major theoretical approaches applied to various interstate issues of the world economy.

POL S 696. Seminar in Selected Topics in Political Science (3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Selected topics in political science. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master’s degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

POL S 795. Problem Analysis (3)

POL S 796. Internship in Public Policy (3)
Prerequisites: Political Science 601, 603, and eighteen units on official program for M.A. degree in political science with a specialization in public policy.
A 160-hour internship approved by instructor in public or private agency. Grade based on instructor’s evaluation of supervisor’s report, student consultation with instructor reviewing experience and required readings, and extensive paper relating internship experience to theories of public policy.

POL S 797. Research in Political Science (3) Cr/NC/RP
Prerequisite: Consent of the department chair.
Research in political theory, political parties, comparative government, international relations, public law or American government.

POL S 798. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC/RP
Prerequisite: Consent of staff; to be arranged with department chair and instructor.
Individual study. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

POL S 799A. Thesis (3) Cr/NC/RP
Prerequisites: An officially appointed thesis committee and advancement to candidacy.
Preparation of a project or thesis for the master’s degree.

POL S 799B. Thesis Extension (0) Cr/NC
Prerequisite: Prior registration in Thesis 799A with an assigned grade symbol of RP.
Registration required in any semester or term following assignment of RP in Course 799A in which the student expects to use the facilities and resources of the university; also student must be registered in the course when the completed thesis is granted final approval.

POL S 799C. Comprehensive Examination Extension (0) Cr/NC
Prerequisite: Completion or concurrent enrollment in degree program courses.
Registration required of students whose only requirement is completion of the comprehensive examination for the master’s degree. Registration in 799C limited to two semesters.