



Political Science PhD Curriculum by Program Year

Year One	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
POLS 63800: Proseminar	Methods Course*
POLS 60833: Intro. to Quantitative Methods*	1 st Field Course
1 st Field Course	1 st Field or 2 nd Field course
1 st Field or 2 nd Field course	1 st Field or 2 nd Field course
<i>*Not required for First Field Political Theory students. Political Theory students take additional elective courses in place of * course to meet 42 credit requirement.</i>	
Summer: Study language or take a language exam; read for exams; preliminary/exploratory dissertation research	
Year Two	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
1 st Field or 2 nd Field course	1 st Field or 2 nd Field course
1 st Field or 2 nd Field course	Elective Course
Elective Course	Elective Course
<i>Attend the TA Orientation hosted by the Kaneb Center in August</i>	
<i>Perform assistantship each semester (teaching assistant, research assistant, journal editor/intern, etc)</i>	
<i>Start developing your first article for publication or search for a major grant</i>	
<i>Pass Comprehensive Exam by the end of 2nd year</i>	
<i>Declare advisor in the Spring of 2nd year</i>	
Summer: Summer methods workshop if needed; preliminary/exploratory dissertation research	

Year Three	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Finish any outstanding course requirements	POLS 98699: Research and Dissertation
POLS 98699: Research and Dissertation	
<i>Perform assistantship each semester (teaching assistant, research assistant, journal editor/intern, etc)</i>	
<i>Submit first article for publication or major grant (before proposal defense)</i>	
Summer: Dissertation proposal defense (before end of summer semester going into 4th year); conduct dissertation research	
Year Four	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
POLS 98699: Research and Dissertation OR POLS 98700: Non-Resident R&D	POLS 98699: Research and Dissertation OR POLS 98700: Non-Resident R&D
	<i>Optional:</i> POLS 98701: The Academic Career
<i>Perform assistantship each semester (teaching assistant, research assistant, journal editor/intern, etc)</i>	
<i>Independently teach a course</i>	
<i>Submit second article for publication or major grant (before dissertation defense)</i>	
Year Five	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
POLS 98699: Research and Dissertation OR POLS 98700: Non-Resident R&D	POLS 98699: Research and Dissertation OR POLS 98700: Non-Resident R&D
<i>Defend and submit dissertation by Graduate School deadlines</i>	

Deadlines assume transferring less than 12 credits. If 12-24 credits are approved and transferred, students should refer to the Graduate Student Manual for relevant deadlines.

PSPS Students should refer to the PSPS Curriculum Guide found at kroc.nd.edu