DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.)
POLITICAL SCIENCE – 2022-23

In addition to departmental requirements, candidates for graduate degrees must fulfill University requirements described in the “Graduate Education” section of the UCSB General Catalog.

The Ph.D. program a minimum of 68.0 units of coursework as follows:
- 4 Courses from the Primary field
- 4 Courses from the Secondary field
- 5 Methods Courses
- 4 Breadth Courses

The Ph.D. program requires preparation in either two written examination fields. The primary field, which requires a comprehensive exam, must come from the following list: political theory (PT), American politics (AP), international relations (IR), and comparative politics (CP). The second field, which may be completed by exam or field paper, may be in any of those fields or in either of the two exclusively secondary fields, environmental politics (EP) and politics of identity (IP). Alternatively, the requirement for a second field may be fulfilled through a self-defined field paper.

Time-to-degree: 4 years to advance to candidacy, 7 years to complete the degree.

Primary Field Requirements

- Complete four graduate seminars in the field.
- Student should not have any “no grade”, “incompletes” or “lapse incompletes”.
- Courses need to be taken for a letter grade and passed with a B or better

Primary Field: _____________________ 4 seminars

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Written exam for Primary Field

- Consult core reading lists when available.
- Consult previous Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam questions or Field Papers.
- During the period of preparation for the exam, students may enroll in POL S 597, MA/Ph.D. Examination Preparation.

Written exam completed: ___________________

Secondary Field Requirements

- Complete four graduate seminars in the field.
- Student should not have any “no grade”, “incompletes” or “lapse incompletes”.

...
- Courses need to be taken for a letter grade and passed with a B or better

Secondary Field: ____________________ 4 seminars

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The secondary field can be completed with a written exam or a field paper.

1. **Written Exam Option:**
   - Consult core reading lists when available.
   - Consult previous Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam questions or Field Papers.
   - During the period of preparation for the exam, students may enroll in POL S 597, MA/Ph.D. Examination Preparation.

   Written exam completed: ___________________

2. **Field Paper Option:**

   The purpose of the field paper is to demonstrate knowledge of a secondary field. A field paper in either a standing field (AP, CP, IR, PT, EP, IP) or in a self-defined field must be approved by the chair of the field paper committee, the second member of the field paper committee, the student’s advisor in the Primary Field, and the Graduate Advisor. A field paper proposal must include:

   - The topic of the paper and a one page abstract.
   - In a standing field, a list of the four graduate courses that will count towards the field paper.
   - In a self-defined field, a statement explaining how four graduate seminars fit together into an intellectually coherent field in political science.
   - In both a standing field and in a self-defined field, none of the four graduate seminars for the field paper may be used for the Primary Field or Breadth Requirement.
   - In both a standing field and in a self-defined field, the field paper will be due no later than the beginning of the student’s seventh quarter.

   Field Paper completed: ___________________

**Breadth Requirement**

In addition to the primary field and second field, the student must complete a breadth requirement that involves courses outside those fields. Two options are available:

- **Distributed Breadth Option:** Four courses from any field other than the Primary and Secondary Fields, with at least one core course in each of two fields. The 2 non-core courses may be outside the Department, and by advance petition may be language courses.

- **Concentrated Breadth Option:** Four courses in one field outside the Primary and Secondary Fields.

   Breadth Option: ____________________ 4 courses (16 units)

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Research Methods Requirement 5 courses (20.0 units)

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**Oral Qualifying Exam** (Advancement to Candidacy)

The student is ready for the oral qualifying exam on the dissertation prospectus upon having fulfilled the requirements for the written comprehensive exams (or a combination of exam and field paper) in the primary field and second fields, the breadth requirement, the core quantitative methods requirement (POL S 205, 206, 207), or three elective courses for students whose primary field is PT, and the design of research sequence (POL S 210 & 211).

The next step is submission of a complete draft of the dissertation prospectus approved by the committee chair.

During the exam study period, students may enroll in POL S 597, M.A./Ph.D. Examination Preparation. Students advance to candidacy upon passing the oral qualifying exam defending the prospectus.

Qualifying Exam Committee

Chair: ____________________________
Member: __________________________
Member: __________________________

**Dissertation Completion**

The dissertation must be completed within seven years of starting the program. It is essential that doctoral students maintain regular contact with members of their dissertation committee. The committee advises students on both conducting research and preparing the Ph.D. dissertation.

While working on the dissertation, students may enroll in POL S 599, Ph.D. Dissertation Preparation.

An oral defense of the dissertation is not required.

Dissertation Committee

Chair: ____________________________
Member: __________________________
Member: __________________________
Member: __________________________ (Optional)