

MASTER OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE, POWER, JUSTICE, AND DEMOCRACY SPECIALIZATION

The Master of Arts in Political Science, Power, Justice, and Democracy Specialization analyzes contemporary theories of justice, democracy, development, and inequality from both domestic and international perspectives using interdisciplinary evidence, diverse perspectives, and multiple approaches. Specialists in this field develop methodological skills for analyzing and interpreting contemporary social and political problems around such topics as development, ecology, gender, race, sexuality, social movements, and peacebuilding for private or public organizations.

For more information on the Master of Arts in Political Science please email cla_polisci@mail.colostate.edu.

[Students interested in graduate work should refer to the Graduate and Professional Bulletin \(http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/\)](http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/)

Learning Objectives

Students who choose the Power, Justice, and Democracy Specialization will:

Theorize & Diagnose:

1. Analyze contemporary theories of power, justice, and democracy from both domestic and international perspectives using interdisciplinary evidence, diverse perspectives, and multiple approaches.
2. Develop methodological skills for analyzing and interpreting contemporary political struggles.
3. Compare different forms of knowledge about issues related to power, justice, and democracy.

Contextualize & Clarify:

1. Identify the political and institutional origins, and assess the social changes affecting the development, of rights and freedoms.
2. Examine the interplay of different socio-political actors, institutions, and interests in the contestations over power, justice, and democracy.
3. Examine the role of formal and informal institutions, norms, and traditions in sustaining or dismantling inequalities.
4. Recognize the local, regional, national, or international political and institutional contexts that frame individual and collective action and the distribution of economic and political power.

Research & Evaluate:

1. Design and implement research projects that measure, contextualize, interpret, communicate or explicate issues of justice, power, or democracy.
2. Demonstrate abilities to identify suitable methods to engage with different types of individuals, organizations, institutions, and communities of knowledge in the study of power, inequality, or rights.
3. Critique normative approaches and empirical measures of power, democracy, inequality, or human rights.

Praxis/practice:

1. Engage with different political actors, stakeholders, or communities of knowledge in the identification of relevant research questions, empirical observations, or practical solutions to problems of injustice or inequality.
2. Support governmental and non-governmental actors, civil society organizations, or community groups in the identification of problems, and the design of policy or political solutions to issues of injustice or inequality.

Plan A Effective Fall 2021

Code	Title	Credits
Core Course:		
POLS 672	Power, Justice, and Democracy	3
Methods Courses:		
Select one course from the following:		
POLS 620	Approaches to the Study of Politics	
POLS 624	Scope and Methods of Political Science	
Select one course from the following:		
POLS 621	Qualitative Methods in Political Science	
POLS 625	Quantitative Methods of Political Research I	
POLS 693	Advanced Topics—Research Methods ¹	
POLS Electives ²		6
Track Specialization Electives (see list below) ³		6
Interdisciplinary Elective (see list below)		3
POLS 699	Thesis	6
Program Total Credits:		30

Track Specialization Electives (Select a minimum of 6 credits)²

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 405	Race and Ethnicity in U.S. Politics	3
POLS 413	U.S. Civil Rights and Liberties	3
POLS 420	History of Political Thought	3
POLS 421	Contemporary Political Theories	3
POLS 422	Democratic Theory	3
POLS 442	Environmental Politics in Developing World	3
POLS 443	Comparative Social Movements	3
POLS 462	Globalization, Sustainability, and Justice	3
POLS 463	Urban Policy and Management	3
POLS 501	Citizen Politics in the U.S.	3
POLS 509	Gender and the Law	3
POLS 520	Theories of Political Action	3
POLS 532	Governance of the World Political Economy	3
POLS 541	Political Economy of Change and Development	3
POLS 542	Democracy and Democratization	3
POLS 729	Political Theory and the Environment	3
POLS 739	International Environmental Politics	3

Interdisciplinary Electives (Select 3 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 447	Gender Equity in Development	3
ANTH 505	Resilience, Well-Being, and Social Justice	3
E 502	The Politics of Literacy	3
EDHE 661	Inclusive University	3
EDOD 667	Power-Politics-Influence in Organizations	3
EDUC 715	Critical Theory, Educational Equity & Praxis	3
ETST 365	Global Environmental Justice Movements	3
SOC 322	Environmental Justice	3
SOC 324	Food Justice	3
SOC 362	Social Change	3
SOC 462	Applied Social Change	3
SOC 564	Environmental Justice	3
SOC 660	Theories of Development and Social Change	3
SPCM 357	Film and Social Change	3

A minimum of 30 credits are required to complete this program.

¹ If POLS 693 is chosen, the credits needed to fulfill the requirement can be completed by taking additional credits in POLS 693 or by taking POLS 621 or POLS 625.

² Students may select any graduate-level POLS course, or an undergraduate 300-400-level course with advisor's permission.

³ Students may select one undergraduate 300-400-level course with advisor's permission.

**Plan B
Effective Fall 2021**

Code	Title	Credits
Core Course:		
POLS 672	Power, Justice, and Democracy	3
Methods Courses:		
Select one course from the following:		3
POLS 620	Approaches to the Study of Politics	
POLS 624	Scope and Methods of Political Science	
Select one course from the following:		3
POLS 621	Qualitative Methods in Political Science	
POLS 625	Quantitative Methods of Political Research	
POLS 693	Advanced Topics—Research Methods ¹	
POLS Electives ²		6
Track Specialization Electives (see list below) ³		6
Interdisciplinary Elective (see list below)		3
Additional POLS Electives ^{3,4}		12
Program Total Credits:		36

Track Specialization Electives (Select a minimum of 6 credits)²

Code	Title	Credits
POLS 405	Race and Ethnicity in U.S. Politics	3
POLS 413	U.S. Civil Rights and Liberties	3

POLS 420	History of Political Thought	3
POLS 421	Contemporary Political Theories	3
POLS 422	Democratic Theory	3
POLS 442	Environmental Politics in Developing World	3
POLS 443	Comparative Social Movements	3
POLS 462	Globalization, Sustainability, and Justice	3
POLS 463	Urban Policy and Management	3
POLS 501	Citizen Politics in the U.S.	3
POLS 509	Gender and the Law	3
POLS 520	Theories of Political Action	3
POLS 532	Governance of the World Political Economy	3
POLS 541	Political Economy of Change and Development	3
POLS 542	Democracy and Democratization	3
POLS 729	Political Theory and the Environment	3
POLS 739	International Environmental Politics	3

Interdisciplinary Electives (Select 3 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 447	Gender Equity in Development	3
ANTH 505	Resilience, Well-Being, and Social Justice	3
E 502	The Politics of Literacy	3
EDHE 661	Inclusive University	3
EDOD 667	Power-Politics-Influence in Organizations	3
EDUC 715	Critical Theory, Educational Equity & Praxis	3
ETST 365	Global Environmental Justice Movements	3
SOC 322	Environmental Justice	3
SOC 324	Food Justice	3
SOC 362	Social Change	3
SOC 462	Applied Social Change	3
SOC 564	Environmental Justice	3
SOC 660	Theories of Development and Social Change	3
SPCM 357	Film and Social Change	3

A minimum of 36 credits are required to complete this program.

¹ If POLS 693 is chosen, the credits needed to fulfill the requirement can be completed by taking additional credits in POLS 693 or by taking POLS 621 or POLS 625.

² Students may select any graduate-level POLS course, or an undergraduate 300-400-level course with advisor's permission.

³ Graduate students may use 300- or 400-level undergraduate courses approved by their committee in the Program of Study (GS Form 6) up to the limits set by the Graduate School. Graduate students may apply remedial undergraduate courses they were required to take as a condition of their admission toward the degree if such undergraduate credits are consistent with the requirements of the degree AND approved by their committee in the Program of Study (GS Form 6).

⁴ Outside courses optional and/or as recommended by the Student's Graduate Committee.

Requirements for All Graduate Degrees

For more information, please visit Requirements for All Graduate Degrees (<http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/>)

graduate-study/procedures-requirements-all-degrees/) in the Graduate and Professional Bulletin (<http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/>).

Summary of Procedures for the Master's and Doctoral Degrees

NOTE: Each semester the Graduate School publishes a schedule of deadlines. Deadlines are available on the Graduate School website (<https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/deadline-dates/>). Students should consult this schedule whenever they approach important steps in their careers.

Forms (<https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/forms/>) are available online.

Step	Due Date
1. Application for admission (online)	Six months before first registration
2. Diagnostic examination when required	Before first registration
3. Appointment of advisor	Before first registration
4. Selection of graduate committee	Before the time of fourth regular semester registration
5. Filing of program of study (GS Form 6)	Before the time of fourth regular semester registration
6. Preliminary examination (Ph.D. and PD)	Two terms prior to final examination and PD)
7. Report of preliminary examination (GS Form 16) - (Ph.D. and PD)	Within two working days after results are known
8. Changes in committee (GS Form 9A)	When change is made
9. Application for Graduation (GS Form 25)	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School Website
9a. Reapplication for Graduation (online)	Failure to graduate requires Reapplication for Graduation (online) for the next time term for which you are applying
10. Submit thesis or dissertation to committee	At least two weeks prior to the examination or at the discretion of the graduate committee
11. Final examination	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School Website
12. Report of final examination (GS Form 24)	Within two working days after results are known; refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website
13. Submit a signed Thesis/Dissertation Submission Form (GS Form 30) to the Graduate School and Submit the Survey of Earned Doctorates (Ph.D. only) prior to submitting the electronic thesis/dissertation	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website.
14. Submit the thesis/dissertation electronically	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website
15. Graduation	Ceremony information is available from the Graduate School website