

CONCENTRATION AREA: POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Master of Liberal Arts Political Science program objective is to provide student learners with the tools and training necessary to produce literary scholarship of professional quality and to participate in the ongoing academic discussions of issues in the field of Political Science.

CURRICULUM

Core Courses

ILA 500 Introduction to Liberal Arts

The Liberal Arts are academic disciplines which study the human condition. This course introduces students to the academic disciplines that promote a sense of humanity. During this quarter, we will study music, art, oral communications, literature, and philosophy by critically thinking about moral values, myths, aesthetics, and liberty; all of this within historical frameworks. It is designed to reawaken our sense of wonder and curiosity about the meaning of life. It shows how the various arts and sciences intersect, influence and are influenced by cultural and historical circumstances.

ILA 501 Research in the Liberal Arts

The purpose of this course is an introduction to empirical research and a variety of research approaches common to the field liberal arts. Upon completing the course, participants will be able to locate, understand, evaluate, and interpret qualitative as well as quantitative educational research and use these skills to identify possible Thesis or Project topics.

Required Courses

GT 501: Advanced Constitutional Law

The purpose of this course provides a deeper systematic discussion to some landmark constitutional civil liberties cases relevant to American legal system and process. This course is designed to sharpen the student's knowledge and skills concerning American constitutional law and civil liberties.

GT 502: Advanced Judicial Process and Policy

This course is an advanced study of the organizational structure and workloads of the federal and state judicial systems. Emphasis is placed on the nature of crime and on the various procedures prior to a criminal trial: the arrest, the appearance before a magistrate, the grand jury process, the arraignment, and the possibility of plea bargain. We will also explore the policy impact made by federal and state courts and analyze the process by which judicial rulings are implemented and some are not.

GT 503: Advanced Public Administration Analysis

This is an advanced study that explores public administration as a major component in public policy making in America. This course will familiarize students with the roles and functions of public agencies in governance and our daily lives. This course will deal with current issues and cases in order to explore the theoretical and practical roles of governmental agencies. Moreover, this course will explore the increasing role of non-profit organizations and the trend toward privatization in terms of their effects on the delivery of governmental services. In specific, this course will pay attention to the duties, responsibilities and challenges that face individual administrators, particularly in the public sectors/agencies. This course also introduces students to the concepts and case studies of public administration and the theories of bureaucracy. It may help and prepare students with the desire to pursue a doctoral program in the upper-level courses such as Public Organizations, and Public Policy Analysis.

GT 504 Advanced International Relations Studies

This course is an introduction to the international relations and the major problems confronting the peoples and nations of the world. In addition, the course will focus on the major factors which influence the formation of foreign policy and the nature of international organizations.

GT 505 Advance International Law Research

This course is an introduction to the basic foundations and scope of international law. This course is designed to give the student a solid foundation in the manner in which international law is created, interpreted, and enforced. Further, the inter-relationship of international law with respective national laws are explored. Several chapters are devoted to discrete subject matter areas, such as human rights, environment, international crimes, and the laws of war.

GT 506 Advanced Public Policy

This advanced course in public policy is designed to provide students with concrete tools for not only understanding public policy in general, but for analyzing specific public policies. It focuses on what policies governments pursue, why governments pursue the policies they do, and what the consequences of these policies are. Very contemporary in perspective, it introduces eight analytical models currently used by political scientists to describe and explain political life and then, using these various analytical models—singly and in combination—explores specific public policies in a variety of key domestic policy areas. This course is also designed to enhance graduate's students understanding of Public Policy as an integral part of the role of governmental in both private public sectors, i.e., what government do, why they do what they do, who get what, why, and how.

Capstone

ILA 599 Capstone Project

Students will complete a variety of projects and written assignments designed to encourage self-analysis of career and intellectual interests in the student's chosen career field based on the concentration area that was selected by the learner.