



Master of Arts in Political Science Non-Thesis Program

Rationale

Politics in the era of globalization continues to stimulate our curiosity and challenge the mind. Recent and current events in the world have been integrated into the political discourse in the Philippines. In this context, students, administrators, government officials and political leaders are making greater intellectual demands on political scientists. Political scientists themselves feel the need to broaden their horizons in order to make sense of the exciting but sometimes frustrating activity that is politics. The **M.A. Political Science Non-thesis Program** aims to provide tertiary level faculty in the social sciences with the essential theoretical and methodological background to the study and teaching of politics.

Objectives

The M.A. in Political science aims to

- Equip students with analytical tools that will enable them to teach political science at the secondary & tertiary levels;
- Carry out research in their area of interest; and
- Prepare them for further graduate education in the Philippines or abroad.

Core Subjects

Philosophy of the Social Sciences (POS521M) (3 units)

Survey of positivist, structural and postmodern philosophies of the social sciences.

Contemporary Problems in Philippine Government & Politics (POS522M) (3 units)

Seminar course that focuses on critical and continuing issues and problems in governance and politics in the Philippines.

Theories of Comparative Politics (3 units)

(POS523M) Introduction to major theories of comparative politics.

Theories of International Relations (POS524M) (3 units)

Survey of methodological approaches (e.g., traditional, scientific or behavioral, structural) and analytical approaches to substantive issues (e.g. conflict and cooperation, foreign policy analysis, decision-making).

1st Term

Major Subjects

Participatory Local Governance (POS525M) (3 units)

A study which focuses on the role of citizen participation and empowerment in making development work, as well as an inquiry into the problems and opportunities arising from the implementation of participatory approaches to development.

Research Methods (POS526M) (3 units)

Introduction to the major methodological approaches in the social sciences and corresponding research methods.

2nd Term

Major Subjects

Government & Politics of East & Southeast Asia (POS527M) (3 units)

Introduction to the Government and Politics of Japan, China, South Korea, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Laos, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam.

International Relations of East & Southeast Asia (POS528M) (3 units)

International Relations of the East Asian region (China, Taiwan, Japan, North and South Korea, and the 10 ASEAN member states), including their relations with extra-regional powers (United States, Russia, and Europe).



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3rd Term

Major Subjects

Theories of the State (POS529M) (3 units)

Survey of liberal, class-based, patrimonial and contemporary theories of the state.

E-Governance (POS50M) (3 units)

This course involves the study of how new information and communication technologies contribute to social and political change. It is concerned with an assessment of how digital tools are utilized to foster effectiveness, transparency, accountability, participation and predictability in governance.

Seminar Course (3 units)

Seminar in Contemporary Political Issues (POS51M) This seminar course aims to integrate and apply the areas and approaches to political science by focusing on contemporary national and international issues.

Cognate (3 units) Choose from other Graduate Courses

Written Comprehensive Exam (WCE)