

Plan of Study Instructions

In completing this form, tab from one gray shaded area to the next one. If you need to go back, then Shift + Tab will move to the previous area. If you are handwriting the form, print it out (the gray areas will not show).

For the plan of study to be complete, you must list all past, current and future courses that you plan to take. The MA in Political Science requires a minimum of 7 courses and 9 credit hours of Research and Thesis. PSCI 5214, 5115, and 5116 have been typed on the form because they are required classes.

Once you have your committee set, you will need to indicate the committee position that each faculty member has agreed to serve. Generally, a committee consists of a chair and two members.

Virginia Tech political science faculty members may be found at <http://www.psci.vt.edu/people/faculty.html> . If you click on their names, you may read their bios to see who might match your thesis research ideas and approach them about being on your committee. It is NOT appropriate to send a general e-mail to all faculty members requesting that they serve on your committee. If requesting a committee member by e-mail, please introduce yourself, briefly outline your thesis ideas, and offer a timeline for completing the thesis. In putting together a committee, it may be helpful to begin by tentatively selecting a chair. That person can assist you in narrowing your thesis ideas and in suggesting other committee members. The formal chair must be a tenured or tenure-track member of the political science department. Another faculty may serve as co-chair with the tenured or tenure-track professor who chairs the committee. All three members must have Ph.D.s, and two of the three must be VT faculty in political science.

If you have problems with assembling a committee or need advice, please contact the Director of Graduate Studies, Professor Scott Nelson (scnelson@vt.edu) or by phone: 540-231-5629. Once again, introduce yourself and give him an overview of your thesis ideas and a timeline for completion. It will help him to have this background information before returning your e-mail or phone call.

Plan of Study

Political Science Department

Name: _____ Student Number: _____

Research and Thesis:

Term	Year	Subject	Course No.	Cr. Hours	Course Title	Option (P/F or A-F)
		PSCI	5994	3	Research and Thesis	EQ

Term: Enter Fall, Spr, SumI, or SumII

5000 Level Courses:

Term	Year	Subject	Course No.	Cr. Hours	Course Title	Option (P/F or A-F)
		PSCI	5214	3	Contemporary Political Theory	A-F
		PSCI	5115	3	Research Methods I	A-F
		PSCI	5116	3	Research Methods II	A-F

4000 Level Courses:

Term	Year	Subject	Course No.	Cr. Hours	Course Title	Option (P/F or A-F)

Supporting Courses:

Term	Year	Subject	Course No.	Cr. Hours	Course Title	Option (P/F or A-F)

Transfer Credits (Optional): See page 2 Not Applicable

Committee Member	Signature:	Committee Position	Department:

Committee Position: Indicate if Chair or Member

Student Signature

Date

Department Chair or Director of Graduate Studies

Date

Transfer Credits (Optional):

Term	Year	Subject	College Code*	Course No.	Cr. Hours	Course Title

*Graduate Coordinator will look up College Code for Transfer Credit