INTRODUCTION

The Department of Government is pleased to provide you with the 2014-2015 Undergraduate Handbook. In this handbook you will find specific information on the requirements for satisfying a major and minor in Government and answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about the major and minor. You will also find outlines of the four subfields within the Department, the Political Economy major, the Government Honors Program, and the BA/MA Program.

The Department of Government hopes this handbook will be a valuable source of information as you pursue your course of studies as a Government major or minor at Georgetown University. If you should have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the one of the Co-Directors of Undergraduate Studies.

For news and more information on the Department, please visit our web site at:

http://government.georgetown.edu/

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I. REQUIREMENTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR IN GOVERNMENT

Students who wish to apply to major in Government must have completed at least two of the four introductory courses in Government (GOVT 020, 040, 060, and 080) and obtained a course grade no lower than C+ in each. The GPA in all Government courses taken prior to declaration must be a C+ or higher. Transfer students similarly must have completed at least two courses in political science with a grade no lower than C+ in each. Students must maintain an average of C+ in all Government courses in order to graduate with a Government major or minor.

Government majors are required to take ten courses in their major: four introductory courses and six electives. The required introductory courses are:

- GOVT 020 U.S. Political Systems (formerly GOVT 008)
- GOVT 040 Comparative Political Systems (formerly GOVT 121)
- GOVT 060 International Relations (formerly GOVT 006)
- GOVT 080 Elements of Political Theory (formerly GOVT 117)

The electives are organized into four subfields: American Government, International Relations, Comparative Government, and Political Theory. Students may take no more than four of the six electives in any one subfield and must include at least one in political theory.

The Department encourages majors to take one course in statistics, either GOVT-201 Analysis of Political Data I or MATH-040 Probability and Statistics or ECON-121 Economic Statistics. GOVT-201 is particularly recommended given its focus on political issues. Note all these classes count towards the General Education requirement of the College as a class in mathematics, and one of the three can serve as an elective in the Government major. It is important to underscore that only ONE of these classes may count as an elective in the major.

The subfield designations are listed in the Registrar’s course listings under the course title: Field: AG, Field: IR, Field: CG; Field PT; Political Economy courses may exist in each of the four subfields; Field: PECO for subfields American Government, International Relations, Comparative Government, Political Theory and Political Economy, respectively.

During the junior or senior year, students are required to take one Department Seminar. These seminars, which count as one of the six electives, will be indicated in the course title as “Dept Sem:” on the Registrar’s course listings.

Students can receive credit towards their major for no more than two courses taken outside the Government Department, unless the student is a transfer student. Transfer students who wish to major in Government may receive credit for up to five political science courses taken at another college or university. It is strongly recommended that students take the four required introductory courses (i.e., 020, 040, 060, and 080) offered by the Department rather than counting courses outside the Department toward those requirements. Students with a score of 4 or 5 on the AP American Government exam may receive credit for GOVT 020.

The Department’s Directors of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) are:

Professor James Lengle (lenglej@georgetown.edu)
Professor Matthew Carnes (mec247@georgetown.edu)
The DUS are the primary point of contact for questions about the Government major. Students seeking to declare a Government major, or Government majors seeking to study abroad, must meet with either DUS. The DUS will assign each major a faculty advisor.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE MINOR IN GOVERNMENT**

A minor in Government may be satisfied by taking six Government courses as indicated below:
- GOVT 020 U.S. Political Systems (formerly GOVT 008)
- GOVT 040 Comparative Political Systems (formerly GOVT 121)
- GOVT 060 International Relations (formerly GOVT 006)
- GOVT 080 Elements of Political Theory (formerly GOVT 117)
- Two (2) Government Electives
II. FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

Each semester, the Department provides a list of course offerings divided into four subfields.

American Government:
Field Chair – Professor Hans Noel (hcn4@georgetown.edu)

The American Government Field introduces students to the theory and practice of the American political system within the context of its democratic tradition. One objective is to make students more aware of how and why their government functions as it does; a subsidiary objective is to provide students with the skills to evaluate politics and government. Additionally, students are introduced to the political science literature.

The required introductory course in American Government is GOVT 020, U.S. Political Systems. This course is a prerequisite to all other American government courses. Government 020 is designed to provide an overview of the American political system and thereby gives students a basis for determining which of these aspects they would like to examine in greater depth in other, more advanced course offerings.

The advanced courses cover the full range of American politics and government. They include courses on individual and group behavior, political and government institutions, constitutional law, and the policy-making process. From time to time, the Department also offers courses on discrete areas of public policy. GOVT 201 Analysis of Political Data-I (formerly GOVT 229 Scope and Methods of Political Science) is strongly advised for those students who anticipate doing graduate work in political science; it is required for all students who wish to enter the Honors program in Government.

The American Government field provides a good foundation for further graduate work in political science or law, for employment in the government, or for involvement in politics at the state or national level.

Please refer to our website for a detailed faculty listing:
http://government.georgetown.edu/faculty/

Comparative Government:
Field Chair – Professor Charles King (kingch@georgetown.edu)

The Comparative Government Field has the objective of introducing students to the established field in political science as well as to one of the principal methods of political inquiry. Students taking courses in this field are expected to learn substantive and methodological skills associated with the rigorous study of politics, particularly the political institutions and processes in countries outside the United States. The writing and analytical skills learned in those courses will provide an excellent foundation for those who plan careers in any area of international affairs, or who plan to undertake graduate work in political science. Students in Comparative Government courses will not only study the politics of foreign countries and regions, they will also learn how to engage in comparative research.

The required introductory course in Comparative Government is Comparative Political Systems (GOVT 040). This course is a prerequisite to all other Comparative Government courses. Comparative Political Systems is designed to provide an overview of major political systems in the world and to prepare the student for the more advanced course offerings where s/he can examine specific issues and themes in greater depth. Since several members of the faculty teach Comparative Political Systems, the countries and regions as well as the issues upon which individual courses focus will vary.
The advanced courses in Comparative Government cover a wide range of geographical areas and political themes. Alongside courses focusing on selected regional and national political systems, there are others that analyze individual and group behavior, institutions and policy-making, authoritarianism and democratization, parties and party systems, nationalism and identity. Students should also remember that they can design a research or reading tutorial with an individual professor.

Please refer to our website for a detailed faculty listing:
http://government.georgetown.edu/faculty/

**International Relations:**

*Field Chair – Professor Matthew Kroenig (mhk32@georgetown.edu)*

The International Relations Field is designed to familiarize the student with both the theory and the practice of contemporary global politics. To this end, courses explore the most fundamental questions of international relations, such as: What is the structure of the international system? Who are the primary actors? How do these actors behave? Why do they behave in this way? Why does conflict occur? What are the strengths and weaknesses of international institutions? What role do international law and ethical considerations play? How do states formulate foreign policies? What are those foreign policies?

The required introductory course in this field is Government 060, International Relations. This course is a prerequisite to all other International Relations courses. This course is intended to provide the student with an overview of international relations in preparation for more advanced courses in the field. Each semester multiple sections of 060 are offered.

The advanced courses in this field fall into three general categories: 1) International Relations Theory, 2) Norms and Institutions, and 3) Policy and Process. First, several basic courses, such as International Relations Theory, Global Ungovernability, and Political Theory of International Relations set forth the conceptual foundations of international relations. Second, courses such as International Law, International Organizations, and Ethical Issues in International Relations examine the role of norms and institutions. Third, courses explore foreign policies and the foreign policy process. These include such courses as U.S. Foreign Policy, U.S. Foreign Policy Process, Soviet and Post-Soviet Foreign Policy and numerous others.

Please refer to our website for a detailed faculty listing:
http://government.georgetown.edu/faculty/

**Political Theory:**

*Field Chair – Professor Bruce Douglass (douglasr@georgetown.edu)*

The courses in Political Theory available to undergraduate Government majors are designed to fulfill several objectives. One is to acquaint students in an informed way with the intellectual traditions that have been influential in shaping modern political experience – particularly those that have figured prominently in the development of Western political thought.

The required introductory course in this field is GOVT 080, Elements of Political Theory, which is taught in multiple sections each year in both the fall and spring semesters. This course is a prerequisite to all other Political Theory courses. This course is taught in different ways by different members of the faculty, but most sections are designed to introduce students to at least some of the classic texts in the history of Western political thought.
Most of the more advanced courses focus on one or another more specialized theme in the history of political thought. The subjects in question range from particular authors (Plato’s Political Philosophy) to particular traditions (Liberalism) and historical periods (Early Modern Political Thought). But not all theory offerings have this character. Some are meant to focus more on particular issues and problems of public life (such as Ethical Issues in International Relations and Capitalism, Competition, and Democracy).

Please refer to our website for a detailed faculty listing:
http://government.georgetown.edu/faculty/

Minor: Social and Political Thought
Students majoring in Government in the College are eligible to apply for admission to the interdisciplinary program in Social and Political Thought. Funded by the Mellon Foundation, this program is designed to give a select group of students majoring in the social sciences and humanities opportunities for in-depth examination of the philosophical and methodological issues raised by the rise of modern social science. Students normally apply for admission before pre-registration in the fall of their junior year. A GPA of 3.4 is usually required. Those interested should contact the program director, Professor Richard Boyd, at rb352@georgetown.edu.

To complete the minor, students must successfully take the following courses:

1. An introductory seminar, Foundations of Social Theory, typically taken in the fall of the junior year or (in exceptional cases) the fall of the senior year
2. Four electives, two of which are in fields other than the student’s major
3. A senior seminar, Critique of Social Science, taken in the spring semester of the senior year
4. A senior essay: Students must also write an acceptable senior essay, a paper of approximately 30 pages. The essay is prepared in the senior seminar, and is normally a revision of a paper already completed for another class in the program.

Please refer to our website for a detailed listing of course requirements and electives:
http://college.georgetown.edu/academics/departments-and-programs/social-political-thought/
III. POLITICAL ECONOMY
Coordinator – Professor Nita Rudra (nr404@georgetown.edu)

The major in Political Economy exposes students to the rich intersection between economics and politics. Students study the social, political and economic factors that affect, and are affected by, systems of production, exchange, and distribution, as well as the mix of values reflected in them.

At the heart of the major is the methodological and substantive overlap between economics and political science. Methodologically, political economy emphasizes rigorous and frequently quantitative methods, including formal modeling, econometrics and comparative case study methods. Substantively, political economy analyzes how international and domestic political factors interact with macro and micro economic factors to determine outcomes in a wide variety of areas including globalization, international trade and finance, regulation, development, taxes, institutional design, the environment, and income distribution. The scope of inquiry ranges from developed countries, to developing economies, to nations making transitions to market oriented systems.

The strength of the major is its ability to use insights to analyze important issues that do not divide neatly along the classic disciplinary lines of economics and political science. The intellectual enterprise typically goes beyond the constituent disciplines by combining traditional economic concerns about efficiency with traditional political concerns regarding distributional issues and legitimacy in market and nonmarket environments.

The major in Political Economy requires seven foundation courses, two core Political Economy courses and two electives.

Foundation Courses
Three of the following four government courses:
- GOVT 020 U.S. Political Systems (formerly GOVT 008)
- GOVT 040 Comparative Political Systems (formerly GOVT 121)
- GOVT 060 International Relations (formerly GOVT 006)
- GOVT 080 Elements of Political Theory (formerly GOVT 117)

Microeconomic Theory (ECON-101)
Either Macroeconomic Theory (ECON-102) or International Finance (ECON-244)
Economic Statistics (ECON-121)
Econometrics (ECON-122)

Core Political Economy Courses
Analytical Tools for Political Economy (PECO-201)

The prerequisites for this class are Microeconomic Theory (ECON-101) and one of foundation government courses. Note: ECON-101 has Microeconomic Principles (ECON-001) and Elementary Calculus (MATH-035) as prerequisites.

Capstone in Political Economy (PECO-401)
Electives (2) for Political Economy

Please refer to our website for a detailed listing of course electives: [http://bulletin.georgetown.edu/page/1242706983757.html](http://bulletin.georgetown.edu/page/1242706983757.html)

*Note:* Not all electives are offered each academic year. Some elective courses have substantial prerequisites. Students should inquire with the PECO Coordinator, Professor Raj Desai, to confirm electives.

**PECO Majors Cannot Double Major in Economics or Government**

It is not possible for students pursue a double major in Political Economy and either Economics or Government. This is because College regulations prohibit students from taking more than fourteen courses in any one discipline and prohibit students from using any individual course to satisfy the requirements for two majors.

**PECO Study Abroad**

One or both electives in support of the Political Economy major can be taken abroad with prior approval by the department. To obtain approval please submit a syllabus for the course for which you wish to receive credit to Professor Raj Desai.

**PECO Honors**

In order to graduate with honors in Political Economy, a student must:

1. Earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.33 and a grade point average of 3.67 in the major by the date of graduation.
2. Write an honors-quality thesis in the Capstone Course PECO-401. The paper must receive a grade of A from the professor(s) teaching PECO-401 and must also be approved as of "honors quality" by a designated committee.
IV. BA/MA PROGRAM IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

The Department of Government offers an accelerated BA/MA program in American Government. This program allows the best of Georgetown undergraduates to further their intellectual and professional development while working with Georgetown faculty. Those students with a clear commitment to the study of politics and with a potential interest in politics or public service should consider applying to this program.

The MA in American Government is an accelerated, twelve-month program that requires thirty hours of graduate credit and also requires that students serve as apprentice practitioners in a position related to their career interests.

The joint BA/MA program consists of three major elements:

1. The student must complete ALL normal requirements for a major in Government.

2. The student must complete ALL normal requirements for an MA in American Government. This is a 30-credit hour program.

3. A BAMA student would be allowed to double-count two courses (6 credit hours) towards both degrees. These courses would be selected from any courses that fulfill degree requirements in both programs and would be taken in the fourth year of undergraduate work and after being admitted into the program. Once enrolled in the program, the student would formally be both a student in the College and the Graduate School of Arts Sciences.

4. Students would receive their BA after completing all undergraduate degree requirements and would receive their MA after completing all of their MA requirements.

Students interested in this program should apply in their junior year by the Graduate School's normal deadline for the MA program in American Government.

Students will need to submit the following:

1. Application and fee

2. GRE Scores

3. Undergraduate transcript from Georgetown

4. Statement of Purpose

5. Academic Writing Sample

6. Three Letters of Recommendation

Students would be advised by the appropriate undergraduate and graduate advisors in the College and Department of Government.
The student would pay tuition at the undergraduate rate while enrolled in the undergraduate classes and pay at a graduate rate for the graduate classes; the tuition for the two double-counted classes would be divided equally between the undergraduate and graduate rates. The Graduate School would determine financial aid for the student's final year in the program; for the previous years, the College would determine financial aid.

For more information, please contact Professor Mark Rom at romm@georgetown.edu, Professor Anne Cammisa at amc38@georgetown.edu, or the Graduate Program Administrative Officer, Marie Champagne, at mtc@georgetown.edu.

The MA in American Government Program’s web site can be visited at http://government.georgetown.edu/maag/
V. BA/MA PROGRAM IN DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

The Department of Government offers an accelerated BA/MA program in Democracy and Governance. This program allows the best of Georgetown undergraduates to further their intellectual and professional development while working with Georgetown faculty. Those students with a clear commitment to the study of politics and with a potential interest in the intersection of democracy and governance should consider applying to the program.

The MA in Democracy and Governance is a 42-credit hour program that normally takes 2 years to complete. The joint BA/MA program consists of five components:

1. The student must complete ALL normal requirements for the Bachelor's degree (120 credits).

2. The student must complete ALL normal requirements for an MA in Democracy and Governance (42 credits).

3. A BA/MA student would be allowed to double-count two courses (6 credit hours) towards both degrees. These courses would be selected from any courses that fulfill degree requirements in both programs and would be taken in the fourth year of undergraduate work and after being admitted into the program.

4. A BA/MA student would be able to take up to two graduate level classes while in their senior year that can count toward the MA, only if they are above the required 120 credits for the BA.

5. Once enrolled in the program the student would formally be both a student in the College and the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. Students would receive their BA after completing all undergraduate degree requirements and would receive their MA after completing all of their MA requirements.

Students interested in the program should apply in their junior year by the Graduate School's normal deadline for the MA in Democracy and Governance.

Students will need to submit the following:

1. Application and Fee

2. GRE scores

3. Undergraduate transcript from Georgetown

4. Statement of Purpose

5. Academic Writing Sample

6. Three Letters of Recommendation

Students would be advised by the appropriate undergraduate and graduate advisors in the College and Department of Government.

The student would pay tuition at the undergraduate rate while enrolled in the undergraduate classes and pay at a graduate rate for the graduate classes; the tuition for the two double-counted classes would be divided equally between the undergraduate and graduate rates. The Graduate School would determine
financial aid for the student's final year in the program; for the previous years, the College would determine financial aid.

For more information, please contact Professor Yonatan Morse at ylm3@georgetown.edu or the Graduate Program Administrative Officer, Marie Champagne, at mtc@georgetown.edu.

The MA in Democracy and Governance Program's web site can be visited at http://government.georgetown.edu/cdacs/.
VI. GUIDELINES FOR THE GOVERNMENT HONORS PROGRAM

Director – Professor Eric Langenbacher (langenbe@georgetown.edu)

The Honors Program is a highly intensive, three-semester program in which students participate in closely mentored research and writing project that culminates in the completion of a Senior thesis. All courses in the program are taught in a seminar format.

The Government Honors Program requires the following:

1. Enrollment in an Honors Political Theory Seminar and GOVT 201 Analysis of Political Data (formerly GOVT 229 Scope and Methods of Political Science).

2. A Senior Thesis. Students enroll in a Thesis Writing Seminar for the Fall term of their Senior year and complete their thesis as a tutorial with their mentor during the Spring term.

Students are expected to find a faculty mentor in the Fall of their Senior year. The mentor serves as an advisor throughout the thesis writing process. A first draft of the thesis is due in mid-March; the final draft is due in early-April (specific deadlines are distributed in the Fall semester). The thesis defense will take place before a faculty committee consisting of the mentor and a reader before the last day of classes. The Government Department Award will be awarded for the best honors thesis of the year, which is then submitted to the Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honors Society undergraduate thesis competition.

Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in termination from the Honors Program. If a student is found in violation of the University’s Honor System (the academic integrity policy), the student will be ineligible to participate in the Government Honors Program regardless of additional penalties imposed by the University.

Minimum eligibility requirements for participating in the program are:

1. A major in Government (either declared or prospective at the time of your application).

2. A 3.5 GPA in Government and a 3.5 GPA overall.

3. GOVT 080, “Elements of Political Theory.” Students accepted in the program who have not had this class should take it during their Junior year (preferably in the Fall semester).

Applications to the Program should include:

1. An application form (available in early September)

2. A short letter of application in which the student explains why s/he wishes to participate in the Honor Program.

3. A short (12-15 page) academic writing sample such as a paper written for a class.

4. An unofficial undergraduate transcript.

The program announcement will be distributed electronically shortly after the academic year begins and applications are due in early October. Students studying abroad the Fall semester of their Junior year may
submit application materials before they leave or from abroad. Sophomores considering studying abroad should be aware that they cannot study abroad in the Spring of their Junior year and participate in the Government Honors Program.

All queries and application materials should be directed to Professor Eric Langenbacher, Director of the Honors Program, Department of Government (ICC 657, langenbe@georgetown.edu). The program is limited to 20 students chosen competitively.
VII. NEW COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM

The Government Department has adopted a new numbering system for undergraduate courses starting Fall 2014. The reason for this change is to provide more structure and transparency to our course offerings.

The courses have been renumbered according to the following scheme:

000-level: introductory courses
   - GOVT 020 US Political Systems (formerly GOVT 008)
   - GOVT 040 Comparative Political Systems (formerly GOVT 121)
   - GOVT 060 International Relations (formerly GOVT 006)
   - GOVT 080 Elements of Political Theory (formerly GOVT 117)

100- and 200-level: lecture courses

300-level: department seminars

400-level: advanced lectures and seminars

Within each level, the courses are grouped by field, as follows:

200-219 Non-field / Offered on irregular basis
220-239 American Government (AG)
240-259 Comparative Government (CG)
260-279 International Relations (IR)
280-299 Political Theory (PT)
VIII. **MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Q. How do I declare government as my major?
   A. Students usually declare their majors in Spring semester of their Sophomore year. Students should go to the College Dean’s office and request a “Declaration of Major” form. The form should be completed by the students and then brought to either Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Government for approval and a signature. Students then return the approved form to the College Dean’s office.

Q. How do I get a faculty advisor in my major?
   A. Students will be assigned a faculty advisor by one of the Co-Directors of Undergraduate Studies when they declare their major. Students are encouraged to provide names of prospective advisors to the co-Directors of Undergraduate Studies, Professor James Lengle and Professor Matthew Carnes.

Q. How do I receive credit toward my government major for a political science course taken at another university or taken in another department or school at Georgetown?
   A. Students should bring a copy of the course description from a college catalogue or the syllabus/reading list for the course for which they are seeking credit to either of the Co-Directors of Undergraduate Studies.

Q. How many courses may I transfer toward my Government major?
   A. Students may transfer only two courses taken outside the Department of Government toward their major. This includes courses taken at other institution as well as Georgetown INAF courses not cross-listed with the Government Department.

Q. Who do I see to get approval for my application to study abroad?
   A. All study abroad applications should be completed and brought to either of the Co-Directors of Undergraduate Studies in the department.

Q. How many courses may I take abroad and transfer toward my major?
   Students will receive credit toward their government major for only two courses taken abroad.

Q. Who approves my pre-registration request?
   A. The student’s faculty advisor is responsible for approving the pre-registration requests in MyAccess.

Q. How do I know who my faculty advisor is?
   A. The name of each student’s faculty advisor is listed in MyAccess.
Q. Can I receive credits for taking the AP test in American Government?
   A. Students who score a 4 or a 5 on the AP American Government exam receive direct credit for GOVT 020.

Q. Whom do I see about applying to the Honors Program?
   A. Students should speak with the Director of the Honors Program.

Q. Are there any special awards at graduation specifically for government majors?
   A. The Department of Government awards four special prizes at graduation: the Connecticut Medal (for highest GPA in the major), the Valerie Earle Award (for the best student in American Government), the Karl Cerny Award (for the best student in Comparative Government), and the Department of Government Award (for the best student in the Honors Program).

Q. How do I add into a course?
   A. Students must receive permission from the instructor of the course. Faculty advisors and Directors of Undergraduate Studies are not authorized to sign add-in forms.

Q. How do I apply for GOVT-241, “Public Affairs Seminar”?
   A. Students should see the instructor of the course or either of the Co-Directors of Undergraduate Studies.

Q. How can I arrange for a tutorial?
   A. Students may apply to take a tutorial if they can identify a faculty member willing to mentor the tutorial. After consulting with the mentor, the student should obtain a tutorial form from the Dean’s Office. This form must be filled out by the student and the mentor and approved by the Department Chair and the Dean.

Q. If I am a transfer student, how may course taken at my previous institution may I count towards the Government major?
   A. Transfer students who major in Government may receive credit for up to five political science courses taken at another college or university.