

POLITICAL SCIENCE BA/MA

CONTACT

Director of Advanced Programs

Professor Maxwell Palmer
mbpalmer@bu.edu

Undergraduate Advisors

Brendan Fraser (A-K)
fraserb@bu.edu

Julia Martorell (L-Z)
julimart@bu.edu

ELIGIBILITY

- Students must have completed four semesters and have Junior standing
 - Students must have taken at least four PO classes, including a PO 505+ seminar
 - Overall GPA: 3.0 or above
 - Major GPA: 3.5 or above
 - Transfer students may apply the Spring semester of their Junior year
 - Seniors are not eligible to apply
 - This program is not open to students outside of CAS or students in the Dual Degree (DDP)
-

BENEFITS

Successful completion of the program may lead to:

- Develop research and analysis skills
- Conduct and present unique research
- Opportunities for fieldwork and funded research
- Enhanced career employment opportunities
- Professional Training
- Preparation for PhD programs

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The joint BA/MA Political Science degree gives students an opportunity to accelerate their studies and graduate with their bachelor's and master's degrees in four years. Students in the program will complete their graduate coursework throughout their fourth year in the College, write a thesis, and present their own research at the culmination of the program.

CURRICULUM

The MA is made up of eight discreet courses. Students must earn a grade of B- or above to receive credit. *Courses may not count for both the BA and the MA.*

MA coursework includes:

Two of the following core requirements:

- PO 711 ____
- PO 751 ____
- PO 771 ____
- PO 791 ____

Two Methods courses:

- PO 501 ____
- PO 502 ____
- PO 599 ____
- PO 841 ____
- PO 842 ____
- PO 843 ____
- PO 844 ____
- PO 845 ____

Students will also enroll in **four additional courses** above a PO505 level to complete the program

Thesis Requirements:

- The thesis must be distinct from the graduate coursework
 - Students may not resubmit work done during undergraduate or graduate coursework as their thesis, but they may build off of topics explore in previous courses
 - Students will work closely with their Faculty Advisor. They will provide revisions on at least *two* drafts of the thesis paper and grade the final version.
 - Students will present their research at the end of the year.
-

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30TH

Students must submit all required materials by this date.

- Students may request a Waiver of Application Deadline form *under extenuating circumstances* if they need an extension to apply for the program. The form must be completed and signed by the Department Chair and submitted with the application

FIRST STEPS:

Before applying to the BA/MA program, students must:

- Meet with their undergraduate advisor to make a Plan of Study
- Find a Faculty Advisor within the PO department and meet with them about their intended research

APPLICATION MATERIALS:

The following materials are required to apply:

- Application Form (found on PO website) ____
- Plan of Study ____
- Two faculty recommendation letters ____
- Research Statement (3-5 pages) ____