Eighteen-Hour Graduate Curriculum Program in Political Science/Government

Department of Political Science

In combination with a master's degree in any field, 18 hours can provide credentials needed to teach dual credit courses in Texas high schools or lower-division political science/government courses at community colleges.*

Advantages of the Program
The department of political science offers scholarships to qualified students. Federal financial aid is also available for summer, fall, and spring sessions. Applicants must fill out a FASFA form to be considered for federal financial aid.

Courses are offered online. Students who wish to request face-to-face office hour visits with seminar instructors may arrange for meetings at the SHSU main campus or the SHSU's Woodlands Center. For more information about the Center, see: http://www.shsu.edu/academics/woodlands-center/

All seminar enrollments are capped at 12 students to ensure quality of instruction.

The SHSU Online Office offers extensive services to online students including an online support desk which operates 7:00am – Midnight Monday –Friday and 8:00am – 8:00pm on Saturdays. Students may contact the online support desk staff by phone, email, or chat session. The online support desk staff maintains a 98% satisfaction rating. For more information about the services SHSU Online Office provides to students, see: http://distance.shsu.edu/

Course Offerings
Courses are offered during summer, fall, and spring sessions. Students who wish to complete the program in one year are encouraged to enroll in two courses per summer sessions and one course per regular sessions.

The department POLS 5330 American Politics, POLS 5377 Scope and Methods of Political Science, POLS 5367 Seminar in International Relations, POLS 5371 Comparative Politics, and POLS 5385 Public Policy.

The department also offers two special topics courses. Topics addressed in POLS 5360 Seminar in American Politics vary across semesters. Media and American politics, democracy and ideologies, religion and American politics, and Americans' perceptions of candidates are a few of the topics addressed in POLS 5360. Topics in POLS 5379 Workshop: Teaching Political Science also vary across semesters. Topics addressed in POLS 5379 include Texas government and politics and comparative state political systems. Students wishing to obtain 18 hours of course credit for credential purposes should not take more than two special topics courses as accreditation agencies are unlikely to accept more than six hours of special topic courses.

Application Requirements and Process

1. Prospective students must submit a graduate application and application fee ($45), official transcripts showing all degrees conferred, two letters of recommendation, a current resume, and a writing sample. Prospective students who successfully completed a master's degree are not required to submit GRE scores. Prospective students who lack a master's degree must submit GRE scores.

2. The deadline for summer 2016 applications is May 18, 2016.

3. Additional information about the application process can be obtained at: http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-admissions/

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* Each institution establishes its own interpretations of credentials for its faculty. We encourage you to check with your institution or school district before choosing to enroll in this program.