

# GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE

## Vision Statement

UNO's Department of Political Science offers an 18 credit hour graduate certificate in government for educators and other professionals who already have an advanced degree in another field and wish to expand their knowledge in political science. This certificate is designed to help educators meet the new requirements set by the Higher Learning Commission to teach government-related courses in institutions of higher education or dual enrollment/concurrent enrollment courses in high schools. This certificate can be earned completely online. This certificate can be earned as a stand-alone program, or in conjunction with the MS in political science.

## Program Contact Information

casgradonline@unomaha.edu  
402.554.4121

**Program Website (<http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences/political-science/academics/graduate-programs/>)**

## Admissions

General Application Requirements and Admission Criteria (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/admission/>)

## Program-Specific Requirements

### Application Deadlines (Spring 2025, Summer 2025, and Fall 2025)

- Fall: Review begins February 15
- Spring: Review begins October 1
- Summer: Review begins April 15

Note: Applications will be received and reviewed until the term begins.

## Other Requirements

### For current students in good standing in UNO's Master of Science in Political Science Program:

- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Students must be accepted into this certificate program within their first 15 credit hours. Students starting this program after 15 credit hours may not be able to count previous completed coursework towards this certificate.

### For students applying for this certificate as a stand-alone program:

- Baccalaureate degree or previous master's degree with a minimum of 3.0 GPA.
- **Nine credit hours in political science-related courses is preferred.** The selection committee looks for previous coursework and/or professional experience in American government, political theory, international relations, comparative politics, and social science (quantitative) methodology. Students without the noted background may be admitted on a provisional basis and be required to take prerequisite courses before starting graduate work. Students must earn a grade of B or above in each of these courses.
- **English Language Proficiency:** Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the United States, **OR a**

baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a predetermined country on the waiver list (<https://www.unomaha.edu/office-of-graduate-studies/admissions/entrance-exams.php>), must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission.

- Internet-based TOEFL: 80 (with no sub-score under 15), IELTS: 6.5, PTE: 53, Duolingo: 110
- Passing with a minimum score does not guarantee admission into the program.
- **Statement of Purpose:** The personal statement should be 1-2 pages and address why you are seeking admission to this program, how your academic/professional experiences will contribute to your success in the program, and how the program will contribute to your future academic/professional ambitions.
- **Professional Resume**
- **Letters of Recommendation:** Two letters of recommendation from a former professor (preferred), supervisor, or other professional contact who can speak to one's academic potential in a graduate program. If applicants have recently graduated from UNO, it is expected that one of the letters will be from a UNO political science faculty member. It is preferred that applicants use their references' institutional (.edu) or professional email.
- GRE scores are not required for admission, however, candidates may include them.

## Degree Requirements

| Code   | Title  | Credits   |
|--|--|-----------|
| <b>Required: Two Subfield Seminars</b>   |  | <b>6</b>  |
| PSCI 8040  | SEMINAR IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS          |           |
| PSCI 8250  | SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS                   |           |
| PSCI 8300  | SEMINAR IN POLITICAL THEORY                          |           |
| PSCI 8500  | SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS                      |           |
| <b>Required: Four Electives (selected from remaining seminars or list below)</b> |  | <b>12</b> |
| PSCI 8000  | SEMINAR IN THE RESEARCH METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE |           |
| PSCI 8005  | QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE           |           |
| PSCI 8015  | URBAN POLITICS                                       |           |
| PSCI 8106  | MONEY IN AMERICAN POLITICS                           |           |
| PSCI 8036  | THE PRESIDENCY                                       |           |
| PSCI 8045  | GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF NEBRASKA                  |           |
| PSCI 8046  | CONGRESS AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS                 |           |
| PSCI 8055  | STATE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS                        |           |
| PSCI 8056  | THE JUDICIAL PROCESS                                 |           |
| PSCI 8100  | SEMINAR IN POLITICAL ECONOMY                         |           |
| PSCI 8105  | LGBTQ+ POLITICS                                      |           |
| PSCI 8116  | POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY                                 |           |
| PSCI 8120  | SEMINAR IN LEADERSHIP                                |           |
| PSCI 8126  | PUBLIC OPINION AND POLLING                           |           |
| PSCI 8135  | WOMEN AND POLITICS                                   |           |
| PSCI 8145  | LATINO/-A POLITICS                                   |           |
| PSCI 8146  | CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CIVIL RIGHTS                     |           |
| PSCI 8150  | SEMINAR IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW                        |           |
| PSCI 8165  | POLITICAL PARTIES                                    |           |
| PSCI 8175  | INTEREST GROUPS                                      |           |
| PSCI 8176  | CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FOUNDATIONS                      |           |

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| PSCI 8185 | CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS                                      |
| PSCI 8186 | CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: THE FEDERAL SYSTEM                       |
| PSCI 8196 | CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CIVIL LIBERTIES                          |
| PSCI 8200 | SEMINAR IN FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY              |
| PSCI 8206 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF EAST ASIA                         |
| PSCI 8216 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST                   |
| PSCI 8220 | SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGY             |
| PSCI 8225 | DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM SOLVING                  |
| PSCI 8235 | GENDER AND GLOBAL POLITICS                                   |
| PSCI 8245 | THE POLITICS AND PRACTICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS                    |
| PSCI 8246 | INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION                            |
| PSCI 8255 | GLOBAL SECURITY ISSUES                                       |
| PSCI 8256 | INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY                           |
| PSCI 8265 | UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY                                 |
| PSCI 8266 | INTERNATIONAL LAW  |
| PSCI 8276 | GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS                                |
| PSCI 8286 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF LATIN AMERICA                     |
| PSCI 8296 | INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABILITY                   |
| PSCI 8316 | CLASSICAL POLITICAL THOUGHT                                  |
| PSCI 8326 | EARLY MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT                               |
| PSCI 8336 | LATE MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT                                |
| PSCI 8345 | AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT                                   |
| PSCI 8346 | CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THOUGHT                               |
| PSCI 8356 | DEMOCRACY  |
| PSCI 8366 | AUTHORITARIAN REGIMES  |
| PSCI 8376 | GENERALS AND POLITICIANS: CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS           |
| PSCI 8505 | EUROPEAN POLITICS  |
| PSCI 8506 | GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF GREAT BRITAIN                     |
| PSCI 8526 | POLITICS OF FRANCE   |
| PSCI 8556 | POLITICAL VIOLENCE, INSURGENCY, AND TERRORISM                |
| PSCI 8585 | GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF RUSSIA AND THE POST-SOVIET STATES |
| PSCI 8626 | ISLAM AND POLITICS   |
| PSCI 8645 | GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF CHINA AND EAST ASIA               |
| PSCI 8646 | ASIAN POLITICS   |
| PSCI 8665 | GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF JAPAN AND EAST ASIA               |
| PSCI 8685 | GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF LATIN AMERICA                     |
| PSCI 8705 | GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST                   |
| PSCI 8716 | COMPARATIVE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION         |
| PSCI 8776 | POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY  |
| PSCI 8826 | POLITICS AND FILM  |

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| PSCI 8920 | SEMINAR IN SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE |
| PSCI 8926 | ADVANCED SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE   |

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**Total Credits** **18**

Note: Students who took undergraduate courses at UNO cannot take any dual-listed courses at the graduate level they took as an undergraduate. Students cannot have more than two courses ending in 8–5 counted towards their program. Other courses may be approved at the discretion of the graduate chair.

Courses may not be offered every term. Some courses may only be offered online or on-campus.

### Exit Requirements:

**Students must earn a 3.0 GPA or above to graduate with no more than one course graded as a C+ or below.**

### Academic Progress Policy

Students may be dismissed from the program after:

1. Not enrolling and/or successfully completing a course after two consecutive years.
2. Earning two or more W grades.
3. Earning more than one grade of C+ or below, even if GPA is a 3.0 or above.

Under extenuating circumstances, students may apply for a waiver through the GPC. If a waiver is granted, students may be updated to the most recent catalog year.

Students who do not successfully complete a course during their admit term, or allowed deferment time, will be dismissed from the program.

Students may reapply to the program if dismissed for inactivity.