

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Graduate Certificate in Political Science is designed for high school and community college instructors who wish to obtain 18 hours of graduate coursework relevant to key fields in the discipline of political science, such as the field of American Politics. Course offerings allow students to complete the certificate in one year if students take two courses per semester including summer.

This Graduate Certificate is eligible to receive Title IV funding – Direct Unsubsidized Loans and Graduate PLUS loans by request. To be considered for aid, students need to submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Those wishing to pursue the certificate should hold a graduate degree from an accredited college or university and submit the following to the Office of Graduate Admissions (<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-admissions/prospective-students.html>):

- An application with accompanying application fee to the Sam Houston State University Office of Graduate Studies.
- Transcripts documenting all prior degrees.
- Names and contact information for at least two individuals who can speak to applicant's academic and professional potential.
- A letter of interest that specifically addresses at least the following three elements: a) why they are applying to the program; b) how their experience (academic, work, etc.) has prepared them to enter the program; and c) what they plan to do professionally after completing the program.

Note: Applicants may submit unofficial transcripts for review by the admissions committee. However, under university policy, admission decisions are contingent upon receipt of official transcripts.

Code	Title	Hours
Graduate Certificate in Political Science		
Required Courses		
POLS 5330	American Politics	3
or POLS 5371	Comparative Politics	
or POLS 5373	International Relations	
Students must take 15 hours from among the following:		15
POLS 5319	Women in Politics	
POLS 5330	American Politics ¹	
POLS 5334	Judicial Politics	
POLS 5336	The U.S. Presidency	
POLS 5337	The U.S. Congress	
POLS 5339	American Political Parties	
POLS 5340	Political Attitudes & Behavior	
POLS 5360	Seminar in American Politics	
POLS 5364	Media & Politics	
POLS 5371	Comparative Politics ¹	
POLS 5373	International Relations ¹	
POLS 5379	Workshop:Teachng Political Sci	
POLS 5385	Public Policy	
Total Hours		18

¹ If not previously taken as required course.