

GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS, BA

Banner Code: PP-BA-GVIP

Academic Advising

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Admissions & Policies

Policies

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies.

Program Requirements

Students must fulfill all Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees including the Mason Core. Students pursuing a BA in Government and International Politics must complete additional requirements for the BA degree in the Schar School of Policy and Government.

Students pursuing this degree must complete 43 credits in GOVT and earn a minimum grade of 2.00 in each course applied to the major.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students pursuing a BA in Government and International Politics and wishing to narrow their focus may choose to concentrate in one of eight government fields or complete a higher credit concentration in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.

BA with or without Government Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
GOVT 101	Democratic Theory and Practice (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 103	Introduction to American Government (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 132	Introduction to International Politics (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 133	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 300	Research Methods and Analysis (Mason Core)	4
Senior Seminar		
Select one seminar from the following:		3
GOVT 490	Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core)	

GOVT 491	Honors Seminar (Mason Core) ¹	
Total Credits		19

¹ This option is for students who have been accepted to pursue honors in the major.

Government Field Study

Code	Title	Credits
Select any eight advanced government field courses, with or without a government concentration		24
Total Credits		24

Students may complete a government concentration (four courses) in one field, then complete any four more advanced government field courses to satisfy this requirement. Students who do not pursue a government concentration may choose 24 credits from the advanced government field courses listed below (with restriction) for a broader learning experience.

Up to three credits of GOVT 399 Research Practicum and GOVT 480 Internship may be used to fulfill the field course requirement with prior advisor approval. Up to six credits of GOVT 496 Directed Readings and Research may be used to fulfill this requirement with prior advisor approval. GOVT 490 Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core) or GOVT 491 Honors Seminar (Mason Core) may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Advanced government field courses include courses numbered GOVT 301 - GOVT 499

Concentrations

- Concentration in American Institutions and Processes (AMIP)
- Concentration in Comparative Politics (CPOL)
- Concentration in International Political Economy (IPE)
- Concentration in International Relations (INTR)
- Concentration in Law, Philosophy and Governance (LPGV)
- Concentration in Political Analysis (PA)
- Concentration in Political Behavior and Identity Politics (PBIP)
- Concentration in Public Policy and Administration (PPA)
- Individualized Concentration (IND)
- Concentration in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 0-12 credits in any one concentration		0-12
Total Credits		0-12

Students may partially satisfy the field study requirement by completing four courses (minimum 12 credits) in any one approved concentration.

Concentration in American Institutions and Processes (AMIP)

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 301	Public Law and the Judicial Process	3
GOVT 302	American Political Development	3
GOVT 304	American State and Local Government	3
GOVT 305	Contemporary American Federalism	3
GOVT 307	Legislative Behavior	3
GOVT 308	The American Presidency	3

GOVT 309	Government and Politics of Metropolitan Areas	3
GOVT 311	Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior	3
GOVT 319	Issues in Government and Politics	1-3
GOVT 344	American Foreign Policy	3
GOVT 357	Urban Planning	3
GOVT 364	Public Policy Making	3
GOVT 365	State and Regional Public Policy	3
GOVT 409	Virginia Government and Politics	3
GOVT 422	Constitutional Interpretation	3
GOVT 423	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	3

Concentration in Comparative Politics (CPOL)

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 331	Government and Politics of Latin America	3
GOVT 332	Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3
GOVT 333	Government and Politics of Asia	3
GOVT 334	Government and Politics of Europe	3
GOVT 337	Ethnic Politics in Western Europe and North America	3
GOVT 338	Government and Politics of Russia	3
GOVT 339	Issues in the Politics of Advanced Industrial Societies	1-3
GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics	3
GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3
GOVT 342	Diplomacy	3
GOVT 344	American Foreign Policy	3
GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3
GOVT 430	Comparative Political Leadership	3
GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3
GOVT 434	Democracy in Global Perspective	3
GOVT 443	Law and Ethics of War	3
GOVT 444	Issues in International Studies	1-3
GOVT 445	Human Rights	3
GOVT 447	Revolution and International Politics	3
GOVT 448	Ethics and International Politics	3

Concentration in International Political Economy (IPE)

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 322	International Relations Theory	3
GOVT 339	Issues in the Politics of Advanced Industrial Societies	1-3
GOVT 343	International Political Economy	3
GOVT 366	Public Policy Analysis	3
GOVT 367	Money, Markets and Economic Policy (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 368	Tools for Economic Policy Analysis	3
GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3
GOVT 444	Issues in International Studies	1-3
GOVT 446	International Law and Organization	3
GOVT 469	Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	3
ECON 385	International Economic Policy	3

Concentration in International Relations (INTR)

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 322	International Relations Theory	3
GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3
GOVT 342	Diplomacy	3
GOVT 344	American Foreign Policy	3
GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3
GOVT 346	American Security Policy	3
GOVT 347	International Security	3
GOVT 443	Law and Ethics of War	3
GOVT 444	Issues in International Studies	1-3
GOVT 445	Human Rights	3
GOVT 446	International Law and Organization	3
GOVT 447	Revolution and International Politics	3
GOVT 448	Ethics and International Politics	3

Concentration in Law, Philosophy and Governance (LPGV)

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 301	Public Law and the Judicial Process	3
GOVT 302	American Political Development	3
GOVT 307	Legislative Behavior	3
GOVT 322	International Relations Theory	3
GOVT 323	Classical Western Political Theory	3
GOVT 324	Modern Western Political Theory	3
GOVT 327	Contemporary Western Political Theory	3
GOVT 328	Global Political Theory	3
GOVT 329	Issues in Political Theories and Values	1-3
GOVT 334	Government and Politics of Europe	3
GOVT 407	Law and Society	3
GOVT 420	American Political Thought	3
GOVT 422	Constitutional Interpretation	3
GOVT 423	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	3
GOVT 427	Feminist Political Thought	3
GOVT 428	Advanced Democratic Theory	3
GOVT 443	Law and Ethics of War	3
GOVT 445	Human Rights	3
GOVT 446	International Law and Organization	3
GOVT 448	Ethics and International Politics	3
GOVT 452	Administrative Law and Procedures	3
GOVT 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society	3
GOVT 469	Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	3

Concentration in Political Analysis (PA)

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 307	Legislative Behavior	3
GOVT 343	International Political Economy	3
GOVT 356	Public Budgeting and Finance	3
GOVT 357	Urban Planning	3
GOVT 358	Nonprofit Financial Planning	4
GOVT 366	Public Policy Analysis	3
GOVT 367	Money, Markets and Economic Policy (Mason Core)	3

GOVT 368	Tools for Economic Policy Analysis	3
GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3
GOVT 469	Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	3
STAT 350	Introductory Statistics II	3
Any 400-level STAT course		

Concentration in Political Behavior and Identity Politics (PBIP)

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 311	Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior	3
GOVT 312	Political Parties and Campaigns	3
GOVT 313	Political Psychology	3
GOVT 318	Interest Groups, Lobbying, and the Political Process	3
GOVT 319	Issues in Government and Politics	1-3
GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3
GOVT 353	Social Entrepreneurship	3
GOVT 412	Politics and the Mass Media	3
GOVT 414	Politics of Race and Gender	3
GOVT 423	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	3

Concentration in Public Policy and Administration (PPA)

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 304	American State and Local Government	3
GOVT 329	Issues in Political Theories and Values	1-3
GOVT 351	Administration in the Political System	3
GOVT 353	Social Entrepreneurship	3
GOVT 354	Nonprofit Sector in Society	3
GOVT 355	Public Personnel Administration	3
GOVT 356	Public Budgeting and Finance	3
GOVT 357	Urban Planning	3
GOVT 358	Nonprofit Financial Planning	4
GOVT 361	Introduction to Environmental Policy	3
GOVT 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy	3
GOVT 364	Public Policy Making	3
GOVT 365	State and Regional Public Policy	3
GOVT 366	Public Policy Analysis	3
GOVT 367	Money, Markets and Economic Policy (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 368	Tools for Economic Policy Analysis	3
GOVT 452	Administrative Law and Procedures	3
GOVT 460	Surveillance and Privacy in Contemporary Society	3
GOVT 464	Issues in Public Policy and Administration	1-3
GOVT 467	Current Issues in Economic Policy	3
GOVT 469	Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	3

Individualized Concentration (IND)

Create your own concentration consisting of four upper level courses with Director approval. A minimum of two courses in this concentration must be GOVT.

BA with Non-Government Concentration

Concentration in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)

Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 101	Democratic Theory and Practice (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 103	Introduction to American Government (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 132	Introduction to International Politics (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 133	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Mason Core)	3
GOVT 300	Research Methods and Analysis (Mason Core)	4
Total Credits		16

Senior Seminar

Code	Title	Credits
Select one from the following:		3
GOVT 490	Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core)	
GOVT 491	Honors Seminar (Mason Core) ¹	
Total Credits		3

¹ This option is for students who have been accepted to pursue honors in the major.

Government Field Study

Students complete the following coursework:

Code	Title	Credits
American Politics		
Select one course from the following:		3
GOVT 301 - GOVT 319		
GOVT 401 - GOVT 419		
Political Theory and Law		
GOVT 323	Classical Western Political Theory	3
International and Comparative Politics		
Select one course from the following:		3
GOVT 330 - GOVT 349		
GOVT 430 - GOVT 449		
Public Policy and Administration		
GOVT 467	Current Issues in Economic Policy	3
GOVT 469	Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	3
Additional Upper Level GOVT Courses		
GOVT 422	Constitutional Interpretation	3
Two additional upper division GOVT courses		6
Total Credits		24

Additional Concentration Courses

Code	Title	Credits
PHIL 324	Modern Western Political Theory	3
or PHIL 327	Contemporary Western Political Theory	
PHIL 357	Philosophy of the Social Sciences	3
or PHIL 371	Philosophy of Natural Sciences	
PHIL 358	Ethics and Economics	3
PHIL 411	Theories of Decision	3

ECON 103	Contemporary Microeconomic Principles (Mason Core)	3
ECON 104	Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles (Mason Core)	3
ECON 306	Intermediate Microeconomics	3
ECON 412	Game Theory and Economics of Institutions	3
Total Credits		24

Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in their majors. Students majoring in government and international politics may fulfill this requirement by successfully completing GOVT 490 Synthesis Seminar (Mason Core) or GOVT 491 Honors Seminar (Mason Core) in their major programs.

Schar Requirements in Addition to Mason Core Below

Code	Title	Credits
	One course in Philosophy or Religion	
	One additional course in Social and Behavioral Sciences	
	One course in Non-Western Culture	
	Proficiency in a foreign language through the intermediate level	

Mason Core

Note: Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements		
	Written Communication (ENGH 101)	3
	Oral Communication	3
	Quantitative Reasoning	3
	Information Technology and Computing	3
Exploration Requirements		
	Arts	3
	Global Understanding	3
	Literature	3
	Natural Science	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
	Western Civilization/World History	3
Integration Requirements		
	Written Communications (ENGH 302)	3
	Writing-Intensive ¹	3
	Synthesis/Capstone ²	3
Total Credits		40

¹ Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

² Minimum 3 credits required.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Highly qualified students majoring in Government and International Politics and Public Administration may pursue advanced work leading to graduation with honors in the major. Those students selected for participation in this program take a two-course sequence: GOVT 491 Honors Seminar (Mason Core) and GOVT 496 Directed Readings and Research. To graduate with honors in the major, students must complete these courses with a minimum GPA of 3.50.

Accelerated Master's

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Biodefense, Accelerated MS

Overview

Highly qualified undergraduates in any major may apply to the accelerated Biodefense, MS. If accepted, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a Biodefense, MS with a reduced number of overall credits and within a reduced time frame, sometimes within five years.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Admission

Please see the Graduate Admissions for general information on graduate admission to George Mason University. Information specific to the accelerated MS program may be found on the Schar website (<http://schar.gmu.edu/programs/undergraduate-degrees/accelerated-masters-programs>).

To be considered for this accelerated master's program, applicants must have completed a minimum of 75 credits and have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all coursework applied to the degree.

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses (six credits) that may be counted toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees. In addition, students may take another two courses (six credits) to be held as reserve graduate credit and count only toward the master's degree. The courses are BIOD 604 Emerging Infectious Diseases I: Bacteria and Toxins, GOVT 500 The Scientific Method and Research Design, BIOD 605 Emerging Infectious Diseases II: Viral Agents and BIOD 620 Global Health Security Policy. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in these courses and in coursework applied to their major.

Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, students must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form to apply credits to the master's degree. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree (excluding summer).

Bachelor's Degree (any)/International Security, Accelerated MA

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in any major may apply to the accelerated MA degree program in International Security. If accepted students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their major and an MA in International Security with a reduced number of overall credits and within a reduced time frame, sometimes within five years. More information on bachelor's/accelerated master's programs may be found in AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. See AP.6.9 Requirements for Master's Degrees.

Admission

Please see Graduate Admission Policies for general information on graduate admission to George Mason University. Specific information on application requirements and deadlines may be found on the Schar admissions website (<http://schar.gmu.edu/admissions>).

To be considered for this accelerated master's program, applicants must have completed a minimum of 75 credits, including at least 12 credits of Government, Economics and/or Global Affairs courses, and have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all coursework applied to the degree.

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses (six credits) that may be counted toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees. In addition, students may take another two courses (six credits) to be held as reserve graduate credit and count only toward the master's degree. The courses are:

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 540	International Relations	3
POGO 511	Introductory Data Analysis for Policy and Government	3
PUBP 504	Grand Strategy	3
PUBP 506	Ethics and the Use of Force	3

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in these courses and in coursework applied to their major.

Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, students must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form to apply credits to the master's degree. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree (excluding summer).

Bachelor's Degree (any)/International Commerce and Policy, Accelerated MA

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in any major may apply to the accelerated MA degree program in International Commerce and Policy. If accepted students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their major and an MA in International Commerce and Policy with a reduced number of overall credits and within a reduced time frame, sometimes within five

years. More information on bachelor's/accelerated master's programs may be found in AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. See AP.6.9 Requirements for Master's Degrees.

Admission

Please see Graduate Admission Policies for general information on graduate admission to George Mason University. Specific information on application requirements and deadlines may be found on the Schar admissions website (<http://schar.gmu.edu/admissions>).

To be considered for this accelerated master's program, applicants must have completed a minimum of 75 credits, including at least 12 credits of Government, Economics and/or Global Affairs courses, and have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all coursework applied to the degree.

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses (six credits) that may be counted toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees. In addition, students may take another two courses (six credits) to be held as reserve graduate credit and count only toward the master's degree. The courses are ITRN 500 Global Political Economy, ITRN 504 Microeconomics and Trade Policy, ITRN 503 Macroeconomic Policy in the Global Economy and ITRN 605 Technology, Culture and Commerce. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in these courses and in coursework applied to their major.

Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, students must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form to apply credits to the master's degree. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree (excluding summer).

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Political Science, Accelerated MA

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in any major may apply to the accelerated MA degree in political science. If accepted, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a MA in Political Science with a reduced number of overall credits and within a reduced time frame, sometimes five years. More information on bachelor's/accelerated master's programs may be found in AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. See AP.6.9 Requirements for Master's Degrees.

Admission

See Graduate Admission Policies for general information on graduate admission to George Mason University. Specific information on application requirements and deadlines for the Political Science master's program may be found on the Schar website (<http://schar.gmu.edu/programs/undergraduate-degrees/accelerated-masters-programs>).

To be considered for this accelerated master's program, applicants must have completed a minimum of 75 credits, including 12 GOVT credits, and have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all coursework applied to the degree.

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses (six credits) that may be counted toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees. In addition, students may take another two courses (six credits) to be held as reserve graduate credit and count only toward the master's degree. The courses are chosen from GOVT 500 The Scientific Method and Research Design, GOVT 510 American Government and Politics, GOVT 520 Political Theory, GOVT 530 Comparative Politics, GOVT 540 International Relations. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in these courses and in coursework applied to their major.

Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, students must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form to apply credits to the master's degree. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree (excluding summer).

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Public Administration, Accelerated MPA

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in any major may apply to the accelerated master's degree in public administration. If accepted, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's degree in public administration with a reduced number of overall credits and within a reduced time frame, sometimes within five years. See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Admission

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. Information specific to the accelerated MPA program may be found on the Schar website (<http://schar.gmu.edu/programs/undergraduate-degrees/accelerated-masters-programs>).

To be considered for this accelerated master's program, applicants must have completed a minimum of 75 credits, including 12 GOVT credits, and have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all coursework applied to the degree.

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses (six credits) that may be counted toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees. In addition, students may take another two courses (six credits) to be held as reserve graduate credit and count only toward the master's degree. The courses are PUAD 502 Administration in Public and Nonprofit Organizations, POGO 511 Introductory Data Analysis for Policy and Government, PUAD 520 Organization Theory and Management Behavior and PUAD 540 Public Policy Process. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in these courses and in coursework applied to their major.

Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, students must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form to apply credits to the master's degree. Students must begin their master's program the

semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree (excluding summer).

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Public Policy, Accelerated MPP

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in any major may apply to the accelerated Master of Public Policy (MPP) program. If accepted students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and the Master of Public Policy with a reduced number of overall credits and within a reduced time frame, sometimes within five years. More information on bachelor's/accelerated master's programs may be found in AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>).

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. See AP.6.9 Requirements for Master's Degrees. (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-9>)

Admission

Please see Graduate Admission Policies for general information on graduate admission to George Mason University. Information specific to the accelerated Master of Public Policy program may be found on the Schar website (<http://schar.gmu.edu/programs/undergraduate-degrees/accelerated-masters-programs>).

To be considered for this accelerated master's program, applicants must have completed a minimum of 75 credits, including 12 credits of Government and/or Economics courses, and have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all coursework applied to the degree.

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses (six credits) that may be counted toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees. In addition, students may take another two courses (six credits) from the following list to be held as reserve graduate credit and count only toward the master's degree. The student must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 in each course. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in these courses and in coursework applied to their major.

Code	Title	Credits
PUBP 500	Theory and Practice in Public Policy	3
PUBP 503	Culture, Organization, and Technology	3
ITRN 503	Macroeconomic Policy in the Global Economy	3
POGO 511	Introductory Data Analysis for Policy and Government	3

Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, students must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form to apply credits to the master's degree. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree (excluding summer).