

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE
Department of Government

August 2016

TO: Prospective Majors in Government

FROM: Professor Susan Dicklitch, Chair, Department of Government

The purpose of this memo is to provide guidance to students interested in majoring in Government.

GOALS OF THE GOVERNMENT MAJOR

The Government major is designed to prepare and enrich students for their professional lives and their roles as active citizens and leaders. The department has a long tradition of both encouraging its majors to think conceptually about politics and to immerse themselves in their political environment through internships, civic activism, study abroad, and service learning.

Students in Government study the process by which societies make collective decisions, explore the theoretical and ethical foundations of political action, raise critical questions about the nature and use of power, and examine how societies and international systems attempt to address basic problems of liberty, equality, and order. As a complement to coursework in the major, students develop skills in language, economics, mathematics, or philosophy.

CAREERS OF OUR MAJORS

The Government major prepares our students for leadership roles in a wide range of careers. We count among our graduates a former chief-of-staff to President Reagan; a former chair of the Republican National Committee; the head of one of the leading political advertising firms in Washington, D.C.; CEOs; campaign managers; venture capitalists; legislators; and judges. Recent graduates have been selected to participate in TeachForAmerica, Americorps, and Peace Corps. Other graduates have gone on to law school; graduate programs in public policy and international relations at Harvard, Princeton, Berkeley, Duke, and Penn; doctoral programs at Columbia, Michigan, Johns Hopkins, and Purdue; and medical school. Our recent graduates have careers in law; national and international government organizations; nonprofit organizations; campaign and legislative work; lobbying; city management and administration; banking; business; medicine; and journalism.

BECOMING A GOVERNMENT MAJOR

Prospective majors are encouraged to begin planning for the Government major in the Fall of their Sophomore year. To declare a major, students must have taken at least one Government course and have begun to take or have firm plans about when they will begin the Cognate.

Students should review the information below and then request an appointment with a member of the Department whom they would like to be their advisor. All Government Department offices are in the Harris Center.

Prior to the conference with a member of the Department, students should use the Major Worksheet (attached) to draft a projected schedule of the GOV courses taken, GOV courses that the student plans to take, and the Cognate choice (including any courses taken toward the Cognate). The projected schedule will then serve as the basis for the discussion with a member of the Department.

A major in Government consists of ten (10) courses in Government and a three (3) course Cognate. The major is designed to expose students to the different subfields of Government, to guide students through increasingly rigorous and sophisticated methods of inquiry, and to allow students to choose the upper level electives that interest them. Majors must complete the following Government courses:

- American Government (GOV100)
- Comparative Politics (GOV120)
- International Politics (GOV130)
- Either:
Classical Political Theory (GOV241) or Modern Political Theory (GOV242)
- Political Research (GOV250)
* *Should be taken no later than the first semester of the junior year*
* For students completing the Government major BIO210, ECO210, PSY230, BOS250, or SOC302 may be substituted for GOV250.
- Four electives, of which at least two must be at the 300 level or above.
- An upper level GOV seminar (4xx)

Majors must also complete one of the following Cognates. The Cognates are designed to deepen the intellectual experience of our majors and to prepare them for the increasingly globalized environment in which they will work and live. Prospective majors must choose one of the following Cognates in order to declare the major. You may change your Cognate by meeting with your advisor. The Cognate choices are as follows:

- Philosophy (three courses in Philosophy, at least two of which must be at the 200 level or higher); or
- Mathematics (any three courses not counting 105 or 116); or
- Foreign Language (three courses in a new language or three courses beginning where the student is placed; courses a student places out of do not count toward the Cognate); or
- Economics (100, 103, plus a 200 level course or above); or
- One semester of study abroad at a College-approved program. Summer programs do not fulfill the Cognate. (A maximum of one course taken abroad and approved by the Chair (or his/her) designee will also count as a Government course toward the major.)

All courses that count toward fulfillment of the Major and Cognate must be graded courses.

The writing requirement in Government is met by fulfilling the requirements of the Government major.

At least nine (9) Government courses, including the upper level seminar, must be completed at Franklin & Marshall College. Courses granted Advanced Placement credit in Government and Politics will be counted the same as courses taken in the Government Department at Franklin & Marshall. For special cases, such as yearlong study abroad or students transferring in their junior year, students should meet with the chair.

Normally, students in their first two years should focus on 100 and 200 level courses; 300 400 level courses are designed for juniors and seniors. Prerequisites may be waived only by the instructor.

There is no Government minor.

STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad is one of the ways that Government majors can fulfill their Cognate requirement. We strongly encourage all students to consider this option. Studying abroad offers incomparable opportunities for enriching your understanding of how different societies function and for getting a new perspective on American society. Study abroad requires planning ahead – as much as a year in advance. The information below lays out the basic steps you should go through as you decide whether study abroad is the way you wish to complete your Government major.

What is the study abroad option in the Government major?

One semester of study abroad at any College-approved program meets the Cognate requirement in Government. In addition, a maximum of one government/political science course taken as part of a study abroad program may count toward fulfillment of Government major requirements. For an off-campus course to count toward the Government major, advance approval of the Government Department Chair (or his/her designee) is necessary.

What types of study abroad programs should Government majors consider?

Study abroad should be more than a colorful “add-on” experience during your college years. International education can be made an integral part of your study of Government by selecting a program whose strengths correspond to your special interests within the major. Here is an overview of the types of programs that might be particularly appropriate, along with an example or two of each.

Programs that involve students in internships in government institutions

Internships in Francophone Europe

Parliamentary Internship Program – Edinburgh, London (Institute for Study Abroad – Butler University)

Advanced Studies in England, Bath
Australian National University

Programs that involve students in international or non-governmental organizations
Denmark International Studies program on the European Union
Syracuse University in Strasbourg, France

Programs combining political science with philosophy and ethics
Oxford (Institute for Study Abroad – Butler University)
College Year in Athens

Programs that emphasize language skills
IES (with programs in Europe, China, Latin America)

Programs focusing on development and human rights issues
School for International Training (sites in Africa, Asia, Latin America)

Programs with Direct Enrollment (enroll through the Office of International Programs; you will be enrolled as a regular student in the University)

London School of Economics, England
University of Glasgow, Scotland
University of Edinburgh, Scotland
University of St. Andrews, Scotland

Where have Government majors gone in recent years?

SIT-Amsterdam; IES-Barcelona; University of Melbourne Australia; University of Haifa, Israel; DIS-Copenhagen; Advanced Studies in England, Bath; Stockholm, Sweden; Tohoku Gakuin University, Japan; Florence University, Italy; Victoria University at Wellington, New Zealand; and the Parliamentary Internship Program at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

Where do I go for information on study abroad programs?

To begin sorting out alternatives, contact the Office of International Programs (358-7187). Attend a "Starting Points" meeting. Gather information on various programs. Drop by the Office of International Programs at the Joseph International Center (701 College Avenue) to look at brochures and to browse through F&M's library of student evaluations of study abroad experiences. Search F&M's website for "International and Off-Campus Study", too. The section "Search Our Pre-approved Programs" will direct you to various College-approved programs across the world. Then set up an appointment with the staff of International Programs. They can help you clarify your objectives and orient you toward specific programs. Finally, you decide which particular program to apply for. Applications forms are usually in the program brochures.

When should I study abroad?

Most commonly, study abroad takes place during junior year. Yet there can be academic reasons to do it later, in the Fall of the senior year, or earlier, in the sophomore year.

When do I have to decide? What deadlines do I have to meet?

Planning ahead is crucial. You must apply to study abroad programs and meet their deadlines. Here is an approximate calendar of the process:

- About one year before you plan to take a semester abroad, you should contact the Office of International Programs, begin gathering program information, consult with F&M advisors and begin choosing program(s) of interest.
- Applications are usually sent in six to eight months before a program begins.
- Four to six months before the study abroad semester, you will receive notification of your admission to a program.
- The Government Department Chair (or his/her designee) gives approval for program courses that will count toward the Government major.

JOINT MAJOR; GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY

The Government department also offers a joint major in Government and Public Policy. The joint major consists of the following courses:

Public Policy Core:

- Introduction to Economic Principles (ECO100)
- Introduction to Economic Perspectives (ECO103)
- American Government (GOV100)
- Either:
Intro to Moral Philosophy (PHI122) or Biomedical Ethics (PHI223) or Contemporary Political Philosophy (PHI227)
- Microeconomics (ECO200)
- Macroeconomics (ECO201)
- Understanding Public Policy (GOV200)
- Statistics/Methods (GOV250)

Government Requirements:

- Comparative Politics (GOV120)
- International Politics (GOV130)
- Either:
Classical Political Theory (GOV241) or Modern Political Theory (GOV242)
- 300 or 400 level GOV elective (GOV 3/4xx)
- Seminar in GOV (GOV 4xx)
- Economics Cognate fulfilled by completion of Public Policy Core (ECO100, 200, 201);
and
- Three (3) electives from among those on the PUB electives master list, of which no more than two (2) may be GOV and at least one (1) must be at the 300 level or above.

Students should consult with the chair of the Public Policy Committee to verify that they (will) have completed electives that satisfy these requirements.

OTHER JOINT MAJORS

A joint major requires eight (8) courses from each major. The Government portion of a joint major will be identical to the requirements for a Government major, minus one elective each at the 200 and 300 levels. Furthermore, every student declaring a joint major must study abroad for a semester or have already completed a Cognate. Every joint major must be approved by the Chair.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Students may want to enhance their Government major with an International Studies minor. To complete an International Studies minor, students need to:

- Introduction to International Studies (IST200)
- One semester of Study Abroad in a non-English speaking environment
- Four courses (of which no more than two can overlap with the major) focusing on a particular geographical or topical theme
- Achieve proficiency in a foreign language
- Capstone Seminar in International Studies (IST489)

INTERNSHIPS

The Government department offers many opportunities for student internships. Government alumni are often willing to provide our majors with internship opportunities. We send out announcements that we receive about internship and job opportunities to our majors and post them on our Facebook page. Students can apply for a Sidney Wise Public Service Internship, which provides paid internships through a competitive selection process. Also, there are study abroad programs with internship opportunities.

We recommend that you contact the Office of Student and Post-Graduate Development (OSPGD) to begin your search for internships. Advisers in OSPGD can help you locate alumni and internship programs that you can contact.

GENERAL INFORMATION (AND SOME ADVICE)

1. An internship for academic credit will not count toward any requirement in the Government major. An approved internship for credit can count toward a college elective.
2. Students interested in pursuing an independent study (GOV490) or a tutorial or directed reading (GOV 391) should consult with an appropriate member of the Department well in advance of the semester in which such study is to begin. Those contemplating independent study should obtain and read a copy of "Independent Study and Honors in the Department of Government," available from the Academic Coordinator in the main Government Office, Harris 204. Enrollment in independent study also requires completion of a special form, again available from the Academic Coordinator. Students considering GOV490 should have a strong academic record (GPA of 3.0 or above in GOV courses; a

GPA of 3.5 or above in GOV courses is required for honors) and should have demonstrated a capacity for independent work. Such students may want to examine theses written by students in previous years; these are located in the departmental office.

CAREER PREPARATION

Our majors have taken a variety of different professional paths, including law, public policy and public health, international affairs, medicine, business, journalism, non-profit organizations, campaigns, legislative aides, government agencies and organizations, and doctoral work.

- Students interested in some particular aspect of a career in government (e.g., interest in education or health policy) should explore very carefully course options open to them in the Government Department and related disciplines. Students interested in international business, the Foreign Service, area studies, etc., should study a foreign language.
- Students planning to do graduate work in political science should prepare themselves for extensive work in methodology at the graduate level. Thus, some exposure to college-level mathematics is strongly recommended.
- Students considering graduate study in public policy or public affairs should prepare themselves for working using analytical techniques, which constitute a significant portion of public affairs, public administration, and public policy programs at the graduate level. Given the importance of economic analysis in these graduate programs, ECO100 (Introduction to Economic Principles) and ECO200 (Microeconomics) are strongly recommended. BOS200 (Organizing in the 21st Century: Theories of Organization), ECO231 (Money and Banking), GOV200 (Understanding Public Policy), and GOV305 (Public Policy Implementation) will also be helpful. Consult your advisor to determine exactly what combination of courses should be tailored to your individual academic program.
- Students considering graduate study in International Affairs should prepare themselves for work in analytical techniques and foreign language. Given the importance of economic analysis in these graduate programs, ECO100 (Introduction to Economic Principles), ECO200 (Microeconomics), and ECO335 (Economic Development) are strongly recommended. One should also aim for conversational abilities in a foreign language.
- Those planning to attend graduate or professional school should use the P/NP option sparingly. The purpose of the P/NP option is to permit students to explore fields outside their area of concentration or courses in which they might be expected to be at a competitive disadvantage with other students. Accordingly, none of the courses required for the major in Government may be taken on a P/NP basis. The P/NP option is also inappropriate for introductory courses in other departments of the social sciences.
- Students planning graduate study should confer with the graduate school adviser early in their college program. The Department also maintains a website with information about graduate study.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

LABORATORY OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

REPORT OF RESEARCH

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