

## **CHANGES TO IUPUI POLITICAL SCIENCE MA REQUIREMENTS**

From: John McCormick, Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science,  
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This is a proposal to change the requirements for the MA in Political Science. We wish to change the focus of the program away from its current emphasis on state and local politics, and toward political science in a broader sense.

The changes proposed are listed below. They involve:

- Replacing two of the required courses. The replacement courses (Y657/Y669 and Y661) have been approved and offered.
- Increasing the number of electives from 9-12 hours to 15 hours.
- Dropping the internship requirement.

All else remains the same, including the number of hours required for completion of the MA.

We launched the MA in 2006 with a focus on state and local politics (a) because Ball State University indicated their opposition to our offering a general politics MA that might overlap with their Indianapolis graduate program, and (b) because we had four faculty members at that time whose specialities lay in state, local, and urban politics.

The overlap with Ball State has not proved to be a problem, we now have only one faculty member who specializes in state politics, and students have made clear their preference for a wider focus. We thus felt that a switch to a general political science MA would make better use of our faculty resources, and would be more attractive to students, allowing them greater flexibility in their course of study.

The changes are indicated on the following page.

<b>STATE AND LOCAL FOCUS</b>	<b>GENERAL FOCUS</b>
Credit hours: 33	Credit hours: 33
<p><b>Required courses</b> (12 hours)</p> <p>POLS Y570 Introduction to the Study of Politics (3 cr.)</p> <p>POLS Y580 Research Methods in Political Science (3 cr.)</p> <p>POLS Y620 State Politics (3 cr.)</p> <p>POLS Y622 Urban Politics (3 cr.)</p>	<p><b>Required courses</b> (12 hours)</p> <p>POLS Y570 Introduction to the Study of Politics (3 cr.)</p> <p>POLS Y580 Research Methods in Political Science (3 cr.)</p> <p><b>POLS Y657 Comparative Politics <u>or</u> Y669 - International Relations (3 cr.)</b></p> <p><b>POLS Y661 American Politics (3 cr.)</b></p>
<b>Electives</b> (9-12 hours)	<b>Electives</b> (15 hours)
<p><b>Internship</b> (3-6 hours) This must be with a state or local government institution</p>	<b>No internship requirement</b>
Thesis (6 hours)	Thesis (6 hours)