

# Detailed Regulations for the Implementation of the Graduate Program Curriculum: Department of Political Science, Graduate School

Effective date: March 1, 2026

Article 1 (Purpose) ① The purpose of these Detailed Regulations is to establish the specific requirements for obtaining a degree in the above-mentioned department of the Graduate School.

② Any person seeking to obtain a degree must fulfill all requirements prescribed by the Graduate School Academic Regulations, the Detailed Regulations for Implementation of the Graduate School Academic Regulations, the Graduate School Internal Regulations, and the following Detailed Regulations.

Article 2 (Educational Objectives) ① The educational objectives of the Department are as follows:

1. Political science is an academic discipline that not only empirically analyzes and explains political phenomena, but also normatively critiques them, with the aim of realizing the conditions for a good political society.

2. The Department of Political Science at Kyung Hee University aims to cultivate outstanding individuals and specialists who explore the past and present of human society, anticipate the future, and present a sound vision.

Article 3 (Career Prospects and Fields of Employment) ① The career prospects and fields of employment for graduates of the Department are as follows:

1. Graduates of the Master's Program: Admission to doctoral programs at domestic and overseas graduate schools; public and private research institutes; university research institutes; government agencies; the National Assembly; the political sector; the media; international organizations; domestic and international non-governmental organizations; social enterprises; and related fields.

2. Graduates of the Doctoral Program: Faculty positions at domestic and overseas universities; public and private research institutes; university research institutes; the media; international organizations; domestic and international non-governmental organizations; and related fields.

Article 4 (Basic Structure of the Curriculum) ① Any person seeking to graduate or complete the program in the Department of Political Science must fulfill the major elective credits specified in [Table 1] Basic Curriculum Structure and <Appendix 1> Curriculum Organization.

② Courses offered by other departments of the Graduate School that are not included in <Appendix 1> Curriculum Organization shall be recognized as major electives within the maximum range of credits allotted for other departments in [Table 1].

③ Prerequisite credits shall not be included in the credits required for graduation.

**[Table 1] Basic Curriculum Structure**

Department (Major)	Program	Credits Required for Completion				Credits Recognized from Other Departments
		Major Required	Major Elective	Common Courses	Total	
Department of Political Science	Master's Program		24		24	3
	Doctoral Program		36		36	9

Article 5 (Curriculum) ① The curriculum is as follows:

1. The Curriculum Organization is set forth in <Appendix 1>.
2. The Course Description Handbook is set forth in <Appendix 2>.

Article 6 (Prerequisite Courses) ① Any person falling under the following categories must complete the relevant prerequisite courses as specified below:

1. Applicable students: Non-majors in political science, students from unrelated academic fields, or those deemed by the Department to require prerequisite coursework.
  2. Credits required for prerequisite courses:
    - Master's Program: 9 credits
    - Doctoral Program: 12 credits
  3. List of Prerequisite Courses: Prerequisite courses shall be determined through consultation with the Graduate Program Director. Students must, as far as possible, complete courses evenly distributed across the three major fields of specialization.
- ② Courses completed in a lower degree program prior to admission may be recognized as prerequisite credits if the student applies for credit recognition and obtains confirmation from the academic advisor and the Department Chair, as well as approval from the head of the relevant administrative unit.

Article 7 (Recognition of Courses from Other Departments)

- ① With the approval of the Department Chair, students may enroll in major courses offered by other departments. Credits earned in such courses may be recognized as major elective credits. The maximum number of credits that may be recognized from other departments is 3 credits for the Master's Program and 9 credits for the Doctoral Program.
- ② If the number of credits exceeds the maximum limit of recognized credits from other departments, additional credits may be recognized following deliberation by the Department.

Article 8 (Completion of Graduate School Common Courses) ① If students take "Common Courses" (Interdisciplinary Courses) offered by the Graduate School for all graduate students, such credits may be recognized toward completion or graduation credits upon approval by the academic advisor and the Department Chair.

Article 9 (Completion of the Program) ① Completion of the program shall be granted only to those who have completed the coursework specified in Article 4 and satisfied all requirements set forth in the Graduate School Academic Regulations, Internal Regulations, and other applicable higher-level regulations.

- ② Students required to complete prerequisite credits must earn the prescribed prerequisite credits. However, prerequisite credits shall not be included in the credits required for completion.
- ③ For credits recognized from other departments and common courses, only the number of credits prescribed in the respective Articles above shall be counted toward the credits required for completion.

Article 10 (Graduation) ① Graduation shall be granted only to those who have fulfilled the requirements set forth in Article 9 and satisfied all graduation requirements, including the degree qualification examination, submission of a thesis for degree conferral, and the thesis publication requirement.

#### Article 11 (Degree Qualification Examination)

- ① In order to apply for submission of a thesis for degree conferral, students must pass the degree qualification examination.
- ② The regulations governing the degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) are as follows:

##### 1. Master's Program

The degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) shall not be administered.

##### 2. Doctoral Program

Students may apply for the degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) after earning at least 24 credits required for degree completion.

- The degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination), administered by the Department Chair or the Graduate Program Director, is conducted in written form and constitutes one of the most significant milestones in the doctoral program. Students must demonstrate broad expertise in their major field of specialization and possess a substantial level of knowledge in two additional fields outside their primary area of specialization.

- The degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) is designed in accordance with the student's coursework and focuses on the relevant areas of study. Students who wish to take any examinations required in connection with the completion of the Master's or Doctoral degree programs must notify the Department Chair or the Graduate Program Director of their intention to sit for the examination at least thirty (30) days prior to the examination date.

- The degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) consists of examinations in political science courses and is administered internally by the Department of Political Science. The examination shall cover only courses completed in the Department of Political Science. A student shall be considered to have passed the degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) upon successfully passing all five subjects.

- To apply for the degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination), students must submit an official transcript and the prescribed application form to the Department Chair. When registering to take all five subjects administered by the Department, students may submit their application online.

③ The degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) shall be evaluated on a Pass (P) or No Pass (N) basis.

- If a student receives a score below 80 in any subject of the degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) administered by the Department, the student must retake the examination in that subject. Each subject examination may be retaken up to two times.

④ The regulations governing the degree qualification examination (Public Presentation) are as follows:

#### 1. Master's Program

1) The application process for the degree qualification examination (Public Presentation) is as follows:

- In accordance with the Graduate School Academic Regulations of the University, all students in the Master's and Doctoral programs must conduct at least one public (research) presentation prior to the thesis review. As a general rule, the Department shall hold the public presentation once per semester, and it shall be conducted with the attendance of at least three faculty members of the Department.

- Students who wish to give a public presentation must prepare a thesis research proposal and obtain approval from their academic advisor. The application for the presentation must be submitted no later than two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled presentation date.

- The presentation manuscript must be distributed to all faculty members of the Department at least seven (7) days prior to the presentation.

- Students who do not pass may try again beginning in the following semester.

2) Students who have passed the degree qualification examination (Public Presentation) may submit their thesis for degree conferral and undergo review.

- The selection of thesis examiners and the thesis review process are governed by the Graduate School Regulations and the Graduate School Internal Regulations.

#### 2. Doctoral Program

1) Students who have passed the degree qualification examination (Comprehensive Examination) may apply for the degree qualification examination (Public Presentation).

- In accordance with the Graduate School Academic Regulations of the University, all students in the Master's and Doctoral programs must conduct at least one public (research) presentation prior to the thesis review. As a general rule, the Department shall hold the public presentation once per semester, and it shall be conducted with the attendance of at least three faculty members of the Department.

- The public presentation shall consist of a first presentation and a second presentation. Only students who pass the first presentation may apply for the second presentation, and passing the second presentation shall constitute final approval of the open presentation requirement.

- The first and second presentations may not be applied for in the same semester.

- Students who wish to give a public presentation must prepare a thesis research proposal and obtain approval from their academic advisor. The application for the presentation must be submitted no later than two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled presentation date.

- All other matters shall be the same as those applicable to the Master's Program.

2) Students who have passed the Public Presentation may submit their thesis for review.

- The selection of thesis examiners and the thesis review process shall be governed by the Graduate School Regulations and the Graduate School Internal Regulations.

Article 12 (Publication Requirement) ① In order to obtain a degree, students must submit proof of publication in addition to the thesis for degree conferral.

② The requirements for publication shall be governed by the Graduate School Internal Regulations.

Article 13 (Academic Advisor) ① Prior to applying for the appointment of an academic advisor,

students must engage in prior consultation with the Department Chair, who concurrently serves as the Graduate Program Director.

[Supplementary Provision]

① Effective Date: March 1, 2022.

② Transitional Measures:

A. The provisions concerning the degree qualification examination under the 2022 Academic Year Detailed Regulations for the Implementation of the Graduate Program Curriculum may also apply to students admitted prior to the 2022 academic year.

B. The degree qualification examination may be substituted for the public presentation or the thesis submission qualification examination.

C. Students who substitute the degree qualification examination shall not receive recognition for any previously completed public presentation or thesis submission qualification examination.

[Supplementary Provision]

① Effective date: March 1, 2026

② Transitional Measures: Students admitted prior to the effective date of these Detailed Regulations shall follow the former curriculum of the Department. However, if necessary, they may follow the new curriculum upon approval by the Department Chair following deliberation by the Department.

**<Appendix 1> Curriculum Organization**

No.	Course Classification	Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Applicable Program		Course Type				Semester Offered		Remarks
					Master's	Doctoral	Theory	Training	Practice	Design	Semester	Semester	
											1	2	
1	Major Elective	PSC7001	Quantitative Research Methods	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
2	Major Elective	PSC7002	Comparative International Organization	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					<input type="radio"/>	
3	Major Elective	PSC7005	American Politics and US Foreign Policy	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
4	Major Elective	PSC7007	Japanese Government and Politics	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
5	Major Elective	PSC7008	Korean Government and Politics	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					<input type="radio"/>	
6	Major Elective	PSC7009	Comparative Politics Seminar	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					<input type="radio"/>	
7	Major Elective	PSC7011	Foreign Policy Analysis	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
8	Major Elective	PSC7012	Political Parties and Party Politics	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
9	Major Elective	PSC7013	Global Diaspora Politics	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
10	Major Elective	PSC7015	Chinese Government and Politics	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>					<input type="radio"/>	
11	Major Elective	PSC7018	Political Methodology	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
12	Major Elective	PSC7019	Political Theory and State	3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		

13	Major Elective	PSC7023	International Political Economy	3	○	○	○				○	
14	Major Elective	PSC7024	Thesis Research 3	2	○	○	○				○	
15	Major Elective	PSC7025	Thesis Research 2	2	○	○	○				○	
16	Major Elective	PSC7026	Thesis Research 1	2	○	○	○				○	
17	Major Elective	PSC7027	Political Economy of South Korea	3	○	○	○				○	
18	Major Elective	PSC7028	Political Economy Seminar	3	○	○	○				○	
19	Major Elective	PSC7029	Global Governance	3	○	○	○				○	
20	Major Elective	PSC7030	North Korean Government and Politics	3	○	○	○				○	
21	Major Elective	PSC7032	Special Topics in International Relations	3	○	○	○				○	
22	Major Elective	PSC7033	Women Politics	3	○	○	○				○	
23	Major Elective	PSC7035	Local Government	3	○	○	○				○	
24	Major Elective	PSC7042	International Relations in East Asia	3	○	○	○				○	
25	Major Elective	PSC7044	Area Studies	3	○	○	○				○	
26	Major Elective	PSC7047	Special Topics in Political Science	3	○	○	○				○	
27	Major Elective	PSC7048	Seminar on Political Theories	3	○	○	○				○	
28	Major Elective	PSC7058	Theories of International Relations	3	○	○	○				○	
29	Major Elective	PSC7059	Introduction to Political Theory	3	○	○	○				○	

30	Major Elective	PSC7061	Political Process	3	○	○	○				○		
31	Major Elective	PSC7062	Western European Politics	3	○	○	○					○	
32	Major Elective	PSC7079	International Cooperation	3	○	○	○				○		
33	Major Elective	PSC7080	Seminar on the European Union	3	○	○	○					○	
34	Major Elective	PSC7081	Chinese Foreign Policy	3	○	○	○					○	
35	Major Elective	PSC7082	Politics of Civic Participation	3	○	○	○					○	
36	Major Elective	PSC7083	Comparative Authoritarian Politics	3	○	○	○					○	
37	Major Elective	PSC7084	Liberalism and the Limits of State Intervention	3	○	○	○					○	
38	Major Elective	PSC7085	AI and Ethics	3	○	○	○					○	
39	Major Elective	PSC7086	Markets and Ethics	3	○	○	○				○		
40	Major Elective	PSC7087	Bioethics and Politics	3	○	○	○					○	

## <Appendix 2> Course Descriptions

### **1. Quantitative Research Methods**

This course examines how quantitative analytical methods are applied and utilized in the empirical study of political phenomena.

### **2. Comparative International Organization**

This course provides a comparative analysis of the structures and functions of the United Nations and related international organizations, as well as regional international organizations. It also examines how these institutions address and resolve major global issues.

### **3. American Politics and US Foreign Policy**

This course examines the history of American politics and diplomacy from the founding of the United States to the present. It analyzes the institutions and processes of American politics, focusing on the presidency, Congress, and political parties, and explores U.S. foreign policy, including its policies toward China and North Korea.

### **4. Japanese Government and Politics**

This course examines the structural characteristics of the contemporary Japanese political system by analyzing political dynamics centered on major political issues from the Meiji Restoration to the present. Through this approach, it explores both the universal and specific features of Japanese politics.

### **5. Korean Government and Politics**

This course explores the major trends, characteristics, and driving factors of Korean politics by examining the introduction of democracy after liberation, the rise of authoritarian regimes, democratization and democratic consolidation, and the democratic crises that have emerged in periods of political transition.

### **6. Comparative Politics Seminar**

This seminar compares political systems and political processes across countries by identifying similarities and differences, and conducts comparative analyses of recent issues and case studies.

### **7. Foreign Policy Analysis**

This course explains and analyzes how and why a state's foreign policy is formulated and implemented, drawing on theoretical perspectives and a range of case studies.

### **8. Political Parties and Party Politics**

Based on the premise that democracy is inconceivable without political parties, this course investigates parties at the governmental, electoral, and organizational levels, and analyzes interparty competition at the level of the party system.

### **9. Global Diaspora Politics**

This course analyzes international migration from a political science perspective through comparative analysis, focusing on issues such as security, the expansion of citizenship, anti-immigrant sentiment, and

social integration. Although the topic has traditionally been studied in sociology and cultural anthropology, this course examines it within a framework of political analysis.

### **10. Chinese Government and Politics**

This course provides an overview of the dynamics of contemporary Chinese politics. It analyzes the factors that have enabled China to maintain political stability and achieve sustained economic development over the past four decades, despite the collapse of other socialist regimes.

### **11. Political Methodology**

Focusing on empirical political analysis, this course discusses the logic and techniques of research methods. While it addresses quantitative approaches, its primary emphasis is on qualitative dimensions, particularly issues of logical reasoning and inference.

### **12. Political Theory and State**

This course explores ideas and theories concerning the nature, functions, and transformation of the state and conducts comparative analysis of relevant case studies.

### **13. International Political Economy**

This course reviews major theoretical and methodological approaches to international political economy and analyzes key issues in the field, including trade, finance, and investment.

### **14. Thesis Research III**

This course provides structured guidance for students preparing their thesis for degree conferral, with an emphasis on systematic and logically coherent research and writing.

### **15. Thesis Research II**

This course provides structured guidance for students preparing their thesis for degree conferral, with an emphasis on systematic and logically coherent research and writing.

### **16. Thesis Research I**

This course provides structured guidance for students preparing their thesis for degree conferral, with an emphasis on systematic and logically coherent research and writing.

### **17. Political Economy in South Korea**

This course examines theoretical and empirical studies related to the political economy of South Korea. In particular, it conducts empirical research based on primary sources, focusing on major contemporary issues in the Korean political economy.

### **18. Political Economy Seminar**

This course introduces core concepts and theories in political economy and conducts a critical analysis of leading theoretical and empirical research.

## **19. Global Governance**

This course undertakes a theoretical and empirical analysis of new modes of governance as alternatives to the traditional state-centered model of governance. It focuses on the roles and interactions of various actors, including states, corporations, and non-governmental organizations, and examines diverse issues in international politics and international political economy.

## **20. North Korean Government and Politics**

Inter-Korean relations are undergoing significant change, and a deeper understanding of North Korean politics is urgently required. Political science research on North Korea is essential not only prior to unification but also in preparation for the post-unification period. This course aims to provide a systematic understanding and analysis of North Korean politics.

## **21. Special Topics in International Relations**

Building on an understanding of international political theory, this course analyzes the most pressing issues in contemporary international politics and seeks possible solutions or alternatives.

## **22. Women Politics**

This course comparatively analyzes cases of women's political participation across countries in contemporary politics, where women's political status and roles are steadily expanding. It also examines general theories of women and politics.

## **23 Local Government**

This course introduces political theories that provide the theoretical background of local autonomy and comparatively analyzes, drawing on cases from various countries, the duties and roles of local governments and their leaders as required in actual political practice.

## **24. International Relations in East Asia**

East Asian international relations are characterized by economic cooperation alongside continued political and security competition. This course analyzes the realities and challenges of East Asian international politics by examining the foreign policies of major states, including China, the United States, Russia, Japan, and North Korea, and their interrelationships.

## **25. Area Studies**

In contrast to positivist research, which has become dominant in the social sciences, this course focuses on introducing the characteristics, scope, and theoretical relevance of area studies, which have traditionally relied on descriptive and case-oriented approaches.

## **26. Special Topics in Political Science**

This course analyzes major issues across contemporary political science and explores possible solutions or alternative approaches.

## **27. Seminar on Political Theories**

This seminar explores and analyzes a range of political theories, including theories of domestic politics such as democracy, authoritarianism, and socialism, as well as theories of international politics, including realism, liberalism, and constructivism.

### **28. Theories of International Relations**

This course systematically reviews the major theoretical traditions and core concepts in international relations and analyzes key theories that explain international phenomena such as interstate conflict and cooperation, war and peace, and international institutions and norms. It compares major theoretical approaches, including realism, liberalism, and constructivism, and theoretically examines how domestic politics, public opinion, institutions, and norms influence states' foreign behavior and the international order.

### **29. Introduction to Political Theory**

This course studies Western political thought from Hobbes to John Rawls and Jürgen Habermas through a problem-centered approach. Beginning with social contract theory, it explores the core concepts and values of modern liberal democratic states, including discourse ethics, deliberative democracy, the theory of separation of powers, individual rights, and the limits of legitimate state authority.

### **30. Political Process**

This course views political phenomena as a process and examines how the authoritative allocation of values and interests among individuals and political groups is decided and implemented through specific procedures and stages within the political process.

### **31. Western European Politics**

This course analyzes European politics since World War II and offers a comparative examination of the political institutions and political cultures of major European countries such as Germany, France, the United Kingdom, and Italy.

### **32. International Cooperation**

This course explores theories that explain why and how states cooperate and analyzes various cases of international cooperation across major issue areas from a theoretical perspective.

### **33. Seminar on the European Union**

This seminar examines the process of integration and development of the European Union from a theoretical perspective and analyzes how the European Union addresses major contemporary issues through cooperation at both the member-state and EU levels.

### **34. Chinese Foreign Policy**

This course analyzes China's foreign policy and external relations, identifies the key factors influencing foreign policy decision-making, and traces the development of China's domestic politics and external relations since 1949.

### **35. Politics of Civic Participation**

This course examines civic participation and its role in democracy and political processes. Forms of civic

participation vary according to models of democracy, including direct democracy, representative democracy, and participatory democracy. Citizens' preferred modes of participation, as well as the functions and scope of their authority, also change in response to transformations in political and social environments and democratic development. The course further considers the desirable roles and authority of civic participation in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

### **36. Comparative Authoritarian Politics**

This course provides a theoretical and empirical analysis of the types and institutional characteristics of authoritarian politics in non-democratic states. It examines the varieties of authoritarian regimes, leadership styles, and political phenomena that arise within authoritarian systems, such as coups, civil wars, protests, and corruption, from a comparative politics perspective. It also analyzes political stability and change under authoritarian rule, as well as the major challenges and issues that emerge in transitions to democracy.

### **37. Liberalism and State Intervention**

In liberal states where individual choice and autonomy are highly valued, under what conditions can state intervention be justified? This course explores this question by applying it to regulations on self-regarding choices, including drug prohibition laws, regulatory restrictions related to new drug development and approval, legal constraints on euthanasia, and mandatory vaccination policies.

### **38. AI and Ethics**

This course examines how ethical issues arising from advances in science and technology, particularly artificial intelligence, can be addressed through public policy and law.

### **39. Markets and Ethics**

This course addresses various ethical and political issues that may arise in a free market economy.

### **40. Bioethics and Politics**

This course explores the normative justifications for public health policies and regulatory measures implemented by the national food and drug authority, including vaccine mandates and trans fat bans, within the framework of a liberal democratic system.