



Faculty Qualifications: Discipline Description

Political Science

ACTIVE TEACHING DISCIPLINES		
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CIP Code	Description	NCES Definition For more information on the NCES CIP taxonomy, see http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55
45.1001	Political Science and Government, General.	A general program that focuses on the systematic study of political institutions and behavior. Includes instruction in political philosophy, political theory, comparative government and politics, political parties and interest groups, public opinion, political research methods, studies of the government and politics of specific countries, and studies of specific political institutions and processes.
45.0701	Geography	A program that focuses on the systematic study of the spatial distribution and interrelationships of people, natural resources, plant and animal life. Includes instruction in historical and political geography, cultural geography, economic and physical geography, regional science, cartographic methods, remote sensing, spatial analysis, and applications to areas such as land-use planning, development studies, and analyses of specific countries, regions, and resources.

The qualifications described below represent commonly accepted good practices for teaching in the discipline(s) included in this unit. [1]

Please provide a general description of unit, including programs and course offerings [2]

- B.A. Political Science, with tracks in American Politics and Policy, International Relations-Comparative Politics, and Prelaw
- B.A. International and Global Studies
- Minors in Political Science, Political Science/Pre-Law, International & Global Studies, Diplomacy, Global Peace and Security Studies, and European Studies
- Undergraduate Certificate in Diplomacy
- M.A. in Political Science
- Ph.D. in Security Studies

Terminal degree(s) for each discipline taught in the unit [3]

A terminal degree in the teaching discipline qualifies a person to teach throughout the broad scope of the teaching discipline at the undergraduate and graduate levels. [4]

Political Science

Ph.D. in Political Science, International Relations, International Studies, Government, Public Policy, or Security Studies

Geography

Ph.D. in Geography

Broadly related discipline(s) for each discipline taught in the department

Specialization qualifies a person to teach throughout the broad scope of teaching discipline (approximately five or more courses on distinct topics)

Political Science

American Government

Geography

N/A

Selectively related discipline(s) for each discipline taught in the department

Specialization does not qualify a person to teach distinct topics throughout the broad scope of the teaching discipline but does qualify to teach a more restrictive set of courses in the discipline (approximately four or fewer courses on distinct topics)

Faculty with a J.D. are qualified to teach undergraduate courses related to law and the judicial system.

An M.A. in Diplomacy or International Relations (including course work on Diplomacy and international relations) would be considered an appropriate degree to qualify for teaching undergraduate courses in Diplomacy and related areas, such as foreign policy or international relations.

Justification for use of faculty with 'other' teaching qualifications and additional faculty teaching qualifications information [5] [6]

Faculty with an MA (for undergraduate) or Ph.D. in Political Science and either previous teaching experience, research experience, or practical experience in geography would be qualified to teach courses related to Geography, such as World Political Geography, Resource Geography, and Physical Geography. These experiences may include, for example, research on environmental and sustainability politics, transportation, or urban politics.

Consideration of other teaching qualifications in conjunction with or in lieu of academic credentials is made on a case-by-case basis and appropriate justification is provided in such instances. For example, experience as a United Nations diplomat or ambassador may be appropriate for teaching certain courses in international relations. Experience as working as a city planner may be appropriate for teaching certain Geography courses.

[1] The unit chair/director, in consultation with unit faculty, has responsibility for identifying and articulating commonly accepted good practices in each teaching discipline taught in the unit and for providing appropriate justification as needed. In the case of an emerging discipline for which common collegiate practice has not yet been established, a compelling case must be provided as necessary to substantiate the claims made.

[2] Please provide a general description of the unit course and program offerings at the undergraduate and graduate levels (e.g., degree and certificate programs, minors, departmental contribution to interdisciplinary core courses). This section may also be used to provide other pertinent information about the unit and the discipline(s) it represents (e.g., discipline accreditation, faculty research emphases).

[3] List those degrees for each discipline taught in the unit that are regarded by the respective disciplinary community as terminal degrees in the discipline and thus, qualify a faculty member to teach throughout the broad scope of that discipline at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. In most fields, a terminal degree is the commonly accepted highest degree in the given field of study. In such instances, the terminal degree is usually considered to be the academic (or research) doctorate (e.g., Doctor of Philosophy). However, some academic fields have, through custom, recognized terminal degrees that are not doctorates (e.g., Master of Fine Arts, Master of Social Work). Note that terminal degrees from other disciplines may be appropriate for teaching in the discipline as well, but such credentials should be listed as broadly or selectively related degrees, as appropriate.

[4] A non-terminal master's degree in the teaching discipline qualifies a person to teach throughout the broad scope of the teaching discipline at the undergraduate level, not at the graduate level.

[5] Please use this section to provide justification that helps to make the case for special circumstances that apply to your unit including the use of faculty qualified to teach by 'other' qualifications and other special situations. Typically the statements provided in this section should be of a general nature, and not address specific individuals. (Justification for specific individuals is typically handled separately during the teaching certification process.) As appropriate, please cite to appropriate authorities to justify departmental practices (e.g., discipline accreditation guidelines, state regulations).

[6] When a faculty member cannot be qualified to teach on the basis of academic credentials (degree(s) and course work) alone, qualifications other than academic credentials (or combined with credentials) may be appropriate for teaching particular courses. Consideration of other teaching qualifications either in conjunction with or in lieu of academic credentials must be made on a case-by-case basis. Such cases should be exceptional and the evidence of other demonstrated competencies and achievements provided must be compelling. It should also show substantial and significant evidence of professional progress as related to the faculty member's teaching assignment.