GOVERNMENT, MASTER OF ARTS

MA in Government (https://advanced.jhu.edu/academics/graduate/ma-government/)

The curriculum of the Master of Arts in Government program is designed for working adult students who have specialized skills in a particular field and desire the broader perspective necessary for leadership in politics and administration. The courses are based on the latest scholarly and scientific knowledge but emphasize the application of such knowledge to the practical governmental, political, and policymaking problems of today.

Admissions Criteria for All Advanced Academic Programs (https://ecatalogue.jhu.edu/arts-sciences/advanced-academic-programs/Admission/#admissionrequirementstext)

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the materials and credentials required for all programs, the MA in Government program requires:

- Resume
- Two Letters of Recommendation
- Statement of Purpose: Please provide a statement, up to one page in length, describing your personal background and/or a part of your life experience that has shaped you or your goals. Feel free to elaborate on personal challenges and opportunities that have influenced your decision to pursue a graduate degree at Johns Hopkins.
- Writing Sample:
  - Submit a research-focused five- to ten-page writing sample. The purpose of the writing sample is to demonstrate the applicant's ability to make and support an argument.

If the applicant does not have an existing research-focused writing sample that they wish to submit, the applicant may write a five-page paper responding to the following:

"If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: You must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself." — James Madison, Federalist 51

In this well-known quote, Madison points toward the age-old problem of reconciling democracy and political power. Discuss this problem in reference to some recent policy issues or political events, citing at least three references.

Program Requirements

Students pursuing the MA in Government program must complete:

- Three required core courses
- Two customizable core courses for those pursuing applications of research
- One customizable core course for those pursuing thesis
- Seven or eight electives to meet the 12-course requirement

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<tr>
<td>AS.470.602</td>
<td>Government &amp; Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>AS.470.800</td>
<td>Thesis and Applications of Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>AS.470.850</td>
<td>Research and Thesis I: MA in Government</td>
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Core Courses - Customizable for Applications of Research

Select two of the following:

- AS.470.612 Bureaucratic Politics
- AS.470.617 The Courts and Public Policy
- AS.470.620 Race, Politics, and Policy
- AS.470.629 Models of Democratic Leadership in America
- AS.470.644 Democracy and Its Modern Critics
- AS.470.649 Separation of Powers and Democratic Governance
- AS.470.651 Corruption and Democratic Governance
- AS.470.658 Religion and American Political Culture
- AS.470.661 Political Debates and the US Constitution
- AS.470.684 Legislative Language and Policymaking
- AS.470.688 Political Institutions and the Policy Process

Core Courses - Customizable for Thesis

Select one of the following:

- AS.470.604 Social Media and The American Presidency
- AS.470.609 Leadership Skills in the 21st Century
- AS.470.615 Speechwriting: Theory and Practice
- AS.470.616 Political Ideas, Strategy, and Policy Implementation
- AS.470.622 Money and Politics
- AS.470.638 Negotiating as a Leadership Skill
- AS.470.641 Introduction to Advocacy and Lobbying

Electives (7 or 8 to reach 12 courses)

Concentration: Political Communication

Select four of the following:

- AS.470.604 Social Media and The American Presidency
- AS.470.609 Leadership Skills in the 21st Century
- AS.470.615 Speechwriting: Theory and Practice
- AS.470.616 Political Ideas, Strategy, and Policy Implementation
- AS.470.622 Money and Politics
- AS.470.638 Negotiating as a Leadership Skill
- AS.470.641 Introduction to Advocacy and Lobbying
### Concentration: Security Studies

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<td>AS.470.606</td>
<td>U.S. Security in a Disordered World</td>
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<tr>
<td>AS.470.607</td>
<td>Intelligence Ethics</td>
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<td>AS.470.611</td>
<td>Global Terrorist Organizations</td>
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<td>AS.470.630</td>
<td>Congress and the Making of Foreign Policy</td>
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<td>AS.470.640</td>
<td>Challenges of Transnational Security</td>
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<td>AS.470.632</td>
<td>Security Issues in South Asia</td>
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<td>AS.470.644</td>
<td>Democracy and Its Modern Critics</td>
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<td>AS.470.653</td>
<td>Russian National Security Policy</td>
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<td>AS.470.659</td>
<td>Radicalization and Deradicalization in Terror Networks</td>
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<td>AS.470.692</td>
<td>Military Strategy &amp; National Policy</td>
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<td>AS.470.697</td>
<td>Intelligence and Counterterrorism</td>
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### Concentration: Democracy Studies and Governance

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<td>AS.470.656</td>
<td>Presidential Power and Politics</td>
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<td>AS.470.693</td>
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<td>Congress: Why the First Branch Matters</td>
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<td>Hate Groups and Domestic Terrorism</td>
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<td>Comparative Federalism: The United States and the European Union</td>
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<td>AS.470.723</td>
<td>Western Political and Constitutional Thought</td>
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<td>AS.470.759</td>
<td>American Political Development</td>
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