

# 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://e-catalogue.jhu.edu/arts-sciences/advanced-academic-programs/enrollment-services/admission/>)

### PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the materials and credentials required for all programs, the Master of Arts in Government requires:

- **Resume**
- **Two Letters of Recommendations**
- **Statement of Purpose:** In one to two pages, please share with us why you are interested in pursuing the MA in Government degree. Discuss your interest in studying the theory and practice of government and politics, your analytical skills, and a plan of study.
- **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 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

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Courses - Required:</b>		<b>9</b>
AS.470.602	Government & Politics	
AS.470.850	Research and Thesis I: MA in Government	
AS.470.800	Thesis and Applications of Research	
<b>Core Courses - Customizable for Applications of Research</b>		
<i>Select two of the following:</i>		<b>6</b>
AS.470.612	Bureaucratic Politics	
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.470.658	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	
AS.470.693	Comparative Democracies	
AS.470.698	American Exceptionalism	
AS.470.701	Congress: Why the First Branch Matters	
AS.470.721	Comparative Federalism: The United States and the European Union	
AS.470.723	Western Political and Constitutional Thought	
AS.470.759	American Political Development	
AS.470.776	Nationalism in the Democratic Age	
<b>Core Courses - Customizable for Thesis</b>		
<i>Select one of the following:</i>		<b>3</b>
AS.470.681	Probability and Statistics	
AS.470.852	Research and Thesis II: MA in Government	
AS.470.854	Fundamentals of Quantitative Methods	
<b>Electives (7 or 8 to reach 12 courses)</b>		<b>21</b>
		<b>-24</b>

## Concentration: Political Communication

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Select four of the following:</b>		<b>12</b>
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	
AS.470.732	Communications and Congress	
AS.470.733	Origins and Influence of Public Opinion on American Democracy and Elections	
AS.470.735	Politics and the Media	
AS.470.741	Campaigns and Elections	
AS.470.747	The FBI and Information Sharing in the Post 9-11 World	
AS.470.749	Campaigns and Running for Office	

AS.470.758	Data-Driven Campaigns and Elections	
AS.470.770	Communicating Public Policy	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

AS.470.799	State Politics: A Year in the Life	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

### Concentration: Security Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Select four of the following:		12
AS.470.605	Global Political Economy	
AS.470.606	U.S. Security in a Disordered World	
AS.473.607	Intelligence Ethics	
AS.470.611	Global Terrorist Organizations	
AS.470.630	Congress and the Making of Foreign Policy	
AS.470.640	Challenges of Transnational Security	
AS.470.632	Security Issues in South Asia	
AS.470.654	Deterrence & Crisis Stability in the New Era of Geopolitical Competition	
AS.470.644	Democracy and Its Modern Critics	
AS.470.653	Russian National Security Policy	
AS.470.659	Radicalization and Deradicalization in Terror Networks	
AS.470.692	Military Strategy & National Policy	
AS.470.697	Intelligence and Counterterrorism	
AS.470.748	The Art & Practice of Intelligence	
AS.470.762	Democracy and Security in Israel	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

### Concentration: Democracy Studies and Governance

Code	Title	Credits
Select four of the following:		12
AS.470.602	Government & 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.470.656	Presidential Power and Politics	
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	
AS.470.693	Comparative Democracies	
AS.470.698	American Exceptionalism	
AS.470.701	Congress: Why the First Branch Matters	
AS.470.719	Hate Groups and Domestic Terrorism	
AS.470.721	Comparative Federalism: The United States and the European Union	
AS.470.723	Western Political and Constitutional Thought	
AS.470.759	American Political Development	
AS.470.776	Nationalism in the Democratic Age	
AS.470.794	Fixing American Politics	