What can I do with this degree? What kind of jobs do people with this degree typically obtain?

Our program prepares students for a number of academic and professional careers related to politics and governance. Some of our graduates teach at the community college or high school level, while others seek a Ph.D. in political science and related fields. Other graduates have pursued professional training in law school, business school, and related fields. And many go directly into the workforce, developing careers in government, politics, journalism, business, and the non-profit sector.

Will this master's program prepare me for a Ph.D. program?

Definitely. Many of our students apply to and are accepted by well-regarded Ph.D. programs in Political Science.

How do I apply to your graduate program?

Students must complete both the CSU Apply application and the department’s own application, available on the department website. For the department application, a statement of purpose, two letters of recommendation, and other materials are required. The GRE or other standardized tests are not required.

What is the GPA requirement for admissions?

A grade point average in the last 60 semester (90 quarter) units of 3.00 or better (preferably with a major in political science). Majors with GPAs below 3.00 may be admitted at the discretion of the department’s graduate admissions committee, sometimes with the condition that additional coursework be completed before the student is fully accepted. Students with majors in fields other than political science may be accepted on a conditional basis.

Does your program require the GRE?

No.

How many recommendation letters does your degree program require?

Two.

Whom should I get the recommendation letters from, professors or employers?

Ideally, from professors, but non-academic letters are accepted.

Do you have any tips on how to write a personal statement?

It is best to explain clearly both why you are interested in political science, and why you would like to pursue an MA degree at Cal State LA at this point in your life.
When do you accept students into your graduate program in Fall or Spring or both?
Both.

What are the admission deadlines?
You can find the University and Department Deadlines at this website: www.calstatela.edu/admissions/deadlines.

What is the cost to attend graduate school?
You can find information regarding tuition and fees on the Student Financial Services website at http://www.calstatela.edu/sfinserv/cashiers-office

Does your department offer any GA or TA positions? If so, what is the eligibility requirement to apply for a GA or TA position?
Yes, there are opportunities to work as a Graduate Assistant in the grading of assignments for POLS 1000, our introductory course in American politics. Students should express their interest in this opportunity by contacting the department's Graduate Advisor. Normally, students are not assigned this position until they have completed our core graduate seminar in American politics.

Is this degree program co-horted?
No.

How long will it take me to complete the degree if I enroll in 3 or 6 units per semester?
If you enroll in 3 units per semester, it will take 6 years to complete. If you enroll in 6 units per semester, it will take 3 years to complete

How long will it take me to complete the degree if I enrolled in 9 or 12 units per semester?
Two years.

Do you offer any Winter Intersessions classes or any classes during the Summer?
No.

When are your graduate classes typically offered -- during the day or at night?
All are offered at night.

Whom can I contact in the department, if I have additional questions?
Prof. Taylor Dark, Graduate Advisor, tdark@calstatela.edu.

Are there any additional resources or funding opportunities for graduate student at CSULA?
For resources and funding opportunities, please visit the Graduate Studies webpage at http://www.calstatela.edu/graduatesudies