Department of Political Science
Comparative Politics Field Statement

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Comparative Politics Field Convenor
2017-18

The following requirements apply to students who enter the PhD program in 2017-18 and after.

Refer to Chapter 2 of the Program Guide for additional important information on the department’s requirements for advancing to candidacy.

Pre-candidacy Requirements for 1st Field Comparative Politics Students

In order to be eligible to advance to candidacy with comparative politics as a first field, students must:

1. Complete 440A, 440B, and 400C with grades of B or better.
2. Complete two elective courses in Comparative Politics with a grade of B or better. Electives are expected to have a research paper requirement (or option). The elective is to be a 3xx or 4xx course offered by a member of the CP subfield. To count as an approved elective a directed reading course must be on the basis of a written syllabus approved by the Field Convenor.
3. Complete a polished field paper. See section 2.4 of the Program Guide for additional details on the field paper requirement.
4. Complete a second research paper from one of the elective courses. The second research paper should be on a different topic than the field paper (for example, a student would not be permitted to write two papers on censorship policy in China but two papers on China would be permitted). There will be higher standards for the successful completion of the field paper, but both must be approved before the student is eligible to advance to candidacy.
5. Pass a comprehensive examination in Comparative Politics in spring quarter of their second year. Students taking the CP comp exam will be tested on the material covered in three courses: 440A, 440B, 400C.

Pre-candidacy Requirements for 2nd Field Comparative Politics Students

In order to be eligible to advance to candidacy with comparative politics as a second field, students must:

1. Complete 440A, 440B, and 400C* with grades of B or better.
   *Students designating Comparative Politics as their second subfield do not need to take PS 400C as part of their CP field requirements if they will take it as part of their International Relations or American Politics first subfield requirements. PS 400C should be taken only once.
2. Complete one elective course in comparative politics with a grade of B or better. The elective is to be a 3xx or 4xx course offered by a member of the CP subfield. To count as an approved elective a directed reading course must be on the basis of a written syllabus approved by the Field Convenor.
3. Students designating Comparative Politics as a second field do not need to take the CP comp exam or write a CP field paper.

Pre-candidacy Requirements for 3rd Field Comparative Politics Students

In order to be eligible to advance to candidacy with comparative politics as a third field, students must:

1. Complete two Political Science department courses in Comparative Politics with grades of B or better. These classes must be taken for at least three units each. The courses are to be 3xx or 4xx courses offered by a member of the Comparative Politics field.

2017-18 Elective Course Options in Comparative Politics

2017-18 courses that count toward the elective requirement for first and second field Comparative Politics students include:

Fall:
PS 344U: Political Culture (Fouka)
PS 340A: Democratic Politics (Jusko)
PS 348S: Latin American Politics (Diaz)

Winter:
PS 344: Politics and Geography (Rodden/Nall)
Polecon 683: Political Development Economics (Jha)

Spring:
PS 424A: Democratic Elections (Hall)
PS 443S: Political Economy of Reform in China (Oi)
PS 446E: Field Experiments in Political Economy (Gulzar)

Workshop

The Comparative Politics Workshop (PS 440D) is a forum for students to engage with ongoing comparative politics research by advanced graduate students and faculty at Stanford and by leading scholars at other universities. It also offers students an opportunity to further integrate themselves into a broad professional community of comparativists. Students who designate Comparative Politics as their first field are required to enroll for at least one quarter and are encouraged to present a paper in the Workshop in any quarter (and not necessarily the one in which they are enrolled). Comparative Politics students, regardless of enrollment, should attend the Workshop regularly.
The following requirements apply to students who entered the PhD program in 2016-17:

Refer to Chapter 2 of the Program Guide for additional important information on the department’s requirements for advancing to candidacy.

Pre-candidacy Requirements for 1st Field Comparative Politics Students

In order to be eligible to advance to candidacy with comparative politics as a first field, students must:

1. Complete 440A, 440B, and 400C with grades of B or better

2. Complete one elective course in comparative politics with a grade of B or better. The elective is to be a 3xx or 4xx course offered by a member of the CP subfield. To count as an approved elective a directed reading course must be on the basis of a written syllabus approved by the Field Convenor.

3. Complete a polished field paper. See section 2.4 of the Program Guide for additional details on the field paper requirement.

4. Pass a comprehensive examination in Comparative Politics in spring quarter of their second year. Students taking the CP comp exam will be tested on the material covered in three courses: 440A, 440B, 400C.

Pre-candidacy Requirements for 2nd Field Comparative Politics Students

In order to be eligible to advance to candidacy with comparative politics as a second field, students must:

1. Complete 440A, 440B, and 400C* with grades of B or better

   *Students designating Comparative Politics as their second subfield do not need to take PS 400C as part of their CP field requirements if they will take it as part of their International Relations or American Politics first subfield requirements. PS 400C should be taken only once.

2. In lieu of a comprehensive examination, students who entered the PhD program in 2016-17 and who declare Comparative Politics as their second field must write a 15 page “state of the literature” essay (styled on the format of the ARPS) on a CP topic of their choosing. These review essays would allow second field CP students to explore an area of the field useful for their research. Students must receive advisor approval on the review paper topic by the beginning of summer 2017. Students are encouraged to read broadly in the field and should not choose an overly narrow topic. The essay will be read by two faculty members and given a grade of pass/fail. It will be due by 5pm on November 6th, 2017, submitted to Jennifer Radley.

Pre-candidacy Requirements for 3rd Field Comparative Politics Students

In order to be eligible to advance to candidacy with comparative politics as a third field, students must:

1. Complete two Political Science department courses in Comparative Politics for at least three units each. The courses are to be 3xx or 4xx courses offered by a member of the Comparative Politics field.
2017-18 Elective Course Options in Comparative Politics

2017-18 courses that count toward the elective requirement for first and second field Comparative Politics students include:

Fall:
PS 344U: Political Culture (Fouka)
PS 340A: Democratic Politics (Jusko)
PS 348S: Latin American Politics (Diaz)

Winter:
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The *Comparative Politics Workshop* (PS 440D) is a forum for students to engage with ongoing comparative politics research by advanced graduate students and faculty at Stanford and by leading scholars at other universities. It also offers students an opportunity to further integrate themselves into a broad professional community of comparativists. Students who designate Comparative Politics as their first field are required to enroll for at least one quarter and are encouraged to present a paper in the Workshop in any quarter (and not necessarily the one in which they are enrolled). Comparative Politics students, regardless of enrollment, should attend the Workshop regularly.