

**Pol S 395 Advanced Writing**  
**ISU Political Science Department**  
**2007-09 Catalog**

All political science majors must successfully complete Pol S 395, Advanced Writing in Political Science. (1-0) Cr., R., Satisfactory/Fail. Pol S 395 is offered Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters.

The purpose of Pol S 395 is to certify that majors are proficient in advanced writing within the discipline; the course is part of the Department's English Proficiency standard for the major. This requirement cannot be met with a course transferred from another institution or with the English Proficiency standard of another academic department.

Pol S 395 is taken concurrently with a 300- or 400-level Political Science course that includes writing assignments appropriate to the standards established for Pol S 395. With instructor approval, students may register for Pol S 395 in conjunction with a Pol S 490 project. Students may enroll in only one section of 395 per semester. Instructors may limit the number of Pol Sci 395 students they supervise in any one semester.

To complete Pol S 395 the student must satisfactorily complete a significant research or argumentative paper of ten or more pages, or several papers that cumulatively comprise ten or more pages. The paper or papers must meet the department's minimum standard of proficiency in writing. The department's **Advanced Writing Assessment Guidelines** form spells out the suggested characteristics of proficiency in advanced writing and may be used as appropriate for evaluation purposes. Using these guidelines, students should earn at least 18 of 25 possible points on the assessment form to earn a "Satisfactory" grade in Pol S 395. The original assessment form will be retained by the department for outcomes assessment purposes. A copy will be furnished to the student. The Writing Assessment form will be available on the department's web site.

The instructor will evaluate the work and assign a grade of satisfactory or fail for PolS 395 **independent of the final grade in the concurrent course** (e.g. a student may be awarded a passing grade in the class but fail PolS 395).

Course syllabi for 300- and 400-level political science courses will indicate whether the course writing assignments may be used to fulfill the Pol S 395 requirement.

Students should enroll in the evaluating faculty member's section of Pol S 395 within the first five days of the semester using an add slip signed by both the instructor and academic adviser.

Students who fail Pol S 395 should consult with the evaluating faculty member and their adviser prior to registering for 395 again.