

## PHD IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

### GRADING SCALE

|                              |          |       |       |       |       |       |       |    |              |
|------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----|--------------|
| grade                        | F (fail) | C     | C+    | B-    | B     | B+    | A-    | A  | A+           |
| Grade equivalent (out of 30) | <18      | 18-19 | 20-21 | 22-23 | 24-25 | 26-27 | 28-29 | 30 | 30 cum laude |

### REQUIREMENTS

Rules to be applied as of a.y. 2021-22 to any cohort of SPS students

1<sup>st</sup> year:

#### Study plan:

1 preparatory course + compulsory courses

#### Requirements:

- Exam for each course (including preparatory course), no general exam.
- Research internship

#### Exams:

- Each course is given a grade.
- Retakes are allowed for failed courses. Just one retake for each course. Ordinary exam period to end in June. Retakes early September.
- If #fails after ordinary exams  $\leq 3$  and no fails after retakes, then the intermediate result is "admission to 2<sup>nd</sup> year subject to research internship result - PhD pass in exams".
- If #fails after ordinary exams  $\leq 3$  and #fails  $> 0$  after retakes, then the result is "NOT admitted to 2<sup>nd</sup> year (no PhD pass - no MPhil pass)", regardless of the research internship result.
- If #fails  $> 3$  after ordinary exams and no fails after retakes, then the result is "NOT admitted to 2<sup>nd</sup> year - yes MPhil pass".
- If #fails  $> 3$  after ordinary exams and #fails  $> 0$  after retakes, then the result is "NOT admitted to 2<sup>nd</sup> year (no PhD pass - no MPhil pass)".

In case of MPhil pass, the transcript will include grades of exams (post retake, if any).

### Research internship:

If #fails after ordinary exams in June  $\leq 3$ , students are required to take the research internship. Admission to 2<sup>nd</sup> year will be decided in September after retakes (if any) and after the assessment of the research internship (see below).

If #fails  $> 3$  after ordinary exams, students are not supposed to take the research internship as they are not qualified to be admitted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

Student assigned to research project with mentorship by one or two faculty members. The research internship starts the first week after the last of the ordinary exams of the first year, and lasts until mid-August. Students are required to complete tasks set by the faculty member, which may include data collection, sound analysis of data, writing of papers, completing of literature surveys or similar.

Grade to be assigned by mentor: Insufficient (i.e. fail) or sufficient (i.e. pass).

Final admission to the 2<sup>nd</sup> year:

- If PhD pass in exams (i.e. no fail after retakes, if any) + pass in research internship, then the result is "admitted to 2<sup>nd</sup> year - PhD pass".
- If PhD pass in exams + fail in research internship, then the result is "NOT admitted to 2<sup>nd</sup> year - yes MPhil pass".
- If NO PhD pass in exams (i.e. #fails  $> 0$  after retakes), regardless of the assessment of the research internship, the result is "NOT admitted to 2<sup>nd</sup> year (no PhD pass - no MPhil pass)".

### **2<sup>nd</sup> year:**

#### **Study plan:**

Courses + research paper

#### **Requirements:**

➤ Exam for each course; no general exams

Each course is given a grade.

Retakes for failed exams (just one retake is allowed for each course) take place in June.

➤ Research paper to be submitted within the end of August; if the paper is not deemed adequate, the student has two weeks to correct and improve it.

If no more than 1 fail (even post retake) in exams AND a “pass” in the research paper (even post second release), then the result is “admitted to 3<sup>rd</sup> year – PhD pass”.

If any other situation (more than 1 fail in exams; fail in the research paper; 1 fail in exams and a fail in the research paper; ...), then the result is “NOT admitted to 3<sup>rd</sup> year - MPhil pass”.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> year:**

- Weekly seminar series (SPS Dept.);
- Completion of the thesis prospectus by the end of November;
- Oral exam, i.e. oral defence of the thesis prospectus (in December).

If “pass” in the Oral exam, then the result is “admitted to 4<sup>th</sup> year – PhD pass”.

If “fail” in the Oral exam, then the result is “NOT admitted to 4<sup>th</sup> year - MPhil pass”.

### **4<sup>th</sup> year:**

- Weekly seminar series (SPS Dept.);
- Thesis submission (following the detailed instructions available at [this page](#)).