Glossary of Used Most Frequently Terms in the Undergraduate Advising Involving POL and INTA Students

**Area of Emphasis Coursework (for Political Science majors)** – 24 upper-level credits (or 8 classes) of POL coursework required for POL majors to complete their degrees in four sub-categories (at least one class in each category is required) that include American Politics, Political Theory, Comparative Politics, International Relations and a Capstone. Note that POL majors **graduating in or after December 2017** will be required to complete **27 upper-level credits (or 9 classes)** of POL coursework to fulfill the requirement.

**Advanced Placement (AP) credits** – policies that allow students to complete college-level coursework at their high schools aimed at easing the transition from high school to college as well as between and among Ohio’s Public colleges and universities. Contact UC’s office of admissions for further information.

**Capstone** – coursework with focus on research required for POL and INTA majors usually in their senior year to graduate with a degree from the Political Science Department. It usually involves one of the following three options: (1) POL 5000 and 5001; (2) 5035C, as well as any 5100-level or; (3) 7000-level coursework (note that effective Fall 2016 all 6000-level courses will be available to graduate students only). See UG Handbook or this document for further details.

**Catalyst Information System** – Effective Fall 2016 University of Cincinnati will be using a new integrated information system called Catalyst. For further info visit the system’s website: [http://www.uc.edu/catalyst.html](http://www.uc.edu/catalyst.html). Faculty, staff and students will be gradually granted access to all the functions which include course registration, student audits, various managerial functions and other functionalities. Students should log in here: [http://www.uc.edu/catalyst/resources/students.html](http://www.uc.edu/catalyst/resources/students.html).

**College or McMicken Advisor** – professional college advisor whose primary responsibility is to work with McMicken students in planning all gen. ed. (core) requirements, graduation checks and certification needs. Undergraduate students are required during their freshman year to seek mandatory advising. Appointments are scheduled online via Starfish or by phone at (513) 556-5860.

**College Awards** – McMicken College awards include the McKibben Award for the best graduating male senior and Eleanor Hicks award for best female senior in the college. UC students have received many of those awards in the past.

**College Credit Plus (CCP)** – a program in the State of Ohio that allows high school students to earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking college courses offered or administered by community colleges and/or universities. The purpose of the program is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a wide variety of options to college-ready students. Contact Lisa Holstrom at McMicken College for more information (email: holstrla@ucmail.uc.edu).
Cybersecurity Certificate – interdisciplinary certificate (12-36 credits). It requires 50% or more of the coursework to be completed outside A&S at the College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services and the College of Engineering (CECH). Advising is provided by CECH Student Services; email: cechssc@ucmail.uc.edu; phone: 513-556-2336.

Departmental Honors – a recognition for graduating POL and INTA students whose GPA in their major is 3.34 or higher. Usually 25-30% of graduating seniors are awarded this departmental award.

Departmental High Honors – POL and INTA students whose major GPA is 3.67 or higher are eligible if they take 7000-level Graduate Seminar or write a senior thesis (POL5000 and/or 5001) as their capstone. If students complete a 5100/6000-level capstone they will be awarded departmental honors instead.

Division for Professional Practice and Experiential Learning (ProPel) – this UC division leads the Cooperative Education Program and the Internship Program. The contact person for the Political Science Department is Brodie Theis who can be contacted at Brodie.Theis@uc.edu or 513-556-0387.

Environmental Studies (EVST) – an interdisciplinary program in McMicken College that focuses on topics like climate change, environmental justice, resource depletion, population growth, public health, famine and other. Political Science contributes with faculty, research and course offerings. Some of our major pursue EVST degree(s) and some of the EVST students are enrolled in our programs (e.g. SSTD certificate). Details about the program can be found at: http://www.artsci.uc.edu/departments/interdisciplinary-studies/environment.html

Exceptions – corrections on students’ audits processed manually or electronically that allow completion of various gen. ed. or major requirements through a path that is not formally coded in the degree audit system (DARS). Exceptions are approved by the UG Director or Achievement Coordinator and can be processed by a major or college advisor.

Faculty advisor – full time professor in the Department of Political Science who provides professional advice on the completion of major, minor or certificate requirements (depending on their area of expertise) as well as professional and scholarly development. Note that, with a few exceptions, faculty advisors do NOT advise students on their gen. ed. requirements in the same way as McMicken College advisors do NOT advise students on their major, minor and certificate requirements.

Foreign Language (FL) Requirement – All students in McMicken College are required to complete 10-12 credits studying a foreign language to earn a degree (with exception of students whose native or heritage language is different from English). INTA students are required to complete twice as many credits between one or two different foreign languages to graduate with a degree in International Affairs.

GPA calculator – an advising tool in the form of an xls spreadsheet or a what-if function on the new Catalyst Degree Audits that allows students and advisors to calculate how a student’s GPA would change if they completed a certain coursework based on the grade that they could earn in this course.
**Grade replacement** – a UC policy that allows a student to repeat UC coursework, with the final grade awarded for the most recent class enrollment calculated into the cumulative grade point average rather than the final grade awarded for the original class enrollment. The total number of replaced credit hours may not exceed 15 (fifteen) quarter hours or 12 (twelve) semester hours. Students may repeat up to a maximum of 5 (five) undergraduate quarter courses or 4 (four) semester courses.

**Graduate Director** – full time UC Political Science faculty who administers the policies of the graduate programs and represents the department and its graduate programs at the McMicken College Graduate Directors Council. In consultation with the Head and other department faculty members, the Graduate Director assigns Graduate Assistants and their teaching or research duties. Currently Prof Stephen Mockabee is the Grad Director and can be contacted at Stephen.Mockabee@uc.edu.

**Heritage speaker of a foreign language** – McMicken students who learned a language different from English at home but received no formal instruction or little instruction (e.g. the equivalent of 7th grade or less in that language). These students are normally required to go through an evaluation of language fluency if they want to have their college or INTA FL requirement waived.

**Historical Perspectives (HP) Requirement** – a general education requirement that all McMicken students should complete at least 6 (six) credits of 1000-level history classes. INTA majors are required to take 6 credits of non-U.S. history classes (e.g. World, European, Asian, Middle Eastern, African, Latin America, Ancient, Medieval, etc. history).

**International Human Rights (IHR) Certificate** – an interdisciplinary certificate/program offered in partnership with the Morgan Institute for Human Rights at the UC College of Law that focuses on international norms, laws, institutions, politics and social movements. The IHR advisor is Prof. Laura Jenkins (email: Laura.Jenkins@uc.edu).

**International Affairs (INTA) Capstone and Groupings Requirement** – 24 upper-level credits (or 8 classes) of INTA coursework required for INTA majors to complete their degrees in four sub-categories (at least one class in each category is required) that include International Politics and Political Theory, Foreign Policy, History, and Diplomacy, International Economics, Comparative Studies and a Capstone. Note that INTA majors graduating in or after December 2017 will be required to complete 27 upper-level credits (or 9 classes) of INTA Capstone and Groupings coursework to fulfill the requirement.

**Internship for Academic Credit** – program offered by the Political Science Department that allows students to earn up to 6 college credits 3 of which can count toward their POL or INTA coursework by participating in an Internship and/or another form of experiential learning. It is offered in partnership with ProPEL. For further information contact the UG Achievement Coordinator or Brodie Theis at ProPEL (Brodie.Theis@uc.edu).

**Introductory Courses in Political Science** – the Political Science Department offers 5 introductory courses: POL 1010 Introduction to American Politics, POL 1040 Introduction to Political Theory,
POL 1060 Introduction to Comparative Politics, POL 1080 Introduction to International Relations and POL 1090 Law, Politics and Society. POL majors are required to complete 12 POL credits (4 courses) that include POL 1010, 1040, 1060 and 1080. INTA majors are required to complete 9 credits (3 courses) of introductory courses in Political Science that include POL 1060, 1080 and one of the following: POL 1010, 1040 and 1090. Not that INTA major who graduate in or after December 2017 will be required to complete 12 (rather than 9) credits (4 introductory courses) that include POL 1060, 1080 and two of the following: POL 1010, 1040 and 1090.

Model United Nations (MUN) – a student organization at UC whose team participates in several local, national and international conferences aimed at learning about how the United Nations works by representing delegations from a variety of countries. MUN students have won multiple awards; the organization is open to POL, INTA and other majors. Contact MUN faculty advisor Dr. Rebecca Sanders (Rebecca.Sanders@uc.edu) for further details.

Nationally Competitive Awards – the nationally awards include Fulbright, Marshall, Mitchell, Rhodes, Goldwater, Truman, Boren and other fellowships. POL and INTA students have a distinguished record of winning these awards. Some of them require endorsement and UC has an Office of Nationally Competitive Awards that serves as a resource for world-renowned and highly competitive scholarships and fellowships and can be contacted at nca@uc.edu.

Native speaker of a foreign language – a McMicken student who has completed schooling in a language of instruction different from English through the equivalency of the eighth grade. Native speakers can have their college or INTA FL requirement waived if they can provide documentation showing they have completed the required formal instruction in this language.

Political Inquiry Requirement – a course required by POL and INTA students to acquire broad and specific methodological skills to understand and conduct social science research. Note that prior to Fall 2016 this required course was POL 3000 (Political Inquiry: Approaches & Methods); after Fall 2013 the required course would be POL 1001 (Power & POL: Understanding the POL World)

Political Science Department Head – UC Political Science professor who has been appointed by the McMicken Dean to oversee the entire operation of the Department and represent it to the Dean and other administrative officers of the University. The Head has primary responsibility for the allocation of Department funds, appoints the Directors of Graduate and Undergraduate Studies, schedules courses, presides over the Advisory Committee and establishes other committees as needed. UC Political Science Interim Department Head is Dr. Laura Jenkins who can be contacted at Laura.Jenkins@uc.edu.

Political Science Student Association –POL and INTA student organization which organizes events ranging from political film screenings and discussions to electoral debate watches. PSSA hosts the spring reception and awards ceremony to recognize many students’ accomplishments and say goodbye to graduating seniors. It also connects current majors and successful UC alumni who can provide information about professional opportunities and mentoring to current and future students.
Contact the faculty advisor Prof. David Niven (David.Niven@uc.edu) or Dr. Laura Jenkins, Interim Department Chair at Laura.Jenkins@uc.edu.

**Quantitative Reasoning (QR) Requirement** – all McMicken students are required to complete at least 6 (six) credits of QR coursework. Prior to Fall 2016 POL and INTA majors can complete this requirement by taking two STAT courses (e.g. STAT 1031, 1034, 1035 or equivalents); other MATH courses can be accepted as well. Effective Fall 2016 POL and INTA majors are required to complete **one** STAT course courses (e.g. STAT 1031, 1034, 1035 or equivalents; other MATH courses can be accepted) and **POL 3001C** (Quantitative Research & Data Analysis). POL and INTA students and their advisors should contact the UG Director for permission of other classes to count toward this requirement.

**Security Studies Certificate (SSTD)** – an interdisciplinary certificate with focus on homeland and/or international security and helps prepare students for careers in academic research, government policy, and emergency management fields among many others. The SSTD advisor is Dr. Ivan Dinev Ivanov (email: ivanovid@ucmail.uc.edu).

**Taft Research Center** – UC research center that funds scholarship in the social sciences and humanities. The Taft Center offers UG Enrichment, UG Research and UC Summer Fellowships to promote undergraduate research. Visit their website for details and application due dates at [http://webcentral.uc.edu/taftawards/](http://webcentral.uc.edu/taftawards/).

**Tolley Fellowship** – fellowship named after UC’s Professor Emeritus Howard Tolley to support a human rights service project, work experience, research or study abroad of no less than two weeks outside North America. Open to UC students with 2.7 or higher GPA, preference is given to U.S. nationals raised in the Cincinnati area with no prior travel abroad experience.

**Transfer student** – a student who has completed their coursework at another institution of higher education but for various reasons has chosen to transfer and has been admitted to pursue an undergraduate degree at UC.

**Transition student** – a student who has completed a part of their work on one of the two UC branch campuses (UC Blue Ash or UC Clermont) and have been admitted to McMicken College to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree.

**UC International** – UC office that serves international students and visitors as well as domestic students wishing to study abroad. UC International offers semester- and year-long study abroad opportunities. The office disburses grants to study abroad and provides information about external funding opportunities; it also helps organize departmental and/ or faculty-led short term (1-4 weeks) study abroad programs.

**Undergraduate Achievement Coordinator** – full time UC Political Science professor who leads the internal UC and National Competitive Award promotion and nomination process for POL and INTA undergraduate students; he or she assists and advises the UG Director on student recruitment and retention, administrative issues and represents the UG program at various institutions. They serve as
a liaison with ProPel, TWC, Seasongood and Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Sigma Alpha. Currently Prof. David Niven is the UG Achievement Coordinator who can be contacted at David.Niven@uc.edu.

**Undergraduate Committee** – decision-making body within the Political Science Department consisting of 5 (give) UC Political Science faculty members which oversees the undergraduate programs offered in the department (majors, minor, certificates) and recommends or decides on the implementation of specific rules and policies. It also selects candidates for departmental awards and/or fellowships, and reviews individual student cases if needed.

**Undergraduate Council** – a consultative and decision-making body within McMicken College consisting of all undergraduate program directors or their representatives which discusses, approves and/or recommends courses, programs and policies relevant to the College.

**Undergraduate (UG) Director** – UC Political Science professor who supervises the Undergraduate Programs and activities and makes executive decisions in the implementation of university, college and departmental rules related to the UG program. The UG director receives help and advice from the UG Achievement Coordinator and the UG Committee. UG students should refer to him or her on UG program-related issues or concerns. Currently Dr. Ivan Dinev Ivanov is the UG Director and can be contacted at ivanovid@ucmail.uc.edu.

**Undergraduate Handbook** – a document that contains information about the Department of Political Science and its undergraduate programs, policies and requirements. A copy of the Handbook is available on the Political Science Department webpage; it is updated every year and does not supersede or otherwise alter any McMicken College or university policy or requirement.

**University Awards** – these university-wide awards conferred to outstanding students for contribution to the school, local and world communities, etc. They include Presidential Leadership Medal of Excellence (PLME), Paradise, Spencer Diversity Ambassador, Spirit of Community and other Awards. POL and INTA students have distinguished record in receiving these awards.

**Washington Center (TWC)** – an independent non-profit organization based in Washington D.C. that organizes semester-long internship experiences at various public, private and governmental institutions in the DC area. POL and INTA students with 2.75 or higher GPA are eligible to apply. ProPEL serves as a liaison between UC and TWC and students should contact Brodie Theis (Brodie.Theis@uc.edu) for further details.