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

**Area of Emphasis Coursework (for Political Science majors)** – 27 upper-level credits (2000-level or higher) or 9 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.

**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 School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA). 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** – the integrated information system used by the University of Cincinnati. For further info visit the system’s website: [http://catalyst.uc.edu/](http://catalyst.uc.edu/). 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.

**A&S or College Advisor** – professional college advisor whose primary responsibility is to work with A&S 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. The A&S advisor for all POL and INTA declared majors is Daniel Hagedorn (Email: hagedodl@ucmail.uc.edu).

**A&S or College Student Awards** – College of Arts and Sciences’ 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 the College of Arts and Sciences 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,
Human Services and the College of Engineering (CECH). Advising is provided by CECH Student Services; email: cechssc@ucmail.uc.edu; phone: 513-556-2336.

**Division of Experience-Based Learning and Career Education (UC ELCE)** – this UC division leads the Cooperative Education, the Internship Program and career based education. The contact person for students from the School of Public and International Affairs is Paula Harper who can be contacted at harperpr@ucmail.uc.edu or 513-556-9811.

**Environmental Studies (EVST)** – an interdisciplinary program in the College of Arts and Sciences 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. Exceptions are approved by the UG Director or Advising Coordinator and can be processed by a major or college advisor.

**Experiential learning** – requirement for all A&S students that can be completed in one of the following three ways: (1) by completing a study abroad course; (2) by completing an internship; (3) by completing a service learning course. The faculty-led study abroad program in Brussels and The Hague is one possible way to fulfill this requirement.

**Faculty advisor** – full time professor in the School of Public and International Affairs 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 faculty advisors do NOT advise students on course scheduling; contact your A&S advisors. Faculty advisors provide general guidance about course content, professionalization in the discipline, post-baccalaureate studies and other scholarly and professional opportunities.

**Foreign Language (FL) Requirement** – All students in the College of Arts and Sciences 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 School and its graduate programs at the A&S Graduate Directors Council. In consultation with the School’s Director and other SPIA faculty members, the Graduate Director assigns Graduate Assistants and their teaching or research duties. Currently Prof Laura Jenkins is the Grad Director and can be contacted at Laura.Jenkins@uc.edu).

**Heritage speaker of a foreign language** – Students in the College of Arts and Sciences 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 A&S 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. Stephen Porter (email: Stephen.Porter@uc.edu).

**International Affairs (INTA) Capstone and Groupings Requirement** – 27 upper-level credits (or 9 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.

**Internship for Academic Credit** – program offered by the School of Public and International Affairs or Division of Experience-Based Learning and Career Education (ELCE) 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 ELCE. For further information contact Dr. Ivan D. Ivanov (email: ivanovid@ucmail.uc.edu) or Paula Harper at UC ELCE (email: harperpr@ucmail.uc.edu).

**Introductory Courses in Political Science** – the School of Public and International Affairs 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 12 credits (3 courses) of introductory courses in Political Science 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** – an A&S 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 methodological requirement for all POL and INTA majors (optional for POL minors and students pursuing various certificates) to acquire broad and specific methodological skills to understand and conduct social science research. It should be fulfilled by completing POL 1001 Power & Politics: Understanding the Political World. Students who completed the requirement prior to Fall 2016 took POL 3000 (Political Inquiry: Approaches & Methods).

**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 Dr. Rina Williams (Rina.Williams@uc.edu).

**Quantitative Reasoning (QR) Requirement** – all A&S students are required to complete at least 6 (six) credits of QR coursework. 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 advisor(s) should contact the UG Director or Advising Coordinator for permission of other classes to count toward this requirement.

**Ruehlmann Fellowship** – $2,500 awarded to Political Science majors with interest and/ or focus in Public Policy. Applications are due in January. Students are required to submit an essay and have a letter of recommendation sent to the UG Director.
School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) – An Academic Unit within UC that offers courses and programs with focus on public politics and international affairs. Formerly known as the Political Science Department, this academic units manages and runs graduate and undergraduate programs in Political Science, undergraduate programs in International Affairs, Law and Society and Cyber Strategy and Policy and a graduate program in Public Administration. It additionally offers a minor in Political Science and certificates in War, Peace and Security, Cybersecurity, Legal Studies and International Human Rights

School Director – UC SPIA professor who has been appointed by the Dean of Arts and Sciences to oversee the entire operation of School and represent it to the Dean and other administrative officers of the University. The Director has primary responsibility for the allocation of School funds, appoints the Directors of Graduate and Undergraduate Studies, schedules courses, presides over the Advisory Committee and establishes other committees as needed. SPIA’s Director is Dr. Richard Harknett who can be contacted at Richard.Harknett@uc.edu.

School 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 SPIA award.

School 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 school honors instead.

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://multisite.uc.edu/taft/about/about.

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 the College of Arts and Sciences 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 faculty-led short term (1-4 weeks) study abroad programs.

**Undergraduate Advising Coordinator** – full time UC Political Science professor who coordinates advising efforts, certifies graduation applications and assists transfer, transition students and double majors. Currently Dr. William Umphres is the UG Advising Coordinator who can be contacted at William.Umphres@uc.edu.

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

**Undergraduate Council** – a consultative and decision-making body within the College of Arts and Sciences 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 school rules related to the UG program. The UG director receives help and advice from the UG Advising Coordinator and the UG Committee. UG students should refer to him or her on UG program-related issues or concerns. Currently Dr. Andrew Lewis is the UG Director and can be contacted at Andrew.Lewis@uc.edu.

**Undergraduate Handbook** – a document that contains information about the School of Public and International Affairs and its undergraduate programs, policies and requirements. A copy of the Handbook is available on the SPIA website; it is updated every year and does not supersede or otherwise alter any A&S 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. UC ELCE serves as a liaison between UC and TWC and students should contact Annie Straka (email: Annie.Straka@uc.edu) for further details.