Learning Objectives for the MA in Social & Political Thought

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge	**Research & Scholarship**	**Level of Application of Knowledge**
Program Learning Objective "By the end of this program, students will have had an opportunity to learn to": • articulate how social and political theory serves to question common sense understandings of social issues, institutions and relations • recognise and offer critical assessments of key theoretical and methodological issues and debates in humanities and/or social science scholarship in general, as well as with respect to a specific field's social, cultural, political, and economic contexts and implications • demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of interdisciplinarity • demonstrate an ability to critically assess their own assumptions and to engage in constructive critiques of the views of others as they relate to studies of social and political issues, both in writing and in seminar discussions • demonstrate an ability to link academic knowledge to politics, social and cultural issues both locally and globally. • sustain a lifelong love of learning and a passion for intellectual endeavours.	• assess the appropriateness of the research methods, reasoning and evidence employed in specific texts • differentiate distinct levels of analysis (e.g. empirical, conceptual, historical, ontological, ethical) and recognize their role in different levels of debate • identify the research question that guides the work of different authors, and evaluate the methodological framework/design they use to answer it • develop an appropriate research question and assess the relevant methodological framework/design • develop and conduct an original research project, involving either empirical analysis employing appropriate methodologies or advanced theoretical analysis	• identify and analyse the social dimensions of individual problems • assess competing evidence or arguments in various methodologies • know how to organize and synthesize findings for presentation to an appropriate public
Professional Capacity/Autonomy	**Level of Communication Skills**	**Awareness of Limits of Knowledge**
• manage time within graduate courses to complete readings and assignments • present references and bibliographic information in a standardized format • select a supervisory committee for an MRP project • demonstrate an ability to work independently as well as with others, and	• write clearly and engagingly for an appropriate audience • critically analyse, compare and present, both orally and in writing, theoretical arguments from a range of academic texts across the fields of specialization of the program	• recognize both the strengths and limitations of a perspective, framework or argument • know how to ask appropriate questions to

to both give appropriate feedback in oral and written forms, and to receive and respond to critical feedback in a professional way • demonstrate an ability to design and carry out a substantial project with the guidance of a supervisory committee • abide by principles of academic honesty	• read a wide variety of scholarly and research material, with a demonstrable ability to identify the main arguments, and assess the research methodology or methods employed • define and conduct an original research project while demonstrating the capacity to work independently and to effectively employ use critical theory in conceptual and/or empirical work	reveal different assumptions and ways of seeing the world

Learning Objectives for the PhD in Social & Political Thought

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge	Research & Scholarship	Level of Application of Knowledge
• recognize and offer critical assessments of key theoretical and methodological issues and debates in humanities and/or social science scholarship in general, and with respect to a particular field's historical, social, cultural, political, ethical and/or economic contexts and implications • demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of interdisciplinarity and employ an interdisciplinary approach in their own research • demonstrate an ability to link academic knowledge to politics and social issues locally and globally and contemporary culture, where relevant • sustain a lifelong love of learning and a passion for intellectual endeavours	• offer an advanced critique of the research strategies and methods employed in specific texts • articulate a research question that advances knowledge and understanding of an issue at the forefront of scholarship in social and political thought • conduct advanced library research to locate literatures relevant to a major research question • synthesize and critique literatures relevant to a major research question • identify gaps in literatures relevant to a major research question • conceptualize and design a program of research to address a novel and compelling research question • conduct a research project involving appropriate data collection and analysis	• contribute to the analysis of key social and political issues, locally and globally • identify gaps in existing literature on specific issues or topics, articulate an original research question to address this gap, and build an appropriate theoretical and/or methodological framework that is informed by appropriate literature across disciplines to examine/answer this question • identify the methodological/ethical/episte mological/ethical issues raised by a research question and build a framework to address these • identify significance of findings/results (contribution to body of theoretical and/or methodological knowledge; new practices/techniques or

	strategies • where relevant, reflexively consider research ethics and abide by ethics protocols	relevance in new field; policy implications) and communicate these through appropriate means/mediums (the dissertation, as well as academic papers, artistic or cultural creations, conference presentations, books, press articles, etc.).
Professional Capacity/Autonomy • manage time within graduate courses to complete readings and assignments • present references and bibliographic information in a standardized and recognized format • select and work with a supervisory committee to pass comprehensive exams and to complete a dissertation • know how to compile a professional CV, and present themselves and their work in a professional manner • demonstrate familiarity with appropriate professional practices e.g. meeting deadlines, timely responses to professional communications, long term planning • write professional articles of publishable quality • where relevant, abide by Tri-Council ethics policies	**Level of Communication Skills** • formulate an argument or presentation in relation to its expected audience's interests and level of knowledge • understand the difference between relevant audiences for their work, and know how to pose questions that motivate those audience to take them up, demonstrate the ability to both assess how different audiences engage with their work, as well as how to present complex scholarly issues and concepts to undergraduate students. • demonstrate originality and creativity in articulating and applying specific theoretical approaches and/or methodologies as well as their political, social, cultural and ethical implications within (a) specific field(s) of scholarship • carry out a range of writing projects including a dissertation proposal and a dissertation, with the requisite level of scholarly rigor and nuance • participate in advanced oral discussion/debate with peers in a classroom setting •initiate an advanced classroom discussion/debate on a specified topic • receive, give and respond to	**Awareness of Limits of Knowledge** • be familiar with a variety of social and political theories and methods, as well as their historical shifts and influences • develop and practice reflexivity regarding research ethics, e.g. in relation to social location, knowledge production, and engagement with diverse communities

	feedback constructively, including resolving conflicting feedback • defend an original, substantial, interdisciplinary research project	