

POL8444, POL8666, POL8888, GRAD0999 Explained

POL8444 vs. GRAD0999	
POL8444	GRAD0999
<u>Description</u>	
A one-credit course that gives you full-time registration status	A “place holder” course that maintains your “active” status with the Graduate School, but does not count as being registered for other purposes.
<u>Requirements to register</u>	
You must have completed all 24 of your Thesis Credits (POL8888)	You can register for this at any time during your graduate career
<u>Cost</u>	
Tuition and University Fee for one credit	No cost (But if you forget to register before the start of the semester, you will still have to pay a late registration fee.)
<u>Have to pay Student Services Fee?</u>	
No	No
*Note, you CAN pay the Student Services Fee if you wish to use the University facilities it provides	
<u>Paperwork</u>	
There is a form that must be filled out EVERY semester you register for POL8444 and turned into Judith (NOT the Grad School) (http://www.grad.umn.edu/current_students/forms/g79.pdf)	None
<u>International students</u>	
DOES give you the full-time status required by immigration.	DO NOT register for this if you are planning to be in the United States at any time during the semester on a student visa. It will not give you full-time registration status.
<u>Will allow you to defer student loans?</u>	
Yes	No
<u>Can you register for it if you're on the department payroll (Fellowship or Assistantship)</u>	
Yes	No

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POL 8666: Doctoral Pre-Thesis Credits

These are “filler” credits for students who are not yet ABD. Anytime you need to have full-time registration but do not have enough regular coursework to give you 6 credits, you can register for as many Pre-Thesis Credits as necessary to bring you up to full-time status. You cannot register for more than 6 Pre-Thesis Credits per semester, and you can only register for Pre-Thesis Credits two semesters total, or four with Department permission.

POL 8888: Doctoral Thesis Credits

Once you become ABD, you need to complete 24 Thesis Credits. The advantage to completing these quickly is that you are then eligible to register for POL8444 and don't have to pay Student Services Fees. However, it is best to complete them while you are on the department payroll. So, say you will be taking a semester off after you become ABD, you might want to register for GRAD0999 for that semester, then complete your Thesis Credits when you come back. The tuition benefit covers up to 14 credits each semester (if you “audit” a class, it still counts towards those 14 credits), so you can complete your Thesis Credits in two semesters.

If you have any further questions, please come talk to me.

-Judith