Students are strongly encouraged to qualify in the Qualitative and Archival Methods comprehensive field by taking three courses and writing a seminar paper. To do so, the student must complete A through C below; note that the requirements depend on when the student entered the program. Students may also qualify by passing an exam based on the reading list, but are discouraged from taking this route as it is a field where learning is best done through carrying out research projects.

**To qualify via three courses and a paper:**

**Students beginning the doctoral program during the Fall 2013 semester must**

A. Take TWO of the following THREE courses:

1. Historical and Archival Methods,[PLSC 522](#) (or Comparative and Historical Methods, SOCY 551, in years that PLSC 522 is not taught);

2. Qualitative Research Methods,[PLSC 505](#)

3. The department’s course in the philosophy of social science (no title yet) which will be offered beginning Spring 2014 and every year subsequently)

B. Take one more course, either from the above list or from among the following:
American Political Development, PLSC 828
American Progressivism in Theory and Practice, PLSC 812
The American Presidency, PLSC 820
Comparative Politics I, 777
Comparative Politics II, 778
Social Foundations of War PLSC 174
Capital, Labor, and Land in Advanced Democracies, Political Science 719
IR: Philosophy, History, Sociology, PLSC 671
Nationalism and Identity, PLSC 655
The Politics of Public Policy, PLSC 810
Causal Inference and Research Design, PLSC 508:

C. Complete an accepted seminar paper in one of the courses listed in A.
Students who began the program before the Fall 2013 semester must

A. Take ONE of the following courses:

1. Historical and Archival Methods, PLSC 522 (or Comparative and Historical Methods, SOCY 551, in years that PLSC 522 is not taught);

2. Qualitative Research Methods, PLSC 505;

3. The department’s philosophy of social science (a new course, which will be offered beginning Spring 2014) or Sociology 566 if taken Spring 2013 or before.

B. Take two more courses, either from the above list or from among the following

American Political Development, PLSC 828
American Progressivism in Theory and Practice, PLSC 812
The American Presidency, PLSC 820
Comparative Politics I, 777
Comparative Politics II, 778
Social Foundations of War PLSC 174
Capital, Labor, and Land in Advanced Democracies, Political Science 719
IR: Philosophy, History, Sociology, PLSC 671
Nationalism and Identity, PLSC 655
The Politics of Public Policy, PLSC 810
Causal Inference and Research Design, PLSC 508:

C. Complete an accepted seminar paper in one of the three courses.