Research Paper Contract

*Research Paper:* Students must complete an article-length research paper no later than their sixth term of enrollment (excluding summer). Research shall begin no later than Fall term of the second year and must be completed by the following Spring term. Research papers will be judged by a standard of readiness for submission for publication at a scholarly journal, and evaluated relative to that standard as follows: high pass, pass, low pass, or fail. A grade of fail or failure to complete the paper will be a significant factor during the “end-of-second-year” review. A Master’s degree will be awarded to students who pass the Research Paper, provided they have completed all of the department’s first and second year coursework requirements (see Appendix II of PhD requirements) and have met the minimum Graduate School requirements for the Master’s degree.

Student Name: __________________________ Date: __________________

Tentative Title of Research Paper:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________

Definition/Explanation of student-designed research:

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________

Political Science Faculty members responsible:

_________________________  ____________________________
PS Faculty Advisor Signature  Second PS Reader Signature

Printed Name  Printed Name

Return completed form to Graduate Coordinator no later than Friday of week 5, Fall term.

**Other deadlines to remember:**

- Spring term, no later than Friday of week 2 – Apply for Master’s degree via GradWeb
- Spring term, no later than Friday of week 5 – Submit final draft to advisor and reader
- Spring term, no later than Friday of week 7 – Paper must be accepted as finished
- Spring term, no later than Monday of week 8 – Student notified of evaluation

**Office use only:**

Date Applied for Master’s? __________________________ (Date and Initial)

Master’s requirements complete? __________________________ (Date and Initial)

Final draft sent to both readers? __________________________ (Date and Initial)

Evaluation: _____ High Pass _____ Pass _____ Low Pass _____ Fail

Advisor Signature: __________________________  Second Reader: __________________________