

**Master's entrance exam program
in the direction of education 41.04.04 «Political Science»
in the discipline «Political Science»
(2026)**

When answering theoretical questions, the applicant must:

- demonstrate relevant knowledge of a political nature, including knowledge of relevant conceptual documents and regulatory legal acts;
- demonstrate a deep understanding of the relevance of the affected problems, including from the point of view of socio-economic, political, socio-cultural and information processes which are taking place in the modern Russia and in the modern world;
- sequentially and logically structure the material with the necessary logical and semantic transitions between blocks;
- demonstrate fluency in the conceptual apparatus and conceptual and theoretical foundations of the issue under consideration;
- correctly and logically use special terminology;
- use original and subject-related examples.

Theoretical questions

1. Approaches to globalization: globalism, anti-globalism, alter-globalism.
2. International relations theories: analytical functions and political conditioning.
3. Communication through the lens of political science: key concepts and positions.
4. Contemporary political philosophy: key concepts and theories.
5. Foreign policy of the Russian Federation: main directions, institutions and principles of implementation.
6. Fundamentals of the constitutional system in Russia.
7. Geopolitics as scientific discipline and its status in the modern world.
8. Integration and disintegration processes in the post-soviet space: current situation and future prospects.
9. Key trends in 20th-century political thought.
10. Modern theories of democracy.
11. National interests in the basic strategic planning documents of the Russian Federation.
12. Public governance: key theories & approaches.
13. Russia as a state-civilization: origin, basic features, geopolitical perspectives.
14. The category of power in political science & modern approaches to defining political power.

15. The concept and functions of political culture. Modern approaches to the analysis of political culture.
16. The concepts of national interests and national security in international relations theories.
17. The concept of "sovereignty" in the modern world. The emergence of supranational entities and the problem of sovereignty.
18. The concept of political system and political regime. Modern approaches to the typology of political regimes.
19. The key instruments of state regulation of the economy.
20. The principle of separation of powers in modern public administration.
21. The role of values in the modern political process.
22. The struggle for a new world order in the 21st century. Contours of a future multipolar world.
23. Virtualization & mediatization as actual trends of contemporary politics.
24. West and non-West in modern international relations. The concepts of "World Majority" and "Global South".

Recommended literature

1. Abbott, K., & Faude, B. (2021). Choosing low-cost institutions in global governance. *International Theory*, 13(3), 397–426.
2. Abbott, K., & Faude, B. (2022). Hybrid institutional complexes in global governance. *Review of International Organizations*, 17, 263–291.
3. Bevir, M. (2011). *The SAGE handbook of governance*. SAGE Publications Ltd, <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781446200964>
4. Carlsnaes W., Risse T. & Simmons B.A. *Handbook of International Relations*. SAGE Publications Ltd. 2002.
5. Carreira da Silva, F. and Clark, T.N. and Vieira, M.B.. - Political Culture // *The International Encyclopedia of Political Communication*, 2013, Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2312526> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2312526>
6. Chebankova E., Dutkiewicz P. Ideology and civilizational discourse // *Полит. Политические исследования*. — 2021. — no. 4. — P. 43–57. DOI: 10.17976/jpps/2021.04.05
7. Consolidation of the West and asymmetric bipolarity: workbook No. 69 / 2022 / [A.V. Kortunov; edited by E.O. Karpinskaya, I.A. Tsymbal]; Russian Council on International Affairs (RIAC). Moscow: NP RIAC, 2022. 40 p. (In Russ.)
8. Cox M. Introduction to international relations <https://we.hse.ru/data/2018/06/05/1150097170/program-2109677112-zFMKGsZz4i.pdf>
9. Dutkiewicz P., Casier T., Scholte J. A. *Hegemony and World Order. Reimagining Power in Global Politics*. — United States: Routledge, 2021.
10. Eun Yong-Soo Beyond 'the West/non-West Divide' in IR: How to Ensure Dialogue as Mutual Learning // *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*. T. 11, №4. Oxford University Press, 2018. — P. 435–449.

11. Fiedor, B. "Public Regulation in a Market Economy" // *Argumentu Oeconomica*, 11, 2001
12. Gutorov V. A., Shirinyants A. A., Shutov A. Y. Two civilizations: the relations of Russia and western Europe at the beginning of the 21st century // *Baltic Region*. — 2018. — Vol. 10, no. 4. — P. 132–141. DOI: 10.5922/2079-8555-2018-4-9
13. Hjarvard S. (2013). *The Mediatization of Culture and Society*. London: Routledge.
14. Kazarinova D., Taisheva V. Perceptions of Russia in the Global World <https://eng.globalaffairs.ru/articles/perceptions-of-russia-in-the-global-world/>
15. Koch, A. (2014). *Democracy and Virtual Politics*. In C. De Landtsheer, R. F. Farnen, D. B. German, H. Dekker, H. Sünger, Y. Song, & H. Miao (Eds.), *E-Political Socialization, the Press and Politics: The Media and Government in the USA, Europe and China* (pp. 303–318). Peter Lang AG.
16. Korolev A., Galimullin E., Kramarenko A., Bocharova A. The “World Majority” and “Global South” Concepts in Contemporary International Discourse . *World Economy and International Relations*, 2026, vol. 70, no. 3, pp. 17–28
17. Kymlicka W. *Contemporary political philosophy: An introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.
18. Landman T. *Issues and Methods in Comparative Politics - An Introduction* https://edisciplinas.usp.br/pluginfile.php/5944415/mod_folder/content/0/Textos/Landman%2C%20Issues%20and%20Methods%20in%20Comparative%20Politics%20-%20An%20Introduction.pdf
19. Lukin A., Yakunin V. Eurasian integration and the development of Asiatic Russia // *Journal of Eurasian Studies*. — 2018. — P. 1–14. DOI: 10.1016/j.euras.2018.07.003
20. Mamadouh, V.D. (1998). Geopolitics in the nineties: one flag, many meanings. *GeoJournal*, 46, 237-253.
21. *New Trends in Russian Political Mentality: Putin 3.0* / Ed. by E.Shestopal. — Lexington Books Lanham-Boulder-New York-London, 2016.
22. Özekin, M. Kürşad & Sune, Engin (eds.) (2021). *Critical Approaches to International Relations: Philosophical Foundations and Current Debates*. *Studies in Critical Social Sci.*
23. Parietti G. *On the concept of power: Possibility, necessity, politics* // Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2022, ix-xv + 253pp., ISBN: 978-0197607480
24. Podberezhsky, Igor. 1999. “Between Europe and Asia: The Search for Russia’s Civilizational Identity.” In *Russia and Asia: The emerging Security Agenda*, ed. Gennadii Chufirin. Oxford, UK: Oxford University
25. Shestopal E. Russian society in the search of a new vision of itself and others: from the „national inferiority complex” to a new identity // *Studia Socjologiczno-Polityczne*. Seria Nowa. — 2021. — Vol. 14, no. 1. — P. 127–142. DOI: 10.26343/0585556X11407
26. Shestopal E. The image of Russia in contemporary Russian society: Political and psychological analysis // *Politics, Culture and Socialization*. — 2018. — Vol. 9, no. 1/2. — P. 65–88. DOI: 10.3224/pcs.v9i1-2.04
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29. Tsygankov A. P., Tsygankov P. A. Might makes no right: Realism and international relations theory // *Russia in Global Affairs*. — 2022. — Vol. 20, no. 1. — P. 68-76. DOI: 10.31278/1810-6374-2022-20-1-68-76
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31. Tuathail, G. Ó. (1998). Postmodern geopolitics? The modern geopolitical imagination and beyond // *Rethinking Geopolitics / Gearoid Ó Tuathail and Simon Dalby (eds.)* - N.Y.: Routledge, 1998. - P. 16-38.
32. Wedeen L. Conceptualizing Culture: Possibilities for Political Science. *American Political Science Review*. 2002;96(4):713-728. doi:10.1017/S0003055402000400
33. Žižek, Slavoj. "From Virtual Reality to the Virtualization of Reality." In *Electronic Culture: Technology and Visual Representation*. Ed. Tim Druckrey. New York: Aperture, 1996. 290-295.
34. Zürn M. *A theory of global governance: Authority, legitimacy, and contestation*. — Oxford University Press, 2018.