School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

Public Affairs (BS)

The Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs is intended for individuals called upon to manage in the arenas of government, nonprofits, or business. These generalist managers must synthesize many forms of knowledge derived from government, economics, sociology, and other fields, and must apply that knowledge creatively to meet the varied and multiple challenges of public administration. The ability to understand the substance of policy and program issues; the ability to grasp the administrative, political, and ethical implications embedded in them; and the ability then to act upon the issues with effect, together define the worth of contemporary managers.

The Public Affairs program promotes acquisition of knowledge and skills essential to the tasks of identification, analysis, design implementation, supervision, evaluation, communication, and other key functions that are integral components of management careers in federal, state, and local governments; criminal justice; in social service, education, community development, arts and other nonprofit organizations; and in business firms.

Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)$^1$

Faculty

**Professor:** L. Douglas Kiel

**Clinical Professors:** Donald R. Arbuckle, John R. McCaskill

**Associate Professors:** R. Paul Battaglio Jr., Doug Goodman, Sarah Maxwell, Sheryl L. Skaggs

**Assistant Professors:** Evgenia Gorina, James R. Harrington, Young-joo Lee, Meghna Sabharwal, Nicholas Vargas

**Senior Lecturer:** Teodoro Benavides

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours$^2$

**Communication: 6 semester credit hours**

- [COMM 1311](#) Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
- [RHET 1302](#) Rhetoric

**Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours**
Choose one course from the following:

- **MATH 1306** College Algebra for the Non-Scientist
- **MATH 1314** College Algebra

**Life and Physical Sciences: 6 semester credit hours**

Select any 6 semester credit hours from Life and Physical Sciences core courses (see advisor)

**Language, Philosophy and Culture: 3 semester credit hours**

Choose one course from the following:

- **HUMA 1301** Exploration of the Humanities
- **LIT 2331** Masterpieces of World Literature
- **PHIL 1301** Introduction to Philosophy
- **PHIL 2316** History of Philosophy I
- **PHIL 2317** History of Philosophy II

**Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours**

- **ARTS 1301** Exploration of the Arts

**American History: 6 semester credit hours**

- **HIST 1301** U.S. History Survey to Civil War
- **HIST 1302** U.S. History Survey from Civil War

**Government / Political Science: 6 semester credit hours**

- **GOVT 2305** American National Government
- **GOVT 2306** State and Local Government

**Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 semester credit hours**

- **PA 2325** Introduction to Public Service

**Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours**

And choose one course from the following:

- **EPPS 2301** Research Design in the Social and Policy Sciences
- **EPPS 2302** Methods of Quantitative Analysis in the Social and Policy Sciences
- **EPPS 2303** Descriptive and Inferential Statistics for the Social and Policy Sciences
II. Major Requirements: 48 semester credit hours

Major Preparatory Courses: 3 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum

- **ECON 2301** Principles of Macroeconomics
- or **ECON 2302** Principles of Microeconomics
- **EPPS 2301** Research Design in the Social and Policy Sciences
- **EPPS 2302** Methods of Quantitative Analysis in the Social and Policy Sciences
- or **EPPS 2303** Descriptive and Inferential Statistics for the Social and Policy Sciences
- **PA 2325** Introduction to Public Service

Major Core Courses: 24 semester credit hours

- **PA 3306** Advanced Research and Writing for the Policy Sciences
- **PA 3310** Public Management
- **PA 3333** Human Resources Management
- **PA 3378** Public Finance and Economics
- **PA 3380** Organizations: Theory and Behavior
- **PA 4340** Creating High Performance Organizations
- **PA 4350** Public Agencies, Management and Ethics
- **PA 4355** Management of Nonprofit Organizations

Major Related Courses: 21 semester credit hours

- 21 semester credit hours Major and Related electives

III. Elective Requirements: 30 semester credit hours

This requirement may be satisfied with lower- and upper-division courses from any field of study. Students must complete at least 51 semester credit hours of upper-division courses to qualify for graduation.

1. Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of UNIV 1010 and the corresponding school-related freshman seminar course. Students, including transfer students, who complete their core curriculum at UT Dallas must take UNIV 2020.

2. Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from institutions of higher education. The courses listed are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at UT Dallas.

3. A Major requirement that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. Semester credit hours are counted in
Core Curriculum.

4. Prerequisite course to upper-division PA courses.

5. Most students take upper-division PA courses. However, subject to advisor approval, courses from other disciplines may be used to satisfy this requirement.

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