School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

Public Policy (BS)

The Public Policy program is an interdisciplinary academic program, drawing upon the insights of Political Science, Economics, and other related fields, to help students to tackle the “wicked problems” in domestic public policy. The Bachelor of Science in Public Policy is a degree program intended for individuals who will systematically analyze public policy issues, implementation, and analysis. Students will be prepared for entry-level analytical and administrative positions in a wide array of professional settings in the public, nonprofit, and private sectors.

Bachelor of Science in Public Policy

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)¹

View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester

Faculty

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours²

Communication: 6 semester credit hours

Select any 6 semester credit hours from Communication core courses (see advisor)

Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours

Select any 3 semester credit hours from Mathematics core courses (at or above the level of MATH 1325 Applied Calculus I)

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

Select any 3 semester credit hours from Language, Philosophy, and Culture core courses (see advisor)

Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours

Select any 3 semester credit hours from Creative Arts core courses (see advisor)

American History: 6 semester credit hours

Select any 6 semester credit hours from American History core courses (see advisor)
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

ECON 2301 Principles of Macroeconomics

Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours

EPPS 2301 Research Design in the Social and Policy Sciences
And choose one course from the following:
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: 54 semester credit hours

Major Preparatory Courses: 12-13 semester credit hours (0 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum)

MATH 1325 Applied Calculus
or MATH 2413 Differential Calculus
or MATH 2417 Calculus
ECON 2301 Principles of Macroeconomics
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

Major Core Courses: 30 semester credit hours

ECON 2302 Principles of Microeconomics
ECON 3310 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
ECON 3311 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
GEOG 3304 Principles of Geospatial Information Sciences
PSCI 3325 American Public Policy
PSCI 3322 Constitutional Law
PSCI 4343 Congress and Public Policy
PSCI 3362 The American Political Institutions
PPOL 4300 Capstone in Public Policy

Public Policy Courses: 24 semester credit hours

Choose eight courses from the following:

- CRIM 4311 Crime and Justice Policy
- ECON 3315 Sports Economics
- ECON 3330 Economics of Health
- ECON 3336 Economics of Education
- ECON 4320 Public Sector Economics
- ECON 4336 Environmental Economic Theory and Policy
- ECON 4332 Energy and Natural Resources Economics
- GEOG 3377 Urban Planning and Policy
- GISC 4384 Health and Environmental GIS: A Global Perspective
- IPEC 4301 Political Economy of Industrialized Countries
- IPEC 4305 Topics in Science, Technology and Institutions
- IPEC 4309 Urban Development
- IPEC 4310 Environmental and Health Policy in East Asia
- IPEC 4384 Health and Environmental Policy: A Global Perspective
- PSCI 3310 Managing Government Organizations
- PSCI 3326 Politics and Business
- PSCI 3323 American Federalism
- PSCI 4304 Energy and Environmental Politics and Policy
- PSCI 4305 Political Research
- PSCI 4307 Predicting Politics
- PSCI 4370 Policy Making Process
- SOC 4386 Health and Social Policy
- PPOL 4396 Topics in Public Policy
- PPOL 4398 Internship
- PPOL 4V91 Undergraduate Research in Public Policy
- PPOL 4V96 Independent Study
- PPOL 4V99 Senior Honors in Public Policy
- PA 3380 Organizations: Theory and Behavior
III. Elective Requirements: 24 semester credit hours

Students must complete a minor within these elective 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.

Minor in Public Policy: 21 semester credit hours

**Required Courses: 12 semester credit hours**

- **GOVT 2305** American National Government
- **GOVT 2306** State and Local Government
- **ECON 2302** Principles of Microeconomics
- **PSCI 3325** American Public Policy

**Upper-Division Courses: 9 semester credit hours**

Choose three courses from the following:

- **IPEC 4301** Political Economy of Industrialized Countries
- **IPEC 4305** Topics in Science, Technology and Institutions
- **IPEC 4309** Urban Development
- **IPEC 4384** Health and Environmental Policy: A Global Perspective
- **PA 3380** Organizations: Theory and Behavior
- **PA 4351** Managing the Urban Environment
- **PA 4355** Managing Nonprofit Organizations
- **PPOL 4301** Law, Science, and Policy
- **PPOL 4302** Data and Policy
- **PPOL 4303** The Internet and Public Policy
- **PPOL 4396** Topics in Public Policy
- **PPOL 4398** Internship
- **PSCI 3310** Managing Government Organizations
- **PSCI 3322** Constitutional Law
- **PSCI 3326** Politics and Business

Minor in Science, Technology, and Policy: 18 semester credit hours

**Required Courses: 9 semester credit hours**

- **GOVT 2305** American National Government
- **PSCI 3325** American Public Policy
- **PPOL 4301** Law, Science, and Policy
  - or **IPEC 4305** Topics in Science, Technology and Institutions

**Elective Courses: 9 semester credit hours**

Choose 3 courses from the following:

- **IPEC 4305** Topics in Science, Technology and Institutions
- **IPEC 4384** Health and Environmental Policy: A Global Perspective
- **PPOL 4301** Law, Science, and Policy
- **PPOL 4302** Data and Policy
- **PPOL 4303** The Internet and Public Policy
- **PPOL 4396** Topics in Public Policy
- **PSCI 4304** Energy and Environmental Politics and Policy
- **PSCI 4356** International Political Economy

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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 courses.

5. Course can be taken as a Prescribed Elective if not used as a Major Core.

6. Course can be repeated for credit.
7. At least 6 semester credit hours must come from upper-division courses.

8. PPOL 4398 can be used for Public Policy minor if it has not been used as part of the Major Core.

9. May be used to fulfill the Elective Courses requirement of the Science, Technology, and Policy minor if not used in the Required Courses component.