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

Professors: Brian J. L. Berry, Patrick T. Brandt, Thomas L. Brunell, Harold D. Clarke, Paul Diehl, Lloyd J. Dumas, Euel W. Elliott, Donald A. Hicks, Jennifer S. Holmes, Murray J. Leaf, Richard K. Scotch, Marianne C. Stewart
Associate Professors: Simon M. Fass, Dohyeong Kim, Banks P. Miller, Clint W. Peinhardt
Clinical Associate Professor: Karl K. Ho
Assistant Professors: Jonas Bunte, Vito D’Orazio, Thomas Gray, Lauren Santoro

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
PPOL 4398 Internship
  or PPOL 4V91 Undergraduate Research 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
PA 4351 Managing the Urban Environment
PA 4355 Managing Nonprofit Organizations
Other Classes as approved by Program Head

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
PSCI 3362 The American Political Institutions
PSCI 4304 Energy and Environmental Politics and Policy
PSCI 4305 Political Research
PSCI 4307 Predicting Politics
PSCI 4343 Congress and Public Policy
Other classes as approved by program head

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

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.

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