

Public Policy Minor

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Public policy refers to societal actions to solve problems. The minor focuses on understanding social and behavioral science perspectives on public policy issues, with a focus on domestic policy issues facing the U.S. Students in the minor are provided an excellent vehicle for integrating ideas drawn from several social science disciplines around issues of real world significance.

The Public Policy: Social and Behavioral Sciences minor requires the completion of 15 credit hours, which consists of two core courses, two specialization courses, and a capstone requirement. Students are encouraged to pursue an internship in government agencies, advocacy groups, or other organization involved in public policy. A departmental internship course of 3 credit hours may be substituted for a specialization with approval of the minor advisor. Overlap with the GE is permitted. Students should meet with the coordinating advisor **prior** to selecting the specialization area to plan their minor program. Any variations from the minor, including an internship experience, require the approval of the coordinating advisor.

Prerequisite to the minor (3 credit hours):

ECON 2001.01 or 2001.02: Principles of Microeconomics (3) OR
AEDECON 2001: Principles of Food and Resource Economics (3)

Required core courses (6 credit hours) Students are required to select POLISC 3115 and a choice of one of three core courses:

All students select:

POLISC 3115: Introduction to the Process (3)

Choose one:

ECON 4320: Public Expenditures and Cost-Benefit Analysis (3)
AEDECON 5331: Benefit-Cost Analysis (3)
PUBPOLM 3000: Introduction to Public Policy Analysis (3)

Specialized Subject Area Courses (6 credit hours)

The goal of the specialization is that all students emerge with knowledge about a substantive social science area where public policy issues are highly relevant. Students must select two courses in a single area and both courses may be in the same department.

Business and Labor:

ECON 4700, 4800, 5150
GEOG 5401, 5700
POLITSC 4910
PSYCH 3522
SOCIOL 3302

Communication:

ANTHROP 5630
COMM 2540, 3404, 4401, 4814
POLITSC 4165
PSYCH 2371, 4630
SOCIOL 4608
SPHHRNG 3310, 5605

Crime and Criminal Justice:

ECON 3710, 3790, 4970.01
POLITSC 4137
PSYCH 3485, 5684
SOCIOL 2209, 2210, 2309, 3410, 4507, 4510, 4511, 4609, 4611, 4615, 4618, 5673.02

Environment and Natural Resources:

AEDECON 4532, 4310, 4597
GEOG 2800, 3901H, 3900, 3800, 3882, 5801, 5802
ENR 2300, 4000, 5642, 5325
POLITSC 4335

Gender:

ANTHROP 4597.02
ECON 3820, 4553
POLITSC 4170, 4175, 4138
PSYCH 2375, 3543
SOCIOL 2367.03H, 3435, 3463, 4510, 4608

Policy Methods:

*Please note: Only **one** of the following courses can be counted toward the specialization: ECON 3400/INT STDS 3400, POLITSC 4551, PSYCH 2220, AND SOCIOL 2487.*

AEDECON 4003
ECON 4400, 4001(.01,.02,.03), ECON 3400/INT STDS 3400

GEOG 5220
POLITSC 4551
PSYCH 2220, 3321, 3508
SOCIOL 2487

Social Welfare:

ANTHROP 5600, 5602
COMM 4737
ECON 4300, 4553
GEOG 2400, 3702, 5601
POLITSC 4285
PSYCH 3531
SOCIOL 2306, 2320, 3407, 3434, 3463, 3467, 3630,
4597.02, 5450, 5623
SPHHRNG 4510

Race and Ethnicity:

ANTHROP 4597.04
ECON 3850
POLITSC 4140, 4145, 5140
PSYCH 2375, 3545
SOCIOL 2380, 2382, 3463, 4608
SPHHRNG 3310, 5605

Security:

AEDECON 2580, 3400
ECON 4547, 4560
GEOG 3300, 3601
POLITSC 4310
PSYCH 3525
PUBPOLM 4000

Size and Scope of Government:

ECON 4300, 5150
GEOG 3600
POLITSC 3450, 3905, 4115, 4125, 4190, 4192, 4280,
4285, 4910

Urban:

ECON 4900, 4920
GEOG 3881, 5402, 5501, 5502, 5602
POLITSC 4127, 5124, 5140
SOCIOL 2367.02, 2391

Capstone Requirement (3 credit hours)

CHOOSE ONE:

SBSCOL 4591: Capstone Course in Public Policy OR, if the Director of the minor approves, write a senior thesis that focuses on a policy issue. Credit is obtained through a departmental 4999H or 4999.

PLEASE NOTE: Some courses require prerequisites beyond the GE Social Science requirement and AEDECON 2001 or ECON 2001.01/2001.02.

Minor program guidelines

Required for graduation: No

Credit hours required: A minimum of 15

Transfer credit hours allowed: A maximum of 6

Overlap with the GE: Permitted

Overlap with the major: Not allowed

Overlap between minors: The Public Policy minor must contain 15 unique hours

Grades required

- Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the minor.
- Minimum 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio required for the minor.
- Course work graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count on the minor.

Changing the minor: Once the minor program is filed in the college office, any changes must be approved by:

- The academic unit offering the minor, or
 - A college/school counselor (depending on the minor).
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