

PUBLIC POLICY

CO-DIRECTORS

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THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Renee Van Vechten, Political Science

Steve Wuhs, Political Science

THE MAJOR

The Public Policy major draws its theoretical foundations from a variety of disciplines in the social sciences. Majors are trained both in the ethics of public policy making as well as in the diverse methodologies used in the field. Because public policy is an applied field, majors take a variety of applied courses in such diverse areas as environmental studies, race and ethnic studies, gender studies, political science, economics, and sociology. Students develop a concentration that allows them to develop substantial expertise in an area of public policy analysis.

A minimum of 44 credits is required for completion of the major.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

REQUIRED COURSES:

Core Course in Public Policy Analysis

-- PLCY 100 Introduction to Public Policy Analysis (4)

Foundations of Public Policy Analysis

-- ECON 100 Economics of Society (4) or ECON 101 Principles of Economics (4)

-- POLI 111 Introduction to American Politics (4)

Ethics (Minimum: 1 Course)

-- PHIL 110 Contemporary Moral Issues (4)

-- PHIL 221 Ethics and the Environment (4)

-- PHIL 320 Ethics and Law (4)

-- REL 120 Religion and Ethics (4)

-- REL 122 Environmental Ethics (4)

-- BUS 434 Applied Business Ethics (4)

-- POLI 202 Statistical Analysis and Mapping of Social Science Data (4)

-- ECON 400 Introduction to Econometrics (4)

- EVST 110 Introduction to Spatial Analysis and GIS (4) or SPA 110 Introduction to Spatial Analysis and GIS (4)
- EVST 399 Research Methods for Environmental Scientists (4)
- MATH 111 Elementary Statistics and Probability with Applications (4)
- SOAN 300 Research Methods in the Social Sciences (4)
- WGS 330 Feminist Research Methods (4)

Public Policy Concentration
(Minimum: 4 Courses)

Majors shall develop a public policy concentration in consultation with the advisor. The concentration shall reflect substantial depth in a single area of public policy analysis. Concentrations must consist of a minimum of four courses with at least two courses at the 200 level or higher.

A program contract must be completed detailing the specific courses required for the completion of the public policy concentration. The program contract shall be signed by the student, the advisor, and the Program Director. Contracts will be kept on file in the Program Office and in the Registrar's Office. Samples of previously approved concentrations can be found in the Program Office.

Approved concentrations have been developed in the following areas:

Business
Comparative
Education
Environmental
Economic
Gender
Health
Law
National Security
Race and Immigration
Research Methods

Students may develop their own concentration in consultation with their advisor.

Internship Requirement

-- PLCY 381 Public Policy Internship.

Fall (0-4), Spring (0-4).

In order to meet the major requirements, the Public Policy Internship must have a University of Redlands faculty sponsor and be approved by the Director.

Elective: Directed Study (2-4)

PLCY 170, PLCY 270, PLCY 370, PLCY 470

Elective: Internship (0-4)

PLCY 180, PLCY 280, PLCY 380, PLCY 480

Capstone Experience Requirement Options

The Capstone Experience must be completed in the senior year.

Single majors

Public Policy majors who do not major in any other field (i.e. single majors) may either:

a) complete a capstone in their primary substantive field of study (e.g. POLI 495, ECON 465, EVST 475, REST 402, WGS 459, or other capstone approved by the Director.

OR

b) complete PLCY 495 – Public Policy Capstone, POLI 456 – Education Policy, or POLI 457 – Health Care Policy

Double majors

Public Policy majors who also major in another field (i.e. double majors) may either:

a) complete two separate capstone experiences; one in Public Policy (PLCY 495, POLI 456, or POLI 457), and one in the second major (e.g. POLI 495, ECON 465, EVST 475, REST 402, WGS 459, or other capstone experience approved by the Director)

OR

b) write a shared capstone that integrates the student’s learning outcomes in both majors with director’s approval.

Regardless of which option is selected, the capstone must focus on a public policy issue and address all of the Public Policy major learning outcomes described in this chapter.

THE MINOR

Completion of the minor in Public Policy requires a minimum of 24 credits in the following policy-related courses:

Core Course in Public Policy Analysis

1 Course 4 credits

-- PLCY 100 Introduction to Public Policy Analysis (4)

Foundations of Public Policy Analysis

2 Courses 8 credits

-- ECON 100 Economics and Society (4) or ECON 101 Principles of Economics (4)

-- POLI 111 Introduction to American Politics (4)

Methods

1 course 4 credits

-- POLI 202 Statistical Analysis and Mapping of Social Science Data (4)

-- ECON 400 Introduction to Econometrics (4)

-- EVST 110 Introduction to Spatial Analysis and GIS (4) or SPA 110 Introduction to Spatial Analysis and GIS (4)

-- MATH 111 Elementary Statistics and Probability with Applications (4)

-- SOAN 300 Research Methods in the Social Sciences (4)

-- WGS 330 Feminist Research Methods (4)

Public Policy Concentration

2 Courses 8 credits

-- Two approved Public Policy courses.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Students receiving scores of four or above on an Advanced Placement American Government exam will be given credit for POLI 111.

Students who receive a score of four or higher in macroeconomics and microeconomics exams receive 4 credits for ECON 101 Principles of Economics.

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Students may apply for departmental honors in the fall of the senior year. Students must have a minimum 3.5 GPA in the major to apply. To successfully complete the honors requirements, students must successfully defend an Honors Thesis in Public Policy. The defense committee shall be composed of at least two faculty members, one of whom shall be an advisory member in the Public Policy program.

PUBLIC POLICY MAJOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates of this program will be prepared to:

1. Demonstrate mastery of knowledge about public policy issues and approaches by summarizing and evaluating existing literature in the field.
2. Apply a range of relevant theories, concepts, and approaches taken from the social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, and ethics to the critical analysis of public policy problems.
3. Demonstrate knowledge about the feasibility of solving complex social problems within the context of existing political and economic institutions and processes.
4. Use appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative methods to systematically analyze public policy issues.
5. Communicate knowledge effectively through verbal and written forms.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS (PLCY)

100 Introduction to Public Policy Analysis.

Fall (4), Spring (4).

Introduction to both the theoretical foundations and processes of public policy making. Case studies of educational policy, health care policy, economic policy, and/or tax policies.

PLCY-220 Comparative Feminisms.

Spring (4).

Focuses on feminisms from a transnational perspective, including indigenous feminisms, women's rights and LGBT rights movements. Students will consider the relationship between grassroots activism and public policy and governmental change in transnational contexts. They will consider if a global movement for women's rights exists and if women's rights should be placed in the context of human rights.

381 Public Policy Internship.

Fall (0–4), Spring (0–4).

Internship in Public Policy.

495 Public Policy Capstone.

Fall (4).

Students complete an integrated writing project in Public Policy within their chosen area of concentration.

Prerequisite: PLCY 209 and senior standing.