

BA PROGRAM IN PUBLIC POLICY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Total credit hours required in PPOL: Students must take a minimum of **48 credit hours** to satisfy the total credit requirement for a PPOL major. All courses must be completed with a C- or better in order to count towards and satisfy requirements for the major.

Required Public Policy Core: Five courses (20 credits):

- PPOL 1910 – Hard Choices in Public Policy
- PPOL 2000 – Public Policy Analysis
- PPOL 3115 – Economics for Public Policy
- PPOL 3000 – Ethics and Public Policy
- PPOL 3230 – Analytical and Critical Skills

Public Policy Specialization (12 credits): Students must choose at least one area of specialization. This allows students the opportunity to add depth to their studies and to begin to develop an area of focus within the field of public policy. To complete the specialization, the student must complete three classes (12 credits) in one of the below specialization areas. PPOL specialization courses do not need to have the PPOL prefix to count towards specialization and credit requirements for the PPOL major. Courses on the pre-approved specialization/elective list can be attributed to specialization credits. If a student would like to receive PPOL credit for a non-PPOL class that is not on the pre-approved list, they may submit a request for approval to their PPOL advisor. Non-PPOL specialization courses, even if pre-approved, may not automatically appear as such on a degree audit; please contact your PPOL advisor once you have completed an approved course to request that it be moved on your degree audit. Also please note that students may not earn PPOL specialization credit for a course, even if pre-approved, from the student's second major or minor.

Please note, the specialization will not be displayed on a student's transcript or diploma.

Specialization Areas

Sustainability
U.S. Foreign Policy
U.S. Domestic Policy
Law & Policy
Custom Track

PPOL Electives (16 credits): In addition to PPOL core and specialization courses, students must fulfill the remainder of the credit requirement with PPOL courses of their choosing. PPOL electives do not need to have the PPOL prefix to count towards elective and credit requirements for the PPOL major. Courses on the pre-approved elective list can be attributed to elective credits. If a student would like to receive PPOL credit for a non-PPOL class that is not on the pre-approved list, they may submit a request for approval to their PPOL advisor. Non-PPOL electives, even if pre-approved, may not automatically appear as such on a degree audit; please contact your PPOL advisor once you have completed an approved course to request that it be moved on your degree audit. Also please note that students may not earn PPOL elective credit for a course, even if pre-approved, from the student's second major or minor.

Departmental Distinction Program: Students in the University Honors Program and/or students who wish to graduate with Distinction in Public Policy are *required* to complete PPOL 3990 – Thesis (4 credits, taken in Fall or Winter Quarter of their senior year). Departmental Distinction in PPOL is also required for students wanting to graduate with the two highest designations of [Latin Honors](#). See the Departmental Distinction section of the handbook for more information on the application process and Departmental Distinction requirements.

Minor: PPOL majors must also declare a minor (or second major). There are no restrictions on which minor is chosen, but students are encouraged to speak to a PPOL advisor to choose a minor that is in line with their professional goals. Note that a minor is not required if a second major is declared.

Internship (optional): PPOL majors are strongly encouraged to complete an internship. PPOL 3980 - Internships in Public Policy may be completed for 0-4 credits. If you have questions, please contact the [BA Internship Coordinator](#) for more information.