

Public Policy

Minor

The undergraduate minor in Public Policy introduces students from other departments and colleges to the field and practice of policy analysis. Employers and graduate schools recognize a completed minor as indicative of broader preparation than a single degree, not to mention curiosity and willingness to do extra work. The Public Policy minor also certifies interest and background in public affairs.

Over the years, the department has realized that the underlying model of policy analysis enriches and complements a variety of undergraduate specializations and that public policy training can be valuable not only as a "pre-MPP" experience but also to students whose graduate training won't include the Masters in Public Policy degree. Lawyers, doctors, engineers, entrepreneurs, and others need to understand government choices as citizens, as participants in government, and on behalf of their organizations, many of which are profoundly affected by public policy.

Registration for the minor (which does not obligate one to complete it) makes students eligible for various Goldman School of Public Policy (GSPP) undergraduate programs and activities and gets them on a mailing list for GSPP events of interest to anyone concerned with public affairs.

Course of Study Overview

The undergraduate courses in public policy deal with the substance of public policy, how it is made, how its effects can be gauged, and what the purposes of policy should be. The courses consider both the policy process and particular policy issues. By examining different policy problems in their political and social contexts, students gain a greater sensitivity to the forces which shape and carry out public policies and to the impact of social, political, economic, and legal power.

Courses are designed for students in diverse disciplines and professional schools. There are no prerequisites for enrollment in the undergraduate courses unless specifically noted otherwise in the course descriptions. The training provided by the courses is useful to those interested in combining the substantive perspectives of the social sciences with the immediacy of contemporary problems, to those considering professional study, and to the informed and politically aware citizen.

Declaring the Minor

All UC Berkeley undergraduate students are eligible for enrollment in the Public Policy minor. Students should complete the Minor Enrollment Form (<https://gsppstudentservices.wufoo.com/forms/declaration-to-pursue-the-public-policy-minor>) as early in their academic career as possible. Declaration of the Public Policy minor is possible even before enrolling in public policy courses.

Please note that early declaration of the minor does not obligate students to this program should it become unfeasible later in their academic pursuits.

All Public Policy minor students must complete a Completion of Public Policy Minor (http://gspp.berkeley.edu/assets/uploads/page/Public_PolicyMinorCompletionForm1.pdf) form the semester they are scheduled to graduate in order to receive credit for the minor. The minor will not be listed on the diploma. Students who complete the requirements for the Public Policy Minor will receive a certificate

of completion in the U.S. mail. Within six weeks after receiving the certificate, a notation will appear at the bottom of the transcript that will state "Minor Program in Public Policy Completed" with the semester and year.

Students who have a strong interest in an area of study outside their major often decide to complete a minor program. These programs have set requirements and are noted officially on the transcript in the memoranda section, but they are not noted on diplomas.

General Guidelines

1. All courses used to fulfill minor requirements must be completed with a grade of C- or higher, and must be at least 3 units each.
2. All courses must be taken for a letter grade, except PUB POL 199, and PUB POL 98/PUB POL 198, both of which are offered on a *Pass/No Pass* basis only.
3. Two 2-unit PUB POL 98/PUB POL 198 courses or other 2-unit public policy courses may count as one course toward the minor; however, only one of these can be PUB POL 98.
4. Students may count graduate level public policy electives to complete their minor requirements. Generally, undergraduates require an (https://gspp.berkeley.edu/assets/uploads/page/2016_ISRC_Approval_Form.pdf) instructor consent form (http://gspp.berkeley.edu/assets/uploads/page/2016_ISRC_Approval_Form.pdf) to enroll in graduate courses.
5. No more than two non-public policy courses may be used to fulfill minor requirements.

Requirements

PUB POL 101	Introduction to Public Policy Analysis	4
Select four from the following (of which two must be PUB POL courses):		
MEDIAST 104A	Freedom of Speech and the Press [3]	
POL SCI 186	Public Problems	4
ECON 131	Public Economics	4
PB HLTH 126	Health Economics and Public Policy [3]	
PB HLTH 150D	Introduction to Health Policy and Management [3]	
PB HLTH 181	Poverty and Population [3]	
POL SCI 109A	Special Topics in American Politics [4]	
POL SCI 109B	Special Topics in American Politics [4]	
POL SCI 109G	Special Topics in American Politics [4]	
POL SCI 109H	Special Topics in American Politics [4]	
POL SCI 109L	Special Topics in American Politics [4]	
POL SCI 109M	Special Topics in American Politics [4]	
POL SCI 109R	Special Topics in American Politics [4]	
POL SCI 109W	Selected Topics in American Politics-UCDC [4]	
POL SCI 150	The American Legal System	4
POL SCI 181	Public Organization and Administration [4]	
PUB POL 103	Wealth and Poverty [4]	
PUB POL 117A	Race, Ethnicity, and Public Policy [4]	
PUB POL/	Applied Econometrics and Public Policy [4]	
ECON C142/		
POL SCI C131A		
PUB POL 156	Program and Policy Design [4]	
PUB POL 157	Arts and Cultural Policy [4]	

PUB POL/ DEMOG C164	Impact of Government Policies on Poor Children and Families [4]	
PUB POL 179	Public Budgeting [4]	
PUB POL 182	Environment and Technology from the Policy and Business Perspective [4]	
PUB POL C184	Energy and Society [4]	
PUB POL 190	Special Topics in Public Policy [1-4] ¹	
PUB POL 199	Supervised Independent Study and Research [1-4]	
POL SCI 164A	Political Psychology and Involvement	4
POL SCI 145A	South Asian Politics	4
SOC WEL 112	Social Welfare Policy	3

¹ Students may count an unlimited number of PUB POL 190 courses toward the minor, provided that the topic is not repeated.

Public Policy

Expand all course descriptions [+]Collapse all course descriptions [-]

PUB POL 24 Freshman Seminar 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Spring 2016

The Freshman Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small-seminar setting. Freshman seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Enrollment limited to 15 freshmen.

Freshman Seminar: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Final exam required.

Freshman Seminar: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 39B Freshman/Sophomore Seminar 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2012

Freshman and sophomore seminars offer lower-division students the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member and a group of peers in a small seminar setting. These seminars are offered in all campus departments; topics vary from department to department and from semester to semester. Enrollment limits are set by the faculty, but the suggested limit is 25.

Freshman/Sophomore Seminar: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 10 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Final exam required.

Freshman/Sophomore Seminar: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 98 Group Study in Public Policy 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017

Group study on selected public policy topics. Open to freshmen and sophomores.

Group Study in Public Policy: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Group Study in Public Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 101 Introduction to Public Policy Analysis 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

A systematic and critical approach to evaluating and designing public policies. Combines theory and application to particular cases and problems. Diverse policy topics, including environmental, health, education, communications, safety, and arts policy issues, among others. Introduction to Public Policy Analysis: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Introduction to Public Policy Analysis: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 103 Wealth and Poverty 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2009, Spring 2008

This course is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding both of the structure of political economy and of why the distribution of earnings, wealth, and opportunity have been diverging in the United States and in other nations. It is also intended to provide insight into the political and public policy debates that have arisen in light of the divergence as well as possible means of reversing it.

Wealth and Poverty: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Reich

Wealth and Poverty: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C103 Wealth and Poverty 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

This course is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding both of the organization of the political economy in the United States and of other advanced economies, and of why the distribution of earnings, wealth, and opportunity have been diverging in the United States and in other nations. It also is intended to provide insights into the political and public-policy debates that have arisen in light of this divergence, as well as possible means of reversing it.

Wealth and Poverty: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for C103 after taking 103.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Reich

Also listed as: L & S C180U

Wealth and Poverty: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 117AC Race, Ethnicity, and Public Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

The objective of this course is to use the tools and insights of public policy analysis as a means of understanding the ways in which policies are shaped by and respond to issues of race, ethnicity, and cultural difference. The course is organized around a series of discrete policy problems involving issues of race and ethnicity. It is designed to allow for comparative analysis within and across cases to explore the variety of ways in which policy intersects with different racial and ethnic groups.

Race, Ethnicity, and Public Policy: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Race, Ethnicity, and Public Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C142 Applied Econometrics and Public Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2014

This course focuses on the sensible application of econometric methods to empirical problems in economics and public policy analysis. It provides background on issues that arise when analyzing non-experimental social science data and a guide for tools that are useful for empirical research.

By the end of the course, students will have an understanding of the types of research designs that can lead to convincing analysis and be comfortable working with large scale data sets.

Applied Econometrics and Public Policy: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 140 or 141 or consent of instructor

Credit Restrictions: Students who completed Econ C142 receive no credit for Econ N142.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 1-0 hours of discussion per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6-6 hours of lecture and 2-0 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternate method of final assessment during regularly scheduled final exam group (e.g., presentation, final project, etc.).

Also listed as: ECON C142/POL SCI C131A

Applied Econometrics and Public Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 156 Program and Policy Design 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2016, Fall 2011, Fall 2005

Studio/laboratory in the design of nonphysical environments. Complements courses in policy analysis, public management, economics, and political science; especially intended to integrate elements of professional programs in public policy and related areas. Students will design, in groups and individually, programs and policies that create value in the public sector, including statutes, regulations, and implementation projects. Comparative reviews will feature invited guests. Undergraduate level of 256.

Program and Policy Design: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructor: O'Hare

Program and Policy Design: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 157 Arts and Cultural Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

Survey of government policy toward the arts (especially direct subsidy, copyright and regulation, and indirect assistance) and its effects on artists, audiences, and institutions. Emphasizes "highbrow" arts, U.S. policy, and the social and economic roles of participants in the arts. Readings, field trips, and case discussion. One paper in two drafts required for undergraduate credit; graduate credit awarded for an additional short paper to be arranged and attendance at four advanced colloquia throughout the term. Undergraduate level of 257.

Arts and Cultural Policy: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: O'Hare

Formerly known as: 108

Arts and Cultural Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C157 Arts and Cultural Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2014, Spring 2013

Survey of government policy toward the arts (especially direct subsidy, copyright and regulation, and indirect assistance) and its effects on artists, audiences, and institutions. Emphasizes "highbrow" arts, U.S. policy, and the social and economic roles of participants in the arts. Readings, field trips, and case discussion. One paper in two drafts required for undergraduate credit; graduate credit awarded for an additional short paper to be arranged and attendance at four advanced colloquia throughout the term. Undergraduate level of 257.

Arts and Cultural Policy: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Public Policy C157/Letters and Science C180x after taking Public Policy 108 or 157.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: O'Hare

Also listed as: L & S C180X

Arts and Cultural Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C164 Impact of Government Policies on Poor Children and Families 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2007

Examination of the impact of policies of state intervention and public benefit programs on poor children and families. Introduction to child and family policy, and study of specific issue areas, such as income transfer programs, housing, health care, and child abuse.

Impact of Government Policies on Poor Children and Families: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: This course may be applied to the Demography major.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Mauldon

Also listed as: DEMOG C164

Impact of Government Policies on Poor Children and Families: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

PUB POL 179 Public Budgeting 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2015, Spring 2014, Spring 2013

Public sector budgeting incorporates many, perhaps most, of the skills of the public manager and analyst. The goal of this course is to develop and hone these skills. Using cases and readings from all levels of American government, the course will allow the student to gain and understanding of the effects and consequences of public sector budgeting, its processes and participants, and the potential impacts of various reforms. Undergraduate level of Public Policy 269. This course can be applied to the political science major.

Public Budgeting: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Ellwood

Public Budgeting: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

PUB POL 182 Environment and Technology from the Policy and Business Perspective 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2010, Fall 2009, Fall 2008

Most environmental issues involve technology, either in the role of "villain" or "hero." This course uses the lens of specific technologies to survey environmental policy and management, with an emphasis on the complexities of policy-making with diverse interest groups. The class includes case studies, guest practitioners, and a group project in which students employ a range of analytic tools and frameworks in order to develop creative, effective, and actionable environmental solutions.

Environment and Technology from the Policy and Business Perspective: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructor: Taylor

Environment and Technology from the Policy and Business Perspective: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

PUB POL C184 Energy and Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Summer 2018 10 Week Session

Energy sources, uses, and impacts: an introduction to the technology, politics, economics, and environmental effects of energy in contemporary society. Energy and well-being; energy in international perspective, origins, and character of energy crisis.

Energy and Society: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:

8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

10 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Kammen

Also listed as: ENE,RES C100

Energy and Society: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

PUB POL W184 Energy and Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 8 Week Session, Summer 2019 8 Week Session

Energy sources, uses, and impacts: an introduction to the technology, politics, economics, and environmental effects of energy in contemporary society. Energy and well-being; energy in international perspective, origins, and character of energy crisis.

Energy and Society: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of web-based lecture and 1.5 hours of web-based discussion per week

Online: This is an online course.

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Kammen

Also listed as: ENE,RES W100

Energy and Society: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C189 Social Science & Crime Prevention Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019

In this interdisciplinary course students examine the relationships among social science, law, and crime prevention policy. Emphasis is placed on how psychological science (clinical, developmental, social) can inform decisions about individuals at high risk for repeated involvement in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. Topics of focus include risk assessment, adolescent development and juvenile justice, and prevention/intervention/correctional psychology. Students will have an opportunity to master a specific problem area. Broadly, goals are for students to a) become comfortable in translating crime prevention problems into social scientific questions, and b) specifically understand how research findings can inform law and policy.

Social Science & Crime Prevention Policy: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Skeem

Also listed as: SOC WEL C181

Social Science & Crime Prevention Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 190 Special Topics in Public Policy 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Course examines current problems and issues in the field of public policy. Topics may vary from year to year and will be announced at the beginning of the semester. Open to students from other departments.

Special Topics in Public Policy: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring:

7 weeks - 2-8 hours of lecture per week

15 weeks - 1-4 hours of lecture per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2.5-10 hours of lecture per week

8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Special Topics in Public Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 192AC Social Movements, Organizing & Policy Change 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020

This class will provide students with a grounding in the literature of social movement theory and history, with a special emphasis on social movements led by African American, Latinx, indigenous, and Asian Pacific Islander communities for equity. The class will also introduce students to the basics of social movement organizing, including mobilizing unlikely voters through organizing technique, and the theory of nonviolent direct action, all with a focus on race and gender equity.

Social Movements, Organizing & Policy Change: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternate method of final assessment during regularly scheduled final exam group (e.g., presentation, final project, etc.).

Instructor: Jayaraman

Social Movements, Organizing & Policy Change: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 198 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Spring 2018

Group study of a selected topic or topics in Public Policy. Meetings to be arranged.

Directed Group Study: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Directed Group Study: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

PUB POL 199 Supervised Independent Study and Research 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

For upper division students wishing to pursue special study and directed research under direction of a member of the staff. Enrollment restrictions apply; see the Introduction to Courses and Curricula section of this catalog.

Supervised Independent Study and Research: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Upper division standing

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2.5-10 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 2-7.5 hours of independent study per week

10 weeks - 1.5-6 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Supervised Independent Study and Research: Read Less [\[-\]](#)