

Public Policy

The Goldman School of Public Policy (GSPP) offers three graduate degrees in public policy, the Master of Public Policy (MPP), the Master of Public Affairs (MPA), and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

Master in Public Policy (MPP)

The MPP degree is earned in a two-year, full-time program consisting of a core curriculum, a policy internship in the summer after completion of the first year, a second-year policy analysis project, and elective courses chosen from those available on the campus and at GSPP. The program emphasizes practical and applied dimensions of policy-making and implementation, encouraging students to develop skills in:

- Defining policy issues to make them more intelligible to officials in the public, private, or non-profit sector
- Providing a broader perspective for assessing policy alternatives
- Examining techniques for developing policy options and evaluating their social consequences
- Developing strategies for the successful implementation of public policies once they have been adopted

Given the relatively small class size, the school's approach to teaching emphasizes teamwork, cooperation, and interaction among students and with the faculty. Students work, either as individuals or in small groups, on real policy problems for real clients under close faculty supervision.

Concurrent Degrees

The Master in Public Policy may be earned in combination with an advanced degree from a number of Berkeley schools under a coordinated program. Applicants must be accepted to both programs to pursue a concurrent degree.

- Public Policy & Public Health (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/concurrent-degree-programs/public-policy-public-health/>) (MPP/MPH)
- Public Policy & Law (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/concurrent-degree-programs/public-policy-law/>) (MPP/JD)
- Public Policy & Engineering (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/concurrent-degree-programs/public-policy-engineering/>) (MPP/MS offered for Civil and Environmental Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Nuclear Engineering, and Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences)
- Public Policy & Energy Resources Group (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/concurrent-degree-programs/public-policy-energy-resources-group/>) (MPP/MA and MPP/MS)
- Public Policy & Social Welfare (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/concurrent-degree-programs/public-policy-social-welfare/>) (MPP/MSW)
- Public Policy & Global Studies (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/concurrent-degree-programs/public-policy-intl-and-area-studies/>) (MPP/MA)

Master of Public Affairs (MPA)

The Berkeley Master of Public Affairs (MPA) is a flexible one-year degree program for domestic and international mid-career professionals with an average of seven years or more of work experience and who have led or managed teams. Emphasizing innovation and leadership skills, the MPA

curriculum prepares mid-career executives and professionals to act as strategic and visionary leaders and advance their careers.

Please visit the school website (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-affairs-mpa/>) for more information about the MPA.

PhD in Public Policy

GSPP offers a doctoral degree program for students who seek careers in academia and/or with governments, non-profits, or research institutes. Usually, only two or three PhD applicants are admitted each year. The program emphasizes the generation of knowledge, theories, methodologies, and applications appropriate to the advancement of public policy analysis and management. Doctoral students pursue highly individualized programs of study and typically work closely with Goldman faculty members who share the student's subject matter of interest. The doctoral program provides enormous flexibility in the topics addressed and the program of study but is directed mainly at training academic social science researchers with an interest in policy issues.

A thorough preparation in or aptitude for rigorous policy analysis skills is a prerequisite for the doctorate. Because there is no core program of study, the PhD committee prefers applicants to have completed an MPP or equivalent, or some other indication of sustained interest in (and aptitude for) public policy. Visit the "Applying for the PhD" (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/doctoral-program-phd/applying-for-the-phd/>) page for more information and specific application procedures.

Admission to the University

Applying for Graduate Admission

Thank you for considering UC Berkeley for graduate study! UC Berkeley offers more than 120 graduate programs representing the breadth and depth of interdisciplinary scholarship. The Graduate Division hosts a complete list (<https://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/choosing-your-program/list/>) of graduate academic programs, departments, degrees offered, and application deadlines can be found on the Graduate Division website.

Prospective students must submit an online application to be considered for admission, in addition to any supplemental materials specific to the program for which they are applying. The online application and steps to take to apply can be found on the Graduate Division website (<https://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/steps-to-apply/>).

Admission Requirements

The minimum graduate admission requirements are:

1. A bachelor's degree or recognized equivalent from an accredited institution;
2. A satisfactory scholastic average, usually a minimum grade-point average (GPA) of 3.0 (B) on a 4.0 scale; and
3. Enough undergraduate training to do graduate work in your chosen field.

For a list of requirements to complete your graduate application, please see the Graduate Division's Admissions Requirements page (<https://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/steps-to-apply/requirements/>). It is also important to check with the program or department of interest, as they may have additional requirements specific to their program of study

and degree. Department contact information can be found here (<https://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2024-25/graduate/degree-programs/>).

Where to apply?

Visit the Berkeley Graduate Division application page (<http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/apply/>).

Admission to the Program

Key Elements for MPP Admission

Note: GSPP maintains more stringent requirements than the Graduate Division for some admissions requirements. Please see gspp.berkeley.edu (<http://gspp.berkeley.edu/>) for more information or email your general questions to mppadm@berkeley.edu.

1. **A Commitment to Public Policy:** GSPP's goal is to admit those applicants who can get the most from the GSPP master's program and who will use what they learn to be active participants in the formulation, adoption, and implementation of better public policy. One of the applicant's goals should be to convince the admissions committee of this commitment. This can be reflected in the quality of work experience, the statement of purpose, or the personal history statement.
2. **Education:** Students at GSPP represent a wide range of academic backgrounds. Most students have degrees in social sciences, with a smaller number having undergraduate majors in humanities, biological or physical sciences, mathematics, or engineering. Some students already have advanced degrees. GSPP does not require prior quantitative training; however, previous coursework in introductory statistics, first-year calculus, and introductory microeconomics, is strongly recommended.
3. **Writing and Analytical Skills:** How students approach problems and the ability to write clearly and coherently is instrumental in public policy analysis. The committee will pay close attention to the applicant's statement of purpose and GRE analytical writing score.
4. **Standardized Tests:** For the Fall 2024 application cycle, applicants were required to submit official GRE scores OR a quantitative resume, however the GRE requirement for the Fall 2025 application has not yet been determined. Please visit [Applying for the MPP](https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/applying-for-the-mpp/) (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/applying-for-the-mpp/>) for the most up-to-date information regarding the GRE after July 15th. The LSAT and GMAT cannot be substituted for the GRE. Test scores must be less than five years old. ETS will not report scores older than five years.
All applicants who have completed a basic degree in a country/region in which the official language is not English are required to submit official evidence of English language proficiency. UC Berkeley accepts the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL (<http://www.ets.org/toefl/>)) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS (<http://www.ielts.org/>)). For Fall 2025, TOEFL and IELTS tests taken before June 1, 2023, will not be accepted even if your score was reported to Berkeley previously. To send an official score report, the institution code for Berkeley is 4833 (Graduate Programs). NOTE: The Graduate Division (<http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/requirements/#evidence-of-english-language-proficiency>) includes a third exemption for those who have completed at least one year of full-time academic coursework with a grade of B or better at a regionally accredited institution within the United States. **GSPP does not accommodate this exemption.**
5. **Three Letters of Recommendation:** The most helpful letters of recommendation are from persons who have supervised the

applicant's work in either an academic, employment, or community service capacity, and who can evaluate the applicant's intellectual ability, creativity, initiative, leadership potential, and promise in the field of public policy analysis and management.

6. **Background and Life Experiences:** GSPP recognizes that a student population that reflects the most diverse state in the country is key to the continued study of current, relevant social issues and policy problems. We are looking for people who are dynamic and driven, representing diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and life experiences, particularly those who wish to develop the tools and skills necessary to change our world for the better.
7. **The Value of Work Experience:** Although GSPP does not require work experience for admission, typically each entering student has had at least three to four years of relevant work experience. GSPP believes work experience adds tremendous value to class discussions and helps students develop a context for problem-solving and policy analysis.

Documents required for the MPP application:

1. Online Graduate Application for Admission and Fellowships (<http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/>)
2. **Resume** (submitted with online application): Please upload a current resume, reflecting your work experience, education, and any other relevant information.
3. **Statement of Purpose** (submitted with online application): Please follow the instructions below for the statement of purpose instead of what is directed on the online application: The Goldman School of Public Policy welcomes applicants from a wide variety of backgrounds and with a variety of career aspirations. Some of our students have had prior experience in the realm of public policy; others have not. It is helpful to us to know more about your background, your motivation, and your long-term goals than can be inferred from your records and references. We would appreciate your helping us by supplying a brief statement of 3-5 pages, double-spaced.
Please address some of these areas:
 - a. The present: Why do you want to take an educational program in the analysis and management of public policy?
 - b. The past: What experiences or activities bear on your qualifications for this program, e.g., research papers, study groups, job responsibilities, policy or political projects? How do these experiences relate to your decision to undertake the study of public policy analysis and management? If you have been out of school for a year or more, please indicate the positions you have held and your major activities.
 - c. The future: What kinds of work and activity would you like to engage in following graduation, and what are your long-range career objectives?
 - d. Please supply whatever information you think may help us to understand your candidacy more fully.
4. **Personal History Statement** (submitted with online application): Please describe how your personal background informs your decision to pursue a graduate degree. In this section, you may also include any relevant information on the following:
How you have overcome barriers to access in higher education, evidence of how you have come to understand the barriers faced by others, evidence of your academic service to advance equitable access to higher education for women, racial minorities, and individuals from other groups that have been historically underrepresented in higher education, evidence of your research

focusing on underserved populations or related issues of inequality, or evidence of your leadership among such groups.

Although there may be some overlap, please note that the Personal History Statement should not duplicate the Policy Statement of Purpose. The Personal History Statement should focus on your personal history/journey, whereas your Policy Statement of Purpose should focus on your academic and professional experience.

There is no page length requirement, however, this essay is generally 1-2 pages, double-spaced.

5. **College Transcripts** (submitted with online application): Please upload unofficial transcripts from all universities or colleges attended. Transcripts should list the name of your undergraduate institution and degree conferral date. International students should also submit any applicable degree certificates or diplomas. Official transcripts of all college-level work will be required if admitted.
6. **Three Letters of Recommendation** (submitted with online application): Please follow the instructions on the online application for the online letter of recommendation submission process. Three letters are required but we will accept a maximum of four letters.
7. **GRE Scores:** The GRE requirement for the Fall 2025 application is to be determined at this time. Please visit Applying for the MPP (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/masters-of-public-policy-mpp/applying-for-the-mpp/>) for the most up-to-date information regarding the GRE after July 15th. Please note the LSAT and GMAT cannot be substituted for the GRE. Test scores must be less than five years old. ETS will not report scores older than five years. UC Berkeley's institution code is 4833 (Graduate Programs). Reservations for the GRE should be made in advance through the GRE's website (<http://www.ets.org/gre/>), or the following:
The Education Testing Service (ETS)
P.O. Box 6000
Princeton, NJ 08541-6000
Phone: (609) 771-7670 or 1-800-GRE-CALL
8. **TOEFL or IELTS Scores:** For further information regarding the TOEFL, please see the TOEFL website (<http://www.ets.org/toefl/>). Use institution code 4833 (Graduate Programs). You may sign up for the TOEFL through an agent in your country or through:
TOEFL, CN6151
Princeton, NJ 08541-6151
Phone: (609) 771-7500

As an exception, UC Berkeley will also accept the IELTS exam. Official IELTS score reports must be sent electronically from the testing center, no institution code is required. Our address for identification purposes is the University of California, Berkeley, Graduate Division, Sproul Hall Rm 318, MC 5900, Berkeley, CA 94720. Please do not mail any score reports to the campus.

For Fall 2025, **TOEFL and IELTS** scores taken before **June 1, 2023**, will not be accepted.

9. **Application Fee** (submitted with online application): An application fee (<http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/requirements/#application-fee>), payable to UC Regents, must be submitted when you apply.
10. **Fee Waiver:** Eligible applicants may apply for an application fee waiver (<http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/apply/fee-waiver/>). To do so, you must be a U.S. citizen or current permanent resident.

11. **Addendum:** Please complete this section if you wish to address any specific issues that have adversely impacted your academic performance and/or any aspect of your application.

Key Elements for PhD Admission

The PhD Program at the Goldman School is a small and individualized program in which we do our best to match the interests of prospective students with our faculty. A thorough preparation in policy analysis skills is a prerequisite for the doctorate. Because there is no core program of study, the PhD committee prefers applicants who can show some clear evidence of sustained interest in (and aptitude for) public policy and applied research.

Before starting the online application:

1. Review the application checklist and instructions below. These instructions are specific to applicants to the Goldman School Ph.D. Program.
2. Review the Frequently Asked Questions here (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/doctoral-program-phd/applying-for-the-phd/frequently-asked-questions-phd-admissions/>).
3. If you have additional questions, contact the PhD Admissions Office at gspp-phdadm@berkeley.edu (gspp-phdadm@berkeley.edu?subject=PhD%20Program%20Inquiry).

Apply Online Here: Online Graduate Application for Admission and Fellowships (<http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/apply/>)

Application Checklist and Instructions (all items are to be submitted with the online application)

1. **Statement of Purpose:** Please follow the instructions below for the statement of purpose instead of what is directed in the online application. Address these areas in 3-5 double-spaced pages:
 - a. The present: Why do you want to pursue a PhD in public policy?
 - b. The past: What experiences or activities bear on your qualifications for this program, e.g., academic research, teaching, professional experience, etc.? How do these experiences relate to your decision to undertake a PhD in public policy?
 - c. The future: What are your public policy research interests, including the topics /areas you would like to study in the Ph.D. program? And what are your short- and long-term career objectives?
2. **Personal History Statement:** Please describe how your personal background informs your decision to pursue a PhD.
3. **Faculty Advisor Preferences:** Please select 3 preferences for a faculty advisor if you are admitted to the program. The assignment of faculty advisors is not guaranteed and is based on the availability of each faculty member. View profiles of available Goldman School faculty here (<https://gspp.berkeley.edu/programs/doctoral-program-phd/phd-advisors/>).
4. **Curriculum Vitae:** Upload a current CV reflecting your academic and professional work experience and research, education, and any other relevant information.
5. **Writing Sample:** A solo-authored, original research paper. This should be under 30 pages, double-spaced. We strongly prefer a writing sample that goes beyond just a literature review or summary of existing research. Its purpose is to make it evident that the student can undertake policy research.

6. **Transcripts:** Scan and upload a copy of **unofficial transcripts** from all universities or colleges attended to the online application. Official transcripts will only be requested if admitted.
7. **Three Letters of Recommendation:** Three (3) letters of recommendation are required, and should be submitted with the online graduate application. Applicants may choose to submit up to 5 letters of recommendation. Letters may arrive up to 14 days after the application deadline. We cannot guarantee that letters received after this 14-day period will be reviewed with your application. Please refer to the online application for further instructions on submitting letters of recommendation.
8. **Official GRE Scores:** All applicants are required to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE (<http://www.ets.org/gre/>)) general test—the LSAT and GMAT cannot be substituted for the GRE. Test scores must be less than five years old. To send an official score report, the institution code for Berkeley is 4833 (Graduate Programs).
9. **TOEFL and IELTS Scores:** All applicants who have completed a basic degree in a country/region in which the official language is not English are required to submit official evidence of English language proficiency. UC Berkeley accepts the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL (<http://www.ets.org/toefl/>)) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS (<http://www.ielts.org/>)). For Fall 2025, tests taken before June 1, 2023, will not be accepted even if your score was reported to UC Berkeley. To send an official score report, the institution code for Berkeley is 4833 (Graduate Programs).
10. **Application Fee:** The application fee must be submitted with the online application and is not refundable. If you are a U.S. Citizen or current Permanent Resident, the application fee is \$135; for all others, the fee is \$155. This is subject to change for Fall 2025. Eligible applicants may apply for an application fee waiver (<https://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/apply/fee-waiver/>). To do so, you must be a U.S. citizen or a current permanent resident. The form to request a fee waiver is included in the payment section of the online application. Please select the fee waiver option before submitting your application to initiate the fee waiver review process.
11. **Addendum:** Please complete this section if you wish to address any specific issues that have adversely impacted your academic performance and/or any aspect of your application.

Please do not submit additional or supplemental materials.

Curriculum

The PhD program emphasizes the generation of knowledge, theories, methodologies, and applications appropriate to the advancement of public policy analysis and management. Doctoral students pursue highly individualized programs of study, working closely with school faculty members to determine coursework to be taken in preparation for the dissertation. Students who have a master's degree in public policy from another University may be asked to take certain first-year master's level courses at GSPP not offered in other such programs.

Students must be enrolled in PUB POL 296 Ph.D. Seminar each semester. Students may take any of the Goldman School graduate-level courses as electives (PUB POL or PUB AFF), or graduate-level courses in other campus departments, in consultation with their assigned PhD faculty advisor.

Curriculum

Core Curriculum—First Year

The core courses emphasize practical applications of analytical skills and encourage students to learn by doing through numerous exercises and projects conducted in teams and individually. Fieldwork activities are also a part of the core curriculum, involving real clients, a written report, and oral briefings on the report. In addition, colloquia with outside speakers are frequently held that further examine some of the policy issues treated in the core courses.

	Fall Units	Spring Units	First Year Summer Units
PUB POL 220 ¹	4 PUB POL 210B	4 Summer Policy Internship (required)	
PUB POL 210A	4 PUB POL 200B	3	
PUB POL 240A	4 Elective Course	4	
PUB POL 200A	3 PUB POL 240B	4	
	15	15	0
Total Units: 30			

¹ Can be taken in the fall of the first or second year of the program.

Summer Policy Internship

Students are required to complete a policy internship during the summer between the first and second year of study. Students choose positions as apprentices to policy practitioners in international, federal, state, or local government agencies; nonprofit organizations; or private sector corporations and consulting firms; in the United States and abroad. Students enrolled in concurrent degrees with Public Health, Law, Energy & Resources Group, and Social Welfare can satisfy the Goldman School internship requirement with an internship that also meets the internship or summer field-placement requirements prescribed by the relevant concurrent degree requirement, as long as the internship also meets the Goldman School internship requirement. For prior year summer internship statistics and information, go the Employment Statistics (<http://gspp.berkeley.edu/career-services/alumni-graduation-facts/gspp-employment-statistics/>) page.

Core Curriculum—Second Year

The second year comprises two required courses, Advanced Policy Analysis (APA) and Political and Organizational Aspects of Public Policy Analysis, plus a number of electives.

The APA project is an intensive study of a significant policy issue of the student's choice. The project is often done for a specific client in a public or private policy organization, and sometimes the student is paid for the work. For some students, the project is an outgrowth of the summer internship or may lead to a post-graduation position with the client organization.

Students conduct their projects as members of an APA seminar, which provides them with a faculty supervisor and a peer group able to supply constructive suggestions. When the completed analysis is found satisfactory by the faculty, it then serves as the student's required thesis. Frequently, the specific policy recommendations made in these analyses have been adopted by the student's client.

	Fall Units	Second Year	
		Spring Units	
PUB POL 250 ¹		4 PUB POL 205 (Thesis Seminar)	6
Elective Course ²⁻⁴		PUB POL 299 (Thesis Independent Study)	3
Elective Course		2-4 Elective Course	3-4
Elective Course		2-4	
PUB POL 273 ¹		4	
	12-16		12-13
Total Units: 24-29			

¹ Can be taken in the fall of the first or second year of the program.

Milestones

- PUB POL 200B
- Summer Policy Internship
- PUB POL 205 (Thesis Seminar)

Public Policy

PUB POL 200 Introduction to Policy Analysis 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2017

This introductory course will integrate various social science disciplines and apply these perspectives to problems of public policy. Throughout the academic term, students will apply knowledge of politics, economics, sociology, and quantitative methods in the analysis of case studies of policymakers and managers making decisions. Students learn to use the techniques of social science to evaluate projects and programs. Course will include the preparation of a major paper for a client.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 200A Foundations for Public Policy Analysis 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This is a course about how to identify public problems and craft policies to best address those problems. The course is designed to improve our abilities to think creatively and critically about public policy issues, whether as politically-engaged citizens, advocates for policy change, practicing policy analysts, or members of one of the many disciplines and professions shaped by public policy. This course focuses on the art and science of public policy analysis. We address the following fundamental questions: What kinds of problems are public problems? How do we know when government should get involved? What kinds of solutions are available to government? How do we confront the trade-offs between possible solutions?

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for PUB POL 200A after completing PUB POL 200A, or PUB POL 200A. A deficient grade in PUB POL 200A may be removed by taking PUB POL 200A, or PUB POL 200A.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Linquiti

PUB POL 200B Professional Policy Practice 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This introductory course will integrate various social science disciplines and apply these perspectives to problems of public policy. Throughout the academic term, students will apply knowledge of politics, economics, sociology, and quantitative methods in the analysis of increasingly complex problems.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for PUB POL 200B after completing PUB POL 200B, or PUB POL 200B. A deficient grade in PUB POL 200B may be removed by taking PUB POL 200B, or PUB POL 200B.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructors: Bird, Adams, Sadin

PUB POL 205 Advanced Policy Analysis 6 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

Each student will conduct thorough analysis on a major policy question.

In this research, students will apply the interdisciplinary methods, approaches, and perspectives studied in the core curriculum.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to majors who have completed the core curriculum

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 210A The Economics of Public Policy Analysis 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

Theories of microeconomic behavior of consumers, producers, and bureaucrats are developed and applied to specific policy areas. Ability to analyze the effects of alternative policy actions in terms of 1) the efficiency of resource allocation and 2) equity is stressed. Policy areas are selected to show a broad range of actual applications of theory and a variety of policy strategies.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of session per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Raphael

PUB POL 210B The Economics of Public Policy Analysis 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

Theories of microeconomic behavior of consumers, producers, and bureaucrats are developed and applied to specific policy areas. Ability to analyze the effects of alternative policy actions in terms of 1) the efficiency of resource allocation and 2) equity is stressed. Policy areas are selected to show a broad range of actual applications of theory and a variety of policy strategies.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of session per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Friedman

PUB POL 217 Gender, Sexuality, & Family Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024

This class explores the social construction of gender and sexuality and the ways society has produced and reproduced these constructions through public policy. We examine how policy has been used to influence who forms family, how families are structured, and what life looks like inside families. Over the course of the semester, we cover policy histories and current debates in key domains, including marriage and children, social safety net, paid and unpaid work, reproductive rights, and domestic and sexual violence.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Bird

PUB POL 220 Law and Public Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024

Focuses on legal aspects of public policy by exposing students to primary legal materials, including court decisions and legislative and administrative regulations. Skills of interpretation and legal draftsmanship are developed. Relationships among law-making agencies and between law and policy are explored through case-centered studies.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Kirp

PUB POL C221 Climate, Energy and Development 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Graduate seminar examining the role of energy science, technology, and policy in

international development. The course will look at how changes in the theory and practice

of energy systems and of international development have co-evolved over the past half-

century, and what opportunities exist going forward.

A focus will be on rural and decentralized energy use, and the issues of technology, culture,

and politics that are raised by both current trajectories, and potential alternative energy

choices. We will explore the frequently divergent ideas about energy and development that

have emerged from civil society, academia, multinational development agencies, and the

private and industrial sector.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student standing or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Kammen

Also listed as: DEVP C221/ENE,RES C221

PUB POL 224 Negotiations 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023

The objective of this course is to improve negotiation skills and to increase the ability to resolve conflicts in a multitude of situations, including public policy negotiations. The course will examine the theory and dynamics of negotiation and various approaches to negotiating. Topics will include: distributive and integrative bargaining; preparation strategies; defense to ploys; power and perceptions; multi-party negotiations; working with lawyers; impact of gender, cross-cultural negotiations, organizational change and mediation. Simulated negotiation exercises will be extensively used.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Slater

PUB POL 229 Challenges and Innovation in Labor Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2022

This seminar course offers students the opportunity to develop and hone research skills that can shape campaigns to improve workers' lives. We will address priority questions that have emerged in ongoing organizing and advocacy campaigns led by labor partners. The class will culminate in presentations of findings, analyses, and policy recommendations to key stakeholders. Through a combination of lectures, key readings, and active participation in a "live" research initiative, students will develop an understanding of the current challenges that the labor movement in California faces and contribute to innovative policy advocacy and political action. This course can be a gateway to applied research capstone projects in different disciplines.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Ferus-Comelo

PUB POL 230 Politics and Policymaking in Comparative Perspective 3 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Spring 2024

This graduate course provides an introduction to the relationship between politics, policy-making, and development in the Global South. Sections may focus on a range of countries or countries from a specific region. The course will examine the political institutions underlying the policy process and the role played by groups with diverse policy interests, as well as specific policy interventions. In doing so, we will evaluate the characteristics of political competition and the dynamics of political participation in highly dynamic contexts.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction. Students may enroll in multiple sections of this course within the same semester.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL C231 Critical Race Theory in Planning, Design, and Public Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023

This course focuses on four inter-connected areas of pedagogy important to urban planning, design, and public policy that repair, rather than perpetuate, systemic harm. First, we will examine the main tenets of critical race theory to address the structural roots and history of injustice. Second, students will learn the theory, methodology and practice of transformative community planning, design and public policy principles that center the lived experiences, experiential knowledge, and agency of people directly impacted by systemic injustice. Third, we will examine the role of individual and collective healing focusing on the principles of restorative justice. Fourth, we will explore the theory and practice of love-based justice.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Also listed as: ENV DES C231

PUB POL 232 Global Challenges 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022

This course will survey societal challenges that are fundamentally global in nature, in contrast to challenges that are more effectively addressed by domestic policies. The goal of the course is to understand the cause and structure of a broad set of global challenges, with an eye towards eventually participating in their management or resolution. The first part provides foundations for understanding the governance context in which global challenges emerge. The second part of the course examines individual topic areas, building students' knowledge of modern issues and policy debates. Topics may include, but not limited to the governance of oceans; poverty and development; scientific research and technology transfer; international aid.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Hsiang

PUB POL 235 Implementation: Key Issues in Managing California Cities 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

The course provides students an in-depth understanding of key issues and constraints facing top officials in running a city. The course examines the extent cities are viable: can they provide services residents demand and deserve; can they provide for public safety, jobs, housing, schools, basic services, and fill potholes? And there is the public interest question: viable for whom and in benefit of whom? Using Oakland and Bay Area cities as case studies, the course integrates direct front-line experience with broader conceptual analyses. Students work on projects of current importance and gain familiarity with a wide-range of city policies and programs. The class will include presentations by key city decision-makers.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Lindheim

PUB POL 236 Politics of Civil War 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022

This course provides an overview of the causes and consequences of civil war. The course is organized around three units. First, we investigate some of the structural conditions and individual reasons for engaging in rebellion. Why do people fight? The second unit turns to the internal dynamics of conflict. How are civilians treated during the war? Why do rebels and civilians cooperate? The third unit explores conflict resolution and post-war politics, where we explore issues of peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and post-war reconstruction. In the end, students should leave with an understanding of why civil wars occur and an improved capacity to devise solutions for ongoing contentious political events around the world.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Liu

PUB POL 237 Politics and Development in the Global South 3 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

This course examines how politics affects development in the Global South. First, we will examine state institutions and the enduring effects of natural resources, conflict, and historical legacies on present-day development. We will then explore the role of elections and political participation in shaping public goods provision, and how politicians leverage development and security for political gain. Finally, we will focus on a broad variety of development interventions, covering areas such as conflict, education, and gender. Readings will draw primarily from the political science and economics literature and concepts are grounded in case analyses from the Global South.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Liu

PUB POL 240A Decision Analysis, Modeling, and Quantitative Methods 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

An integrated course on the use of quantitative techniques in public policy analysis: computer modeling and simulation, linear programming and optimization, decision theory, and statistical and econometric analysis of policy-relevant data. The student develops a facility in distilling the policy relevance of numbers through an analysis of case studies and statistical data sets.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 240B Decision Analysis, Modeling, and Quantitative Methods 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

An integrated course on the use of quantitative techniques in public policy analysis: computer modeling and simulation, linear programming and optimization, decision theory, and statistical and econometric analysis of policy-relevant data. The student develops a facility in distilling the policy relevance of numbers through an analysis of case studies and statistical data sets.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 240C Decision Analysis, Modeling, and Quantitative Methods 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024

This course covers intermediate quantitative methods for public policy analysis. The primary learning goals for the course are that students understand how to 1) implement and interpret linear regression; 2) distinguish correlation from causation; 3) code descriptive statistics, regressions, and data visualizations; and 4) engage in self-learning of additional methods depending on the student's research interests. We will also learn, in a mostly conceptual way, about more advanced linear models and 'quasi-experimental' research design such that students leave the course as effective consumers of these methods.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 246 Data Science for Public Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024

Data and analytics have become essential for tackling real-world social and policy problems. This course will cover key tools in this setting: data wrangling and description with (often messy) data sets, including data aggregation and manipulation; visualization; and introduction to more advanced statistical programming. Students will explore these topics via individual- and group-based applied data projects, including hands-on assignments during class. The goal is for students to "get their hands dirty" with data and to produce workable—rather than ideal—solutions to problems. Data sets will be drawn from governments, non-profits, and other partner organizations. The course will be taught using the open-source programming language, R.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Public Policy 240B with a grade of B+ or better; or with permission of the instructor

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructors: Feller, Owusu

PUB POL 247 Progress? An Intro to Tech and Public Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Not yet offered

This course explores the intersection of technology and public policy. You will examine the impact of technology on society and how public policy can shape the development and use of technology. You will also delve into the ethical considerations surrounding technology, including privacy, security, and accessibility. By the end of the course, you will have a deeper understanding of how technology and public policy intersect and how you can use this knowledge to make a positive impact in the world. Technologies discussed include AI, cybersecurity, renewable energy, geoengineering, biotechnology, robotics, spatial computing, distributed ledger technology, 5G networks, wireless communication, and quantum computing.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Reddie

PUB POL 249 Statistics for Program Evaluation 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

How do we know whether a program or policy is having its intended impact? This course will cover the methods used to answer this question. The focus will be on quantitative studies, with an emphasis on the econometric techniques used in experimental and non-experimental evaluations. We will also discuss the role of program evaluations in policy analysis and design and the limits to program evaluation as a tool for policy improvement. Examples will be drawn from real-life social policy interventions in domestic and international settings.

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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 250 The Politics of Public Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2023

This course examines the political and organizational factors involved in developing new policies, choosing among alternatives, gaining acceptance, assuring implementation, and coping with unanticipated consequences. Materials will include case studies, theoretical, empirical, and interpretive works from several disciplines.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy

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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Anzia

Formerly known as: 230A

PUB POL 251 Microeconomic Organization and Policy Analysis 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019

Research seminar to develop public policy analyses based on microeconomic theories of organization, including collective demand mechanisms, behavioral theory of regulatory agencies and bureaucracies, and productivity in the public sector.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Business Administration 101B or Economics 200A or equivalent, and consent of instructor

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Friedman

PUB POL C253 International Economic Development Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018

This course emphasizes the development and application of policy solutions to developing-world problems related to poverty, macroeconomic policy, and environmental sustainability. Methods of statistical, economic, and policy analysis are applied to a series of case studies. The course is designed to develop practical professional skills for application in the international arena.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Also listed as: A, RESEC C253/DEVP C253

PUB POL 255 Introduction to Security Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This course introduces students to the arena of security policy. Students will learn the origins and evolution of the governing framework for security policy in the United States, including the post-9/11 creation of Homeland Security, and key methodologies of security policy, including risk assessment. The course will evaluate the variety of scales at which security policy is enacted, from state/local to federal and even international. The course delves into defining security dilemmas of the present: the challenge of securing democracy against both internal and external threats; the challenge of cybersecurity in a networked world; and global climate change. The course concludes with a required one-day crisis simulation exercise.

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for PUB POL 255 after completing PUB POL 255, or PUB POL 255. A deficient grade in PUB POL 255 may be removed by taking PUB POL 255, or PUB POL 255.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructors: Sargent, Napolitano

PUB POL 256 Program and Policy Design 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2021, Spring 2016, Fall 2011

Studio/laboratory in the design of non-physical 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. Graduate level of 156.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: O'Hare

Formerly known as: 206

PUB POL 257 Arts and Cultural Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2022, Spring 2022

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. Graduate level of 157.

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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: O'Hare

Formerly known as: 208

PUB POL 259 Benefit-Cost Analysis 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This course discusses and criticizes the conceptual foundations of cost-benefit analysis, and analyzes in depth some important applied aspects such as endogenous prices of other commodities, methods to infer willingness to pay, valuation of life, uncertainty and the rate of discount. The goal of this course is to teach you the theory and practice of cost-benefit analysis, with an eye to preparing you to confidently conduct a CBA for an employer or client starting on day one of your career as a policy analyst. There will be three main components to the course: The textbook, discussion, and the semester project.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Instructor: Acland

PUB POL 260 Public Leadership and Management 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2014

This course is designed to help students develop their skills for leading and managing groups, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and public advocacy, with the goal of achieving positive social change. Materials include case studies, analyses, and works from several disciplines. Course is open to first and second year MPP students, but recommended for first year.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to students in the Graduate School of Public Policy and a select few students at other graduate schools

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Reich

PUB POL 263 Financial Modeling for Nonprofit Organizations 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024

Financial modeling is a process by which organizations test key revenue, expense and programmatic assumptions and examine the likely outcomes of a projected course of action. Financial modeling offers nonprofit leaders and social entrepreneurs a way of clarifying the financial implications of various options and facilitates critical, intentional, and informed decision making. Real-world case studies will be used to train students in the highly-iterative process of financial model development. Students will learn how to identify key variables, articulate underlying assumptions, construct staffing models, develop and analyze multi-case funding scenarios, and identify key questions critical to organizational decision making.

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for PUB POL 263 after completing PUB POL 263. A deficient grade in PUB POL 263 may be removed by taking PUB POL 263.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Copen

PUB POL C264 Early Childhood Policy - Children, Contexts, and Politics in Diverse Societies 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024

Course reviews theories of why the state enters the child and family policy arena, then walks through four specific policy domains. Utilizing multi-media material, funded through ILTI at UCOP, including interviews with leaders in the field, video clips, and conventional academic journal articles.

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for EDUC C264 after completing EDUC W164, PUB POL 264, or EDUC C264. A deficient grade in EDUC C264 may be removed by taking PUB POL 264, or EDUC C264.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Formerly known as: Education 264

Also listed as: EDUC C264

PUB POL 265 Race & Public Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This class examines the racist history of public policy in the U.S. and teaches students to use radical imagination to inspire new policy ideas for a transformative social change. We will explore how the legacy of stolen land and human bondage persist in exclusionary government policies that generate, maintain, and enforce inequitable systems. We will learn from advocates, researchers, and practitioners engaged in the collective process of radical imagination across a wide range of social spheres. Students will come to understand how policies can contribute to or mitigate the interlocking and mutually reinforcing nature of racism and anti-Blackness and will begin to envision policies towards building a thriving multiracial democracy.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Glover Blackwell

PUB POL 267 The Social Safety Net, Poverty and Income Inequality 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024

We will examine the nature and extent of poverty and inequality in the U.S., its causes and consequences, and the effects of government programs and policies. The first unit covers the measurement of poverty and inequality and reviews the evidence for the trends in the U.S. and other developed countries. The next unit covers the causes of poverty and inequality, particularly the influences of the labor market and education. The course also surveys the government policies and programs such as taxes, government transfers, active labor market policies, and labor market institutions such as unions and minimum wages. Throughout the course, policy context is highlighted, in terms of reviewing prior reforms and the potential prospective changes.

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for PUB POL 267 after completing PUB POL 267. A deficient grade in PUB POL 267 may be removed by taking PUB POL 267.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Hoynes

PUB POL 268 Financial Management of Nonprofit Organization 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

An effective nonprofit leader must be able to analyze and act upon financial information as part of an overall approach to strategic decision making. This course will focus on the core financial management issues faced by board members and by senior and executive managers in large and small nonprofit organizations. Students will learn the tools and techniques for effective financial management, including pricing, program analyses, budgeting, forecasting and overall business model sustainability. The course will address current regulations and issues that impact nonprofit financial management. The development and use of internal and external financial reports will be studied with an emphasis on using financial information in decision-making.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Copen

PUB POL 269 Public Budgeting 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2015, Spring 2014, Spring 2013

Public sector budgeting is an activity that 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 an understanding of the effects and consequences of public sector budgeting, its processes and participants, and the potential impacts of various reforms. Graduate level of Public Policy 179.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Ellwood

Formerly known as: 209

PUB POL 270 Kid-First Policy: Family, School, and Community 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2015, Spring 2014

This seminar appraises the critical policy choices that shape the lives of children and adolescents from birth through high school and beyond. The issues are as varied-and hotly debated by politicians and policy-makers-as banning Coke machines in schools to reduce obesity, regulating teenage abortion, providing universal preschool and helping abused children. Students from across the campus-public policy, education, social welfare, business, sociology, political science, economics-bring different perspectives. Discussions and readings draw on insights from across the policy sciences. Problem-solving is the focus in seminar meetings and research projects.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Kirp

PUB POL 271 The Political Economy of Inequality 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018

This course is designed to provide graduate students with a deeper understanding of the organization of the political economy of the United States and why earnings and wealth have been diverging over the last thirty-five years. Given that most of the underlying forces causing this trend in the U.S. are also prevalent in other nations, the lessons learned in this course are likely to be relevant elsewhere. The course is also 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.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: REICH

PUB POL C271 Energy and Development 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2016

This advanced graduate seminar will examine the theoretical frames and models used to examine the linkages between energy and development, and the impacts of one on the other.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Energy and Resources ENE,RES C100 or C200 or Public Policy PUB POL C184 or C284 Energy and Resources ENE,RES 102 Environmental Economics and Policy ENVECON C151 or ECON C171 or equivalent Economics course

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Kammen

Also listed as: ENE,RES C271

PUB POL 273 Public Management and Policy Implementation 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2024, Fall 2022

This course examines concepts and case studies to illustrate how to be an effective organizational leader in government and the non-profit sector. Topics include formulating and articulating goals; the influence of assets and the external environment; the importance of structure, culture and craft; reforming when resources are scarce; negotiation techniques; and elements of crisis management. students are expected to read all assignments before class and be prepared to be active participants in class discussion, debates and negotiations. The instructor will provide discussion questions for each subsequent session.

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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Nacht

PUB POL 275 Spatial Data and Analysis 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2020, Fall 2019

This course introduces students to spatial data and its analysis, modeling of spatially dependent processes, and related policy problems. Through hands-on analysis, students will learn to extract quantitative information from spatial data for applied research and public policy. Students will be introduced to spatial statistics, spatially dependent simulation, and spatial optimization. Students will learn to think creatively about spatial problems through examples drawn from economics, politics, epidemiology, criminology, agriculture, social networks, and the environment. Students will benefit from prior experience with basic computer programming, although prior experience is not required.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Introduction to Statistics

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Hsiang

PUB POL 279 Research Design and Data Collection for Public Policy Analysis 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2013, Fall 2012, Fall 2011

Public policy analysis requires a sophisticated understanding of a variety of types of data. Empirical arguments and counterarguments play a central role in policy debates. Quantitative analysis courses teach you how to analyze data; this course will introduce you to strategies of data collection and principles for critically evaluating data collected by others. Topics include measurement reliability and validity, questionnaire design, sampling, experimental and quasi-experimental program evaluation designs, qualitative research methods, and the politics of data in public policy.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: At least one semester of statistics

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: MacCoun

PUB POL 280 Ethics, Policy, and the Power of Ideas 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2016, Fall 2014

This seminar brings together two related frames for policy thinking: the ethics of policy, that is, what does it mean to do the right thing? and the intervention of policy, that is, how do new policy paradigms emerge? Those who seek to govern well inescapably confront questions of value in their political, professional, and personal choices. The discussion of ethical dilemmas, which will take up the first half of the semester, is designed to provoke analytic reflection on the moral challenges and responsibilities of public policymaking in a democracy. The focus is on the many and often competing obligations, commitments and values that should guide public actors, as well as on the public principles that guide the design of good public policy. Politics and conventional analytics dominate policy in the short run. But over the longer term, conceptualizations as varied as exit/voice/loyalty, satisficing, the tipping point, memes, winner-take-all, strong democracy, broken windows, and the prisoners dilemma profoundly influence the policy conversation.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Kirp

PUB POL 282 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.

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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Taylor

PUB POL 283 Renewable Energy Policy in the United States 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

This course will focus on the evolution and current status of renewable energy policy on the federal, state, and local levels. It will explore the context for promoting renewables in a country that has long subsidized fossil production and nuclear power and encouraged greater consumption. We will explore the particular tools and perspectives that governments on different levels bring to the challenge and the ways various governmental bodies have seized that opportunity. We will move beyond consideration of broad policies to examine the specific policy challenges and opportunities faced by proponents of each of the major renewable energy technologies.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Weissman

PUB POL C284 Energy and Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

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 international perspective, origins, and character of energy crisis.

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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Kammen

Also listed as: ENE,RES C200

PUB POL W284 Energy and Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2024 8 Week Session, Summer 2023 8 Week Session, Summer 2022 8 Week Session, Summer 2021 8 Week Session, Fall 2020

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.

Hours & Format

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

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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Kammen

Also listed as: ENE,RES W200

PUB POL C285 Nuclear Security: The Nexus Between Policy and Technology 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

The course will review the origins and evolution of nuclear energy, how it has been applied for both peaceful and military purposes, and the current and prospective challenges it presents. The purpose of the course is to educate students on the policy roots and technological foundations of nuclear energy and nuclear weapons so they are positioned to make original contributions to the field in their scholarly and professional careers.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructors: Nacht, Prussin

Also listed as: NUC ENG C285

PUB POL 286 US National Security Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019

An extensive examination of contemporary U.S. national security issues and how policy is developed and implemented. Topics include Russia after the Cold War with emphasis on nuclear and biological weapons; crisis decision-making and the key players in national security policy; the struggle against terrorism, especially since 9/11, with some reference to homeland security; the challenges to U.S. policy in the Middle East after the Arab spring; China as the chief great power rival; and the role of unmanned vehicles, cyber, and special operations as key elements of U.S. policy. Students will write policy memos, participate in crisis simulation exercises, and complete a take-home final examination.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Nacht

PUB POL 287 Energy Regulation and Public Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

The class focuses on the economic regulation of electricity and natural gas and its role in public policy innovation. We will explore the regulatory rationale in the context of microeconomic principles, the nature and evolution of energy technology and regulation in the United States, and the ways to advance public policy objectives. The class covers the alternatives to traditional cost-of-service rate regulation, the electricity deregulation experiment, the resulting energy crisis in California, and current efforts to reconsider the utility business model. We will delve into how the economic regulatory framework creates opportunities to implement public policy, and the enhanced role climate change now plays in decision making worldwide.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Weissman

PUB POL 288 Risk and Optimization Models for Policy 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2019, Fall 2018

Optimization and simulation models in stochastic and deterministic contexts. Monte Carlo simulation, Bayesian models and decisions, linear and nonlinear programming, queuing models, and a review of heuristics and biases in individual risk assessment. Hands-on exploration of tools oriented to management and policy decisions in public and nonprofit organizations. Objective for students: lifelong habit of learning and using new analytic methods.

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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructors: O'Hare, Cardenas

PUB POL 290 Special Topics in Public Policy 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

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.

Rules & Requirements

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

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of lecture and 0-2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

PUB POL 292 Directed Advanced Study 1 - 12 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

Open to qualified graduate students wishing to pursue special study and research under direction of a member of the staff.

Rules & Requirements

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

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week

Summer: 10 weeks - 1.5-18 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 295 Supervised Research Colloquium 1 - 9 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2021, Spring 2009, Fall 2008

Open to qualified graduate students wishing to pursue special research under direction of a member of the staff. Discussion and analysis of dissertation research projects, including conceptual and methodological problems of designing and conducting policy research.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate standing

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

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

PUB POL 296 Ph.D. Seminar 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

Discussion and analysis of dissertation research projects, including conceptual and methodological problems of designing and conducting public policy research.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Must be a Ph.D. student in public policy in third year or beyond

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

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 297 Graduate Student Led Course in Public Policy 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024

Course examines current problems and issues in the field of public policy. Topics vary from year to year.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open to graduate students only

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

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

PUB POL 297A Dismantling Racism in Planning, Design, and Public Policy Clinic 3 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Fall 2023

This Clinic seeks to develop students to advance an anti-racist future guided by the principles of love, healing, and justice. Students are required to enroll in the companion theory course, EnvDes C231, Critical Race Theory in Planning, Design, and Public Policy. This Clinic focuses on four areas of professional practice. First, students are supervised by experienced professional practitioners. Second, students will learn the framework of racial equity analysis through applied theoretical frameworks and case study pedagogy. Third, students will apply the framework of racial equity analysis to real-world projects. Fourth, students will engage in reflection of their experiences through peer learning and regular journal entries.

Rules & Requirements

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

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 7-9 hours of clinic and 3-3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Also listed as: ENV DES C297

PUB POL 298 Directed Advanced Study 1 - 12 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

Open to qualified graduate students wishing to pursue special study and research under direction of a member of the staff.

Rules & Requirements

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

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 1-5 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

PUB POL 299 Independent Study in Preparation for the Advanced Policy Analysis 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024

By arrangement with faculty. Open only to qualified second-year graduate students working toward the M.P.P. degree.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of faculty

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

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

PUB POL 375 GSI Practicum 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This course is directed at Graduate Student Instructors for undergraduate and graduate courses, and reviews the most important elements of effective teaching, especially teaching graduate students in professional programs like the Master of Public Policy. It satisfies the graduate division requirement for a 300 course for GSI's.

Hours & Format

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

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: O'Hare

Formerly known as: Public Policy 300