Goldman School of Public Policy

Overview

The Goldman School of Public Policy (GSPP) is one of the nation’s premier graduate institutions for education and research on the most pressing contemporary policy problems in American society and throughout the world. GSPP is an eclectic community of students, faculty, staff, and visitors, all committed to the highest standards of policy analysis, intellectual rigor, and energetic policy debate.

GSPP was one of the first institutions in the United States established for the analysis and development of public policy. For almost four decades, it has been a leader in the teaching of methods of policy analysis using microeconomic, statistical, political, management, legal, and information technology skills to help solve real-world problems.

The Goldman School is consciously multidisciplinary in its outlook and orientation. Its faculty is drawn from economics, political science, law, social psychology, demography, architecture, physics, and engineering. In addition, students can study with leading scholars in a variety of other disciplines and fields throughout the Berkeley campus.

Great emphasis is placed on team projects, on sharpening oral and written communication skills, and on creative thinking. Students have opportunities to work on policy problems for real clients and also to address scholarly and methodological issues in depth. The result is an exceptional learning experience, both inside and outside the classroom.

Graduates have risen to leadership positions as policymakers, analysts, and managers at all levels of government, in the nonprofit sector, in private institutions, and in international organizations.

Undergraduate Courses

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.

Graduate Courses

Through an examination of domestic and international policy areas, graduate courses enable students to conduct systematic work in the design and assessment of public policies. Among the skills emphasized are those facilitating the application of political, organizational, economic, quantitative, and legal analysis to the full range of the policy process — from policy initiation through policy adoption, implementation, and evaluation. By developing these skills, students should find their strengthened analytical capabilities of direct use when applied to their own field of concentration.

Undergraduate Program

Public Policy (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/public-policy): Minor

Graduate Programs

Public Policy (http://guide.berkeley.edu/graduate/degree-programs/public-policy): MPP (Master of Public Policy), PhD
Public Affairs (http://guide.berkeley.edu/graduate/degree-programs/public-affairs): MPA (Master of Public Affairs)

Coordinated Degree Programs

The MPP may be earned in combination with an advanced degree from the following UC Berkeley schools and colleges under a coordinated program; see the GSPP website (http://gspp.berkeley.edu/academics/concurrent-degree-programs) for details:
MPP/JD, School of Law
MPP/MA in International and Area Studies, College of Letters and Science
MPP/MA in Energy and Resources, College of Natural Resources
MPP/MS in Energy and Resources, College of Natural Resources
MPP/MPH, School of Public Health
MPP/MS, College of Engineering (Nuclear Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, Industrial Engineering and Operations Research, or Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences)
MPP/MSW, School of Social Welfare

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: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
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.

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
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 C142 Applied Econometrics and Public Policy 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015, 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

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 6 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.
Also listed as: ECON C142/POL SCI C131A

Applied Econometrics and Public Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C150 Political Psychology and Public Policy 3 Units
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
Personality factors in political behavior; psychological roots of decision-making; leadership; psychological sources of political belief; conflict theory.

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2015
Personality factors in political behavior; psychological roots of decision-making; leadership; psychological sources of political belief; conflict theory.

Political Psychology and Public Policy: 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 required.
Instructor: Lerman
Also listed as: POL SCI 164A

Political Psychology and Public Policy: Read Less [-]
PUB POL C150 Political Psychology and Public Policy 3 Units
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
Personality factors in political behavior; psychological roots of decision-making; leadership; psychological sources of political belief; conflict theory.
Terms offered: Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2015
Personality factors in political behavior; psychological roots of decision-making; leadership; psychological sources of political belief; conflict theory.
Political Psychology 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.
Instructor: Lerman

Also listed as: POL SCI 164A
Political Psychology 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

Arts and Cultural Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 157 Arts and Cultural Policy 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Spring 2015
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 C184 Energy and Society 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Summer 2018 10 Week Session, Fall 2017
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 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 190 Special Topics in Public Policy
1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
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.

PUB POL 190AC Combining Research and Practice: Inequality, Imprisonment, and Higher Education in the Community 4 Units
Terms offered: Prior to 2007
This course in practical policy evaluation will focus on two primary sites of racial and economic inequality in America today: higher education and mass incarceration. We will examine both the causes and consequences of the underrepresentation of racial minorities and the poor on college campuses and the overrepresentation of these same groups in the nation’s prisons and jails. In collaboration with our community partner, the Prison University Project’s College Program at San Quentin State Prison, students will then have the opportunity to participate in an original research project designed to explore the challenges and potential of providing incarcerated individuals with college courses behind bars.

Combining Research and Practice: Inequality, Imprisonment, and Higher Education in the Community: 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. Alternative to final exam.

PUB POL 198 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
Group study of a selected topic or topics in Public Policy. Meetings to be arranged.

Directed Group Study: 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.

PUB POL 199 Supervised Independent Study and Research 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Fall 2014
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 [-]
PUB POL 200 Introduction to Policy Analysis
4 Units
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.
Introduction to Policy Analysis: Read More [+]

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.

Introduction to Policy Analysis: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 205 Advanced Policy Analysis 6 Units
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.
Advanced Policy Analysis: Read More [+]

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.

Advanced Policy Analysis: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 210A The Economics of Public Policy Analysis 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016
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.
The Economics of Public Policy Analysis: Read More [+]

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

The Economics of Public Policy Analysis: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 210B The Economics of Public Policy Analysis 4 Units
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.
The Economics of Public Policy Analysis: Read More [+]

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

The Economics of Public Policy Analysis: Read Less [-]
PUB POL 220 Law and Public Policy 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2015
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.

Law and Public Policy: Read More [+]

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

Law and Public Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C221 Climate, Energy and Development 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
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.

Climate, Energy and Development: Read More [+]

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

Climate, Energy and Development: Read Less [-]
PUB POL 240A Decision Analysis, Modeling, and Quantitative Methods 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016
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.

Decision Analysis, Modeling, and Quantitative Methods: Read More [+]

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.

Decision Analysis, Modeling, and Quantitative Methods: Read Less [-]

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

Decision Analysis, Modeling, and Quantitative Methods: Read More [+]

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.

Decision Analysis, Modeling, and Quantitative Methods: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 249 Statistics for Program Evaluation 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016
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.

Statistics for Program Evaluation: 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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Statistics for Program Evaluation: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 250 The Politics of Public Policy 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016
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.

The Politics of Public Policy: Read More [+]

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

The Politics of Public Policy: Read Less [-]
PUB POL 251 Microeconomic Organization and Policy Analysis 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016
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.
Microeconomic Organization and Policy Analysis: Read More [+]
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
Microeconomic Organization and Policy Analysis: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C253 International Economic Development Policy 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016
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.
International Economic Development Policy: Read More [+]
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: A,RESEC C253
International Economic Development Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 256 Program and Policy Design 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2016, Fall 2011, Fall 2005
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.
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/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: O'Hare
Formerly known as: 206
Program and Policy Design: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 257 Arts and Cultural Policy 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Spring 2015
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.
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/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: O'Hare
Formerly known as: 208
Arts and Cultural Policy: Read Less [-]
PUB POL 259 Benefit-Cost Analysis 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2016
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.
Benefit-Cost Analysis: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Calculus and Intermediate Microeconomics or consent of instructor
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Acland
Benefit-Cost Analysis: Read Less [-]

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.
Public Leadership and Management: Read More [+]
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 per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Reich
Public Leadership and Management: Read Less [-]

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.
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/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Ellwood
Formerly known as: 209
Public Budgeting: Read Less [-]

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.
Kid-First Policy: Family, School, and Community: Read More [+]
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
Kid-First Policy: Family, School, and Community: Read Less [-]
PUB POL 271 The Political Economy of Inequality 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017
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.
The Political Economy of Inequality: Read More [+]

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

The Political Economy of Inequality: Read Less [-]

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.
Energy and Development: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Energy and Resources ENE,RES C100 or C200 or Public Policy PUB POL C184 or C284<BR/>Energy and Resources ENE,RES 102<BR/>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
Energy and Development: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 273 PUBLIC MANAGEMENT AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017
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.
PUBLIC MANAGEMENT AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION: 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/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: NACHT

PUBLIC MANAGEMENT AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 275 Spatial Data and Analysis 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016
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.
Spatial Data and Analysis: Read More [+]

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
Spatial Data and Analysis: Read Less [-]
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.
Research Design and Data Collection for Public Policy Analysis: Read More [+]

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 conservation.
Ethics, Policy, and the Power of Ideas: Read More [+]

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.
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/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Taylor
PUB POL C284 Energy and Society 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Summer 2018 10 Week Session, Fall 2017
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.
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/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Kammen
Also listed as: ENE, RES C200

Energy and Society: Read Less [-]

PUB POL C285 Nuclear Security: The Nexus Between Policy and Technology 4 Units
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.
Nuclear Security: The Nexus Between Policy and Technology: Read More [+]

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

Nuclear Security: The Nexus Between Policy and Technology: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 286 US National Security Policy 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2015
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.
US National Security Policy: Read More [+]

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

US National Security Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 288 Risk and Optimization Models for Policy 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2016
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.
Risk and Optimization Models for Policy: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: One course in statistics/probability

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: O'Hare

Risk and Optimization Models for Policy: Read Less [-]
PUB POL 290 Special Topics in Public Policy
1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
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. 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
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
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Public Policy/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Special Topics in Public Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 292 Directed Advanced Study 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Fall 2014
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.
Directed Advanced Study: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 295 Supervised Research Colloquium 1 - 9 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2009, Fall 2008, Spring 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.
Supervised Research Colloquium: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 296 Ph.D. Seminar 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
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.
Ph.D. Seminar: Read Less [-]
PUB POL 297 Graduate Student Led Course in Public Policy 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
Course examines current problems and issues in the field of public policy. Topics vary from year to year.
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.
Graduate Student Led Course in Public Policy: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 298 Directed Advanced Study 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Spring 2017
Open to qualified graduate students wishing to pursue special study and research under direction of a member of the staff.
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.
Directed Advanced Study: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 299 Independent Study in Preparation for the Advanced Policy Analysis 3 Units
By arrangement with faculty. Open only to qualified second-year graduate students working toward the M.P.P. degree.
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.
Independent Study in Preparation for the Advanced Policy Analysis: Read Less [-]

PUB POL 375 GSI Practicum 2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017
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.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
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
GSI Practicum: Read Less [-]