

PLCY - PUBLIC POLICY

PLCY400 Senior Capstone (3 Credits)

Public Policy students will take the skills and knowledge gained through their curriculum and apply them through their senior capstone course. Students will work in teams on problems and issues presented by outside clients, with guidance from faculty facilitators and interaction with the clients. Each team will work with the client to address a particular problem and produce a mutually agreed upon outcome. These hands on projects will advance students' understanding of the analytical, leadership, communication and problem solving skills necessary to address today's policy problems while allowing them to gain professional level experience that could contribute to their success in their post UMD endeavors. The course will conclude with an event that allows all teams to present their findings and outcomes to their client while being evaluated by faculty and public policy professionals.

Prerequisite: PLCY200 or PLCY306.

Restriction: Permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy; and must have earned a minimum of 90 credits.

PLCY401 Making Policy Work: Contemporary Challenges and Solutions (3 Credits)

How do we make policies work for an increasingly diverse and dynamic populace? Today's challenges require an understanding of key variables and constraints (e.g., structural, cultural, bureaucratic, administrative) affecting both policy implementation and failure. This course allows students to analyze and evaluate current implementation plans, policies, and projects. Students will have the opportunity to create and propose future recommendations. The course is conducted in a specific policy field, denoted in the section below. It is recommended students take a related elective prior to signing up for this course.

Restriction: Must have earned a minimum of 90 credits. Public Policy majors or by permission only.

PLCY459 Advanced Special Topics in Study Abroad (3 Credits)

Advanced special topics in international and global public policy

Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

PLCY488 Advanced Special Topics in Public Policy (3 Credits)

Advanced special topics for upper level students focusing on topics related to Public Policy.

Restriction: Must have earned a minimum of 60 credits.

Repeatable to: 6 credits if content differs.

PLCY610 Quantitative Aspects of Public Policy (3 Credits)

Introduces statistical methods needed for evaluating and choosing among policy options. Topics include probability; decision-making under uncertainty; the organization, interpretation, and visual display of complex data; prediction and inferences about causality; hypothesis testing; and linear and multiple regression. Develops analytical skills and the ability to apply theory to complex, real-world problems.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY610 or PUA610.

Formerly: PUA610.

PLCY611 Quantitative Analysis of Policy Issues (3 Credits)

Study of a series of problems and the development of quantitative techniques to describe or evaluate the problem. The organization and interpretation of complex data and its use for prediction and inference about casual effects. The definition of objectives, trade-offs among objectives, and allocation of resources to meet objectives. Sensitivity of outcomes to changing conditions.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY611 or PUA611.

Formerly: PUA611.

PLCY620 Political Analysis (3 Credits)

Examination of politics as a process for allocating scarce resources among claimants for public benefits. Comparison of the allocative model of politics with other distributive processes, such as markets. Comparison of the model with behavior of different political institutions, such as Congress and the presidency. Study of politics as a process with distinctive concepts of rationality. The translation of voter and interest group preferences into public choices. The impact of political decisions on competing constituencies.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY620 or PUA620.

Formerly: PUA620.

PLCY630 Normative and Political Dimensions of Public Policy (3 Credits)

Explores the normative and political dimensions of governance—or policymaking—at the domestic (focusing on the US) and global levels. Policymaking involves a myriad of public and private actors at the local, national, transnational, and global levels that have competing aims and values. Their interaction produces formal and informal policies that affect the international order, interstate relations, subnational dynamics, and individuals. Drawing on theory from multiple disciplines and case examples, the course examines governance at these interrelated levels. Students learn core concepts, debates, and actors involved in policy making, develop tools to identify the causes and consequences of different policies, and build skills to influence public governance. Students also critically analyze how the actors, institutions, and scholarship covered perpetuate systemic racism and other inequities based on gender, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, dis/ability, etc.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY630 or PLCY688E.

Formerly: PLCY688E.

PLCY631 Governance: Leadership, Management and Accountability (3 Credits)

Emphasizes that regardless of technical specialization, public policy practitioners are required to lead people and organizations, manage resources and processes, and be held accountable for their actions. Provides knowledge, insights, skills, and abilities to successfully participate in and contribute to the policy process and lead and manage in line with democratic norms and values. Shows the need to pursue efficiency, effectiveness, and speed while also prioritizing justice, equity, procedural fairness, and due process. Focuses on the "people" side of organizational life, ethical decision-making, and the ability to communicate effectively.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY631 or PLCY688G.

Formerly: PLCY688G.

PLCY640 Microeconomic and Policy Analysis (3 Credits)

Applies intermediate microeconomic theory to public policy issues: resource allocation by firms and consumers; the response of economic agents to changes in incentives; market allocations in competitive and non-competitive environments; and market failures and government remedies. Uses extended case studies of particular issues in such areas as the environment (acid rain), international trade (tariffs), industry regulation (cable TV), and the provision of public goods (highways).

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY640 or PUA640.

Formerly: PUA640.

PLCY641 Macroeconomics and Policy Analysis (3 Credits)

Studies the behavior of the economy as a whole: the level of national income, unemployment, and inflation; the vulnerability of the U.S. economy to external influences; possible federal influence over the level of economic activity; and the consequences for prices, employment and the U.S. trade deficit. Also examines possible U.S. policy responses to widespread debt crises in developing countries.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY641 or PUA641.

Formerly: PUA641.

PLCY650 Moral Dimensions of Public Policy (3 Credits)

Explores the moral issues involved in public policy questions; the limits and usefulness of decision-making tools; problems of choosing, justifying and using criteria to judge a program's success and suitability; ethical issues involving the welfare state and income distribution; and possible obligations beyond one's political community and generation.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY650 or PUA650.

Formerly: PUA650.

PLCY659 Special Topics in Study Abroad (3 Credits)

Students will learn about public policy under different governance models and cultural contexts through an immersive experience where they will compare policy ideas and institutions. They will gain a deeper understanding of policy formulation, implementation, and effects in diverse societies, giving them a global perspective on policy issues which will enhance their critical analysis skills and career readiness.

Repeatable to: 6 credits.

PLCY660 Environmental Policy Workshop (3 Credits)

Students work as a team to analyze and recommend responses to a current environmental policy issue. Emphasizes problem definition, organization of information and presentation of results.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY660 or PUA660.

Formerly: PUA660.

PLCY670 Public Budgeting & Financial Management (3 Credits)

Covers how governments raise, spend, borrow, and manage public funds. Reviews federal, state, and local budget processes and introduces analytical techniques including basic spreadsheet skills, evaluating alternative revenue sources, revenue and expenditure forecasting, cost allocation, capital budgeting, cost-benefit analysis, discounting and present value, bond analysis, cash management and intergovernmental finance.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY670 or PUA670.

Formerly: PUA670.

PLCY680 Examining Social Identity and Pluralism in Public Policy (3 Credits)

Understanding how groups and individuals develop and coexist in society is an essential part of public policy. Using the classroom as a laboratory, students will explore identity development and how the intersections of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and other identities shape perceptions that inform decision-making and policy development. From historical scholars to current day movement leaders, this course equips students with tools necessary to critically analyze pluralism, power, and identity; and the skills needed to shape meaningful and equitable public policy and working and civic environments for all.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY680 or PLCY699D.

Formerly: PLCY699D.

PLCY688 Topics in Public Policy (1-3 Credits)

Special topics in Public Policy.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of instructor.

Repeatable to: 18 credits if content differs.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY688 or PUA688.

Formerly: PUA688.

PLCY689 Public Policy Topics (1-3 Credits)

Special Topics in Public Policy.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of instructor.

Repeatable to: 18 credits if content differs.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY689 or PUA689.

Formerly: PUA689.

PLCY690 Policy Engagement Project (3 Credits)

Students apply skills to a real-world public policy or management issue through a policy engagement (capstone) project. Students engage an outside client to define and complete a professional project under the supervision of School faculty. The project utilizes skills and knowledge gained through SPP coursework, expands students' integrative capacity, and serves as a bridge to professional opportunities. In this first half of a two-semester course sequence, students identify a client and problem, scope and define the problem, and draw up a plan of work. They perform background research on the problem, the context and relevant substantive domains. They also develop the research methodology for their project, which could include qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, or other approaches. Projects vary in substantive focus and may encompass policy analysis, program evaluation, management or organizational studies, or comprehensive literature reviews.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY690 or PLCY699X.

Formerly: PLCY699X.

PLCY692 Leadership Principles and Practices (3 Credits)

This course will introduce leadership principles and practices to students by focussing on the theory of leadership, different leadership themes and skills, and discussions with practitioners.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY692 or PUA692.

Formerly: PUA692.

PLCY698 Selected Topics in Public Affairs (1-3 Credits)

Special topics that arise in public policy.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

PLCY699 Selected Topics Public Policy (1-3 Credits)

Special topics that arise in public policy.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; and permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY699 or PUA699.

Formerly: PUA699.

PLCY700 Trade Policy, Geopolitics, Development and Climate (3 Credits)

Examines challenges posed for international trade policy by geopolitical rifts, the increased weight of developing nations in the world economy, and climate deterioration. It covers the arguments for and against international trade amid polarized politics; how trade policy is made at the World Trade Organization, in Regional Deals, and in Washington, D.C; how businesses build global supply chains and deal with trade policy uncertainty; the trade policy of China and of developing nations more widely; and the role of trade and of trade policy in the fight against climate change.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

PLCY706 Public Policymaking for Journalists (3 Credits)

Focuses on the political, procedural and administrative realities of policy formation and implementation. Specifically for the Journalism students who staff the Capital News Service.

Restriction: Must be in a major in JOUR-Philip Merrill College of Journalism.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY706 or PUA706.

Formerly: PUA706.

PLCY711 Public Management and Leadership (3 Credits)

Reviews the managerial, political, and ethical problems faced by public sector managers and leaders, including setting an organization's goals, obtaining and protecting a program mandate, designing a service delivery system and implementing a new program.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY711 or PUA711.

Formerly: PUA711.

PLCY715 Government and Non-Profit Accounting (3 Credits)

Basic accounting practices of governmental and non-profit organizations. Emphasis on presentation of data in assessing an organization's financial health, financial data by organizations, structuring of accounting information to achieve management control, way in which evolving national standards influence kinds of information organizations have to apply in the future.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY715 or PUA715.

Formerly: PUA715.

PLCY717 Federal Budgeting: Policy and Process (3 Credits)

Budgeting as a political and administrative instrument of government. Development of budgeting, the multiple uses of the budget, including role in fiscal policy and resource allocation, the roles and relationships of major participants, and effects of resource scarcity on budgeting behavior. Emphasis on the federal level.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY717 or PUA717.

Formerly: PUA717.

PLCY720 International Security Policy (3 Credits)

Reviews the principal features of international security as currently practiced. Traces the evolution of contemporary policy beginning with the initiation of nuclear weapons programs during World War II. Particular emphasis is given to experience of the United States and Russia, since the historical interaction between these two countries has disproportionately affected the international security conditions that all other countries now experience.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY720 or PUA720.

Formerly: PUA720.

PLCY724 Problems of Global Security (3 Credits)

Explores the international security implications of globalization, presenting evidence indicating that altered circumstances will eventually induce a major redesign of prevailing security arrangements. Includes three segments: 1) a review of the principal problems that have been the focus of established security policy and would be the context for any major adjustment of policy; 2) an assessment of relationships with the major countries where traditional problems are most acutely present; and 3) a review of the organizing principles that can be expected to emerge in the new situation.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY724 or PUA724.

Formerly: PUA698W and PUA724.

PLCY732 Policy and Politics of Education Reform (3 Credits)

Examines education reform in its historical, fiscal, cultural, and legal contexts, and the changing relationship between education and economic opportunity. Focuses on institutional and normative issues, including national standards, public school choice, charter schools, vouchers and funding equity.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY732 or PUA732.

Formerly: PUA732.

PLCY734 Foundations of Social Policy (3 Credits)

Provides an overview of government's role in social policy and the history of the development of federal and state policies with respect to welfare, aging, education, and housing. Analyzes current federal institutions and legislation in the same policy areas and the demographic history of the United States. Develops skills in analytic writing and presentation of descriptive data.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY734 or PUA734.

Formerly: PUA734.

PLCY735 Health Policy (3 Credits)

Analyzes the origins, history, status, and future of health care as problems in political and economic theory and as puzzles in policy formation. Considers current American reform controversies in the light of several disciplines and in comparison to foreign experiences and structures.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY735 or PUA735.

Formerly: PUA735.

PLCY736 Managing Social Services (3 Credits)

Focuses on managing social services across federal, state, and local jurisdictions with an emphasis on how strong management can improve results. Exposes students to management thought and philosophy as applied to different social services and social policy challenges within various operating environments and programmatic settings. The watchwords for this course are "management" and "applied".

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PUA736, PLCY736 or PUA698V.

Formerly: PUA698V and PUA736.

PLCY740 Public Policy and the Environment (3 Credits)

Surveys of major federal environmental legislation; the development and implementation of laws, and alternative ways of thinking about the relationship between humans and the environment.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY740 or PUA740.

Formerly: PUA740.

PLCY741 Global Environmental Problems (3 Credits)

Suitability of analytic tools for examining global environmental problems, human overpopulation, land abuse, ozone depletion, climate change, acid rain, loss of biological diversity, the scarcity of food, fresh water, energy and nonfuel mineral resources, and health hazards of pollutants toxic metals and radiation.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY741 or PUA741.

Formerly: PUA741.

PLCY742 Environmental Ethics (3 Credits)

Analyzes issues such as the relation between human beings and nature from the perspectives of the science, history, philosophy, and religion. Considers the bases for policies such as environmental regulation, public lands, and international conventions with respect to the environment.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

PLCY743 Ecological Economics (3 Credits)

Explores how taking account of the economic system's fundamental dependence on the environment alters conventional economic goals, priorities, theories, and prescriptions.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY743 or PUA743.

Formerly: PUA743.

PLCY744 Environment and Development (3 Credits)

Analyzes sustainable development and its conflicting interpretations. The dominant view, as expressed in the World Bank's 1992 World Development Report, is studied, along with some critical responses. Further readings on issues of population, consumption and development indicators.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY744 or PUA744.

Formerly: PUA744.

PLCY745 Human Health and Environmental Policy (3 Credits)

Reviews the major human physiological systems and their integrated toxicological functions; considers key bodily defenses; and discusses classic, emerging, and ambiguous risks; in all ecological context. Applies to scientific controversy, the methods of policy formation, such as risk analysis, social-cost analysis, "outcomes" analysis, and decision analysis, all in political-economic context.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY745 or PUA745.

Formerly: PUA745.

PLCY746 Dynamic Modeling for Environmental Investment and Policy Making (3 Credits)

Examines the theory, methods and tools to dynamic modeling for policy and investment decision making, with special focus on environmental issues. Provides extensive hands-on modeling experience and makes use of state-of-art computing methods to translate theory and concepts into executable models.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY746 or PUA746.

Formerly: PUA698M and PUA746.

PLCY752 Managing Differences: Resolving Conflict and Negotiating Agreements (3 Credits)

Enhances the student's negotiation and leadership skills for managing differences between individuals and groups. Students study the nature of conflict, learn how to handle two and multiparty conflicts, exerting leadership where there are no hierarchy leaders, and explore the impact of facilitators and mediators on the negotiating process. Blends skill building exercises and theory discussions about the behavior of groups and individuals in groups to understand negotiation dynamics.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY752 or PUA752.

Formerly: PUA752.

PLCY753 Advanced Negotiations (3 Credits)

Deepens the student's negotiation and leadership skills for managing differences between individuals and groups. Cover conflict, escalation, dealing with intractable conflicts, sustaining agreements in inter-group conflicts, and the effects of trauma on negotiations.

Prerequisite: PUA752.

Credit Only Granted for: PUA698C, PUA753 or PLCY753.

Formerly: PUA698C and PUA753.

PLCY780 The American Foreign Policy-Making Process (3 Credits)

Survey and analysis of the governmental institutions and processes which shape U.S. global engagement on national security and international economic issues. Particular emphasis is given to executive-congressional relations and the broader domestic roots of foreign policy.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY780 or PUA780.

Formerly: PUA780.

PLCY781 International Economic Policy (3 Credits)

Issues and choices facing the United States in today's global economy. Primary, but not exclusive, emphasis is given to "competitive interdependence" among advanced industrial societies.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY781 or PUA781.

Formerly: PUA781.

PLCY782 International Development Economics (3 Credits)

Examines key current economic and policy issues for developing and transition economies. Topics include inflation stabilization, fiscal policy, selected trade issues, dealing with international capital flows, the role of multilateral organizations, such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and issues relating to saving, investment and growth.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PUA698U, PUA782 or PLCY782.

Formerly: PUA698U and PUA782.

PLCY783 Development and Foreign Aid (3 Credits)

Examines the empirical, conceptual, and ethical dimensions of international development policies and U.S. foreign aid. What is the present character of development in poor countries/regions? How should development be conceived? What development strategies are best? What is and should be the purpose of U.S. foreign aid and development assistance?

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY783 or PUA783.

Formerly: PUA698Q and PUA783.

PLCY784 Disease, Disaster, and Development (3 Credits)

Studies development, the process by which needy people in fragile societies become self-sufficient people in resilient societies, in relation to disease and disaster, with particular attention to the developed world's response.

Credit Only Granted for: PUA699D, PUA784 or PLCY784.

Formerly: PUA699D and PUA784.

PLCY790 Project Course (3 Credits)

Students work at a sponsoring government agency or private firm researching problem of interest to sponsor and relevant to concentration. Emphasis on problem definition, organizing information, and both oral and written presentation of results.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY790 or PUA790.

Formerly: PUA790.

PLCY798 Readings in Public Policy (1-3 Credits)

Guided readings for discussions on public policy.

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY798 or PUA798.

Formerly: PUA798.

PLCY898 Pre-Candidacy Research (1-8 Credits)

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY898 or PUA898.

Formerly: PUA898.

PLCY899 Doctoral Dissertation Research (1-8 Credits)

Restriction: Must be in a major in PLCY-School of Public Policy; or permission of PLCY-School of Public Policy.

Credit Only Granted for: PLCY899 or PUA899.

Formerly: PUA899.