

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC POLICY

The Bachelor of Science in Public Policy (BS PP) provides an education that combines strong analytical skills with understanding of a range of substantive policy issues and the political, social, and cultural forces that shape public policies. The BS PP core courses provide students with the broad political, economic, and philosophical foundations of thought pertinent to public policy, a base of rigorous quantitative and qualitative analytical approaches, and a solid understanding of the political and social dynamics that structure policy debates and policy outcomes.

The curriculum moves from disciplinary foundations (in politics, economics, philosophy, and organization theory) to methods of research and data analysis, and to detailed studies of particular policy problems. Students choose two clusters in environment and energy policy, science and technology policy, social and urban policy, philosophy, or politics and policy, and can select electives in additional areas such as information and telecommunication policy, bioengineering and ethics, and regional development policy. All students have opportunities for internships, research, and study abroad or exchange programs. The BS PP program culminates in a senior-year two-semester capstone "task force" in which students work in teams with outside clients (e.g., Centers for Disease Control, Marcus Autism Center, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Atlanta Food Bank) on actual policy problems.

The program's emphasis on the development of problem-solving and analytical skills constitutes a strong comparative advantage for BS PP graduates, many of whom move on to law school, management consulting, public sector policy analysis, or nonprofit management.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Wellness		
APPH 1040	Scientific Foundations of Health or APPH 10 The Science of Physical Activity and Health or APPH 10 Flourishing: Strategies for Well-being and Resilience	2
Core A - Essential Skills		
ENGL 1101	English Composition I	3
ENGL 1102	English Composition II	3
MATH 1712	Survey of Calculus or MATH 15 Integral Calculus	4
Core B - Institutional Options		
CS 1315	Introduction to Media Computation	3
Core C - Humanities		
Any HUM		6
Core D - Science, Math, & Technology		
Lab Science		4
Lab Science		4
MATH 1711	Finite Mathematics or MATH 15 Differential Calculus & MATH 15 and Introduction to Linear Algebra	4
Core E - Social Sciences		
POL 1101	Government of the United States	3
Any SS		9
Core F - Courses Related to Major		

ECON 2106	Principles of Microeconomics	3
PHIL 2025	Philosophical Analysis of Policy Choices	3
PUBP 2010	Political Processes ²	3
PUBP 2030	Organizations and Policy ²	3
	Science, Computing, or Engineering Elective ¹	6
Major Requirements		
PUBP 3020	Applied Political Economy ²	3
PUBP 3030	Policy Analysis ²	3
PUBP 3120	Statistical Analysis for Public Policy ²	3
PUBP 3130	Research Methods and Problem Solving ²	3
PUBP 4010	Policy Task Force I ²	3
PUBP 4020	Policy Task Force II ²	3
PUBP 2651	Public Policy Internship ²	3
	or PUBP 4651 Public Policy Internship	
Clusters		
	Students must select nine hours each from two clusters. See Cluster Electives below for options.	18
Non-Major Cluster		
	Any POL, PHIL, or PUBP course ²	3
Free Electives		
	Free Electives ³	17
Total Credit Hours		122

Pass-fail only allowed for Free Electives.

¹ Must be chosen from the following list: any AE, CEE, ECE, ISYE course, AE 1770/CEE 1770/ME 1770, BC 3630, BIOL 2335, BIOL 2344, BIOL 4755, CHEM 2211, CHEM 2311, CHEM 2312, CHEM 2380, CHEM 3380, COA 6764, CS 6764, CP 4510, CS 1171, CS 1316, CS 1331, CS 1332, CS 6754/ME 6754, EAS 2420, EAS 2600, EAS 2655, EAS 2750, EAS 4420, EAS 4430, EAS 4450, EAS 4602, ECE 2030, ID 3103, ID 4103, LMC 2700, LMC 2730, LMC 3402, LMC 3710, LMC 6312, ME 2016, MGT 4051, MGT 4058, MUSI 4630, PHYS 2030, PHYS 2213, PHYS 3123, PHYS 3141, PHYS 3266, PHYS 4142, PSYC 2020, PSYC 2270, PSYC 3011, PSYC 3020, PSYC 3031, PSYC 3040, PSYC 3790, PSYC 4010, PSYC 4031, PSYC 4050, PSYC 4090, PSYC 4100, PSYC 4270.

² Minimum grade of C required.

³ MATH 1111 and MATH 2804 not allowed.

Cluster Electives

Environmental and Energy Policy Cluster

Code	Title	Credit Hours
PHIL 4176	Environmental Ethics	3
PUBP 3315	Environmental Policy and Politics	3
PUBP 3600	Sustainability, Technology, and Policy	3
PUBP 4338	Environmental Impact Assessment	3
PUBP 6300	Earth Systems	3
PUBP 6310	Environmental Issues	3
PUBP 6312	Economics of Environmental Policy	3
PUBP 6314	Policy Tools for Environmental Management	3
PUBP 6326	Environmental Values and Policy Goals	3

PUBP 6330	Environmental Law	3
PUBP 6760	Negotiation and Conflict Management	3

Science and Technology Policy Cluster

Code	Title	Credit Hours
PHIL 3127	Science, Technology, and Human Values	3
PUBP 3502	Information and Communications Technology Policy	3
PUBP 4111	Internet and Public Policy	3
PUBP 4214	Gender, Science, Technology, and Public Policy	3
PUBP 4410	Science, Technology, and Public Policy	3
PUBP 4414	Technology, Innovation, and Policy	3
PUBP 4416	Critical Issues in Science and Technology	3
PUBP 4756	Technology Forecasting and Assessment	3
PUBP 6402	Research Policy and Management	3
PUBP 6415	Technology, Regions, and Policy	3
PUBP 6417	Critical Perspectives on Science and Technology	3
PUBP 6421	Development of Large-scale Socio-technical Systems	3
PUBP 6501	Information Policy and Management	3
PUBP 6740	Innovation, the State and Industrial Development in International Perspective	3
PUBP 6741	Geography of Innovation	3
PUBP 6753	Comparative Science and Technology Policy	3
PUBP 6777	Analysis of Emerging Technologies	3

Social and Urban Policy Cluster

Code	Title	Credit Hours
PUBP 3201	Introduction to Social Policy	3
PUBP 3214	African American Politics	3
PUBP 4200	Social Policy Issues	3
PUBP 4211	Urban Policy	3
PUBP 4212	Women and Public Policy	3
PUBP 4214	Gender, Science, Technology, and Public Policy	3
PUBP 6604	Methods of Urban Policy Analysis and Planning	3
PUBP 6606	Urban Development Policy	3

Philosophy Cluster

Code	Title	Credit Hours
PHIL 3102	Ancient Philosophy	3
PHIL 3103	Modern Philosophy	3
PHIL 3105	Ethical Theories	3
PHIL 3109	Engineering Ethics	3
PHIL 3113	Logic and Critical Thinking	3
PHIL 3115	Philosophy of Science	3
PHIL 3127	Science, Technology, and Human Values	3
PHIL 3790	Introduction to Cognitive Science	3
PHIL 4110	Theories of Knowledge	3
PHIL 4174	Perspectives in Science and Technology	3

PHIL 4176	Environmental Ethics	3
PHIL 4752	Philosophical Issues in Computation	3
PHIL 4790	Semi-Cognitive Science	3
PHIL 6010	Biotechnology and Research Ethics	2

Politics and Policy Cluster

Code	Title	Credit Hours
POL 2101	State and Local Government	3
PHIL 3050	Political Philosophy	3
PUBP 1142	Teams and Collaboration	3
PUBP 2142	Teams and Collaboration in Context	3
PUBP 3016	Judicial Process	3
PUBP 3141	Leading Social Organizations	3
PUBP 3214	African American Politics	3
PUBP 3510	Politics and Policy	3
PUBP 4140	Foundations of Leadership	3
PUBP 4226	Business and Government	3
PUBP 4440	Science, Technology, and Regulation	3

BS/MS Public Policy

The School of Public Policy offers a BS/MS program for students enrolled in the undergraduate program who demonstrate an interest in and ability for additional education beyond the BS degree.

Students in the BS/MS program remain undergraduates until they meet requirements for the undergraduate degree, at which point they receive their BS degree and change to graduate status. Students are eligible to apply for the program after completion of 30 semester credit hours at Georgia Tech (i.e., at the end of their first year), and if they show appropriate progress in their degree program thereafter. Admissions decisions will be based on GPA and judgments of the faculty who have served as advisors or instructors. Continuation in the program requires the student to maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher in public policy courses. Students participating in this program will be eligible for the six semester credit-hour Graduate Course Option, which allows students completing both the bachelor's and master's in the same discipline to use up to 6 credit hours of graduate-level coursework in the major discipline for both degrees.

The graduate-level credits required in the BS/MS Program are usually as follows:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core		22
Electives		12
Research Paper		3
Total Credit Hours		37

Specific Requirements for the Program

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
PUBP 6001	Introduction to Public Policy	1
PUBP 6010	Ethics, Epistemology, and Public Policy	3
PUBP 6112	Research Design in Policy Science ¹	3

PUBP 3130	Research Methods and Problem Solving	3
PUBP 6114	Applied Policy Methods and Data Analysis	3
PUBP 6116	Microeconomics for Policy Analysis	3
PUBP 6118	Public Finance Policy	3
PUBP 6201	Public Policy Analysis	3
Select one of the following:		3
PUBP 6014 Organization Theory		
PUBP 6017 Public Management		
PUBP 6018 Policy Implementation and Administration		
Concentration		
Concentration ²		6
Total Credit Hours		31

¹ NOTE: This course should be taken as an undergraduate instead of PUBP 3130 and will count for both programs.

² Students are required to develop, in consultation with their advisor, a six credit hour concentration in an area or specialty relevant to public policy and management (e.g. environmental policy, science and technology policy, urban policy, economic development, information and communications policy, policy evaluation, public management).

Contact the BS PP program director for further information.

BS/MS Information