PUBLIC POLICY MAJOR, B.A.

The core curriculum in public policy includes courses on policy innovation and analysis, politics of public policy, applied philosophy, applied economics, research design, and statistics. Our experiential education (EE) courses develop students' teamwork, leadership, and communication skills as they produce actionable, client-centered research. UNC Public Policy offers multiple courses on global and domestic policy including courses on education, immigration, the environment, health and human rights, and history and public policy.

The mission of UNC Public Policy is to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and experience to improve the lives of others.

Knowledge

Students think and learn across academic disciplines with a diverse faculty with degrees in business, economics, history, law, philosophy, political science, public policy, sociology, and sociomedical sciences.

Skills

Students gain an ability to think critically and independently; to write, reason, and communicate clearly; and to develop research methods and quantitative analysis skills.

Experience

Students apply knowledge and skills in real world environments beyond the classroom. Students in UNC Public Policy's clinic, internship, and capstone courses address contemporary policy challenges by providing innovative analysis to clients in the nonprofit and public sector.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the public policy program, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of economic, normative, and political perspectives for defining the public interest and evaluating policy choices
- Demonstrate written, oral, and analytical skills in evaluating public policy alternatives
- Demonstrate knowledge of a particular policy subfield and apply it in an experience in policy analysis in that field
- Demonstrate skills in developing approaches to solving current public policy problems as a result of participation in experiential education opportunities
- Work effectively in teams

Requirements

In addition to the program requirements, students must

- earn a minimum final cumulative GPA of 2.000
- complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC–Chapel Hill courses
- take at least half of their major core requirements (courses and credit hours) at UNC–Chapel Hill
- earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.000 in the major core requirements. Some programs may require higher standards for major or specific courses.

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/).

First-year and sophomore students considering a major in public policy are encouraged to complete PLCY 101 or PLCY 110.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements		
PLCY 210	Policy Innovation and Analysis [H]	3
PLCY 220	The Politics of Public Policy [H]	3
PLCY 340	Justice in Public Policy [H]	3
PLCY 310	Microeconomic Foundations of Public Policy (formerly PLCY 410)	3
or ECON 410	Intermediate Microeconomics	
PLCY 460	Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy [2,3, H]	4
PLCY 581	Research Design for Public Policy [2, H]	3
PLCY 698	Senior Capstone in Public Policy [2]	3-4
or PLCY 692H	Honors in Public Policy	
At least six credit hours of approved public policy electives. [1]		6
Additional Requirements		
ECON 101	Introduction to Economics [2, H, F]	4
Policy Field (optional), see list below		
Total Hours		**32-33**

[H] Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

[F] FY-Launch class sections may be available. A FY-Launch section fulfills the same requirements as a standard section of that course, but also fulfills the FY-SEMINAR/FY-LAUNCH First-Year Foundations requirement. Students can search for FY-Launch sections in ConnectCarolina using the FY-LAUNCH attribute.

[1] Three credit hours may be for a 100- or 200-level PLCY course. The remaining three credit hours must be for an elective course at the 300 level or above. PLCY 130, PLCY 291, PLCY 293, PLCY 393, and PLCY 394 may not count as electives for the public policy major.

[2] ECON 101 is a prerequisite for PLCY 310 and ECON 410. PLCY 460 is a prerequisite for PLCY 698 and PLCY 691H and a pre- or co-requisite for PLCY 581. PLCY 581 is a prerequisite for PLCY 691H and a pre- or co-requisite for PLCY 698.

[3] Alternatively, students may use a combination of either of the following pairs of courses to fulfill this requirement:(a) ECON 400 and ECON 470 or (b) ECON 400 and ECON 570.

Policy Field (Optional)

Students who complete three approved electives (nine credit hours) in a specific policy field may elect to graduate with a concentration. Six of these credit hours must be for field courses at the 300 level or above. PLCY 393 and PLCY 394 may not count toward the field concentration. For students completing an honors thesis, PLCY 691H can count toward the policy field concentration. Policy field concentrations include education and labor markets; environment and human welfare; innovation and entrepreneurship/science and technology policy; social policy

and inequality; health policy; bioethics and human rights; international development policy; global conflict and cooperation.

Additionally, students may select courses across subfields and design their own field. For information about declaring a policy field concentration see the department's Web site (https://publicpolicy.unc.edu/academics/undergraduate-program/faq/). The specific policy field is not listed on students' diplomas or transcripts. UNC–Chapel Hill public policy majors are encouraged to list their policy field on their résumés.

Program Restrictions

A maximum of one three-credit independent study course (PLCY 395, PLCY 396, PLCY 496, PLCY 596, or PLCY 696) may be counted as an elective for the policy major. For credit toward the major, an independent study proposal form must be completed by the student, approved by the independent study instructor, submitted to the student services officer, and approved by the director of undergraduate studies before the independent study begins. A maximum of one three-credit transfer or study abroad course or two Honors Seminar on Public Policy and Global Affairs courses (PLCY 352H; PLCY 353H) may be counted as electives toward the public policy major.

Public Policy Elective Course List

Public Policy Elective Course List

The following courses satisfy the electives requirement and optional policy field concentration. Please note that some of these courses may have enrollment restrictions, including being restricted to students enrolled in certain majors or minors. Please check for enrollment restrictions before trying to enroll:

Code	Title	Hours
Any PLCY course at the 100 level or above, except PLCY 130, PLCY 291, PLCY 293, PLCY 393, or PLCY 394		
AAAD 307	21st-Century Scramble for Africa	3
AAAD/POLI 333	Race and Public Policy in the United States	3
AAAD 488	Human Rights and Democracy in African Diaspora Communities	3
AAAD 485	Transnational Black Feminist Thought and Practice	3
AMST 390	Seminar in American Studies	3
AMST 486	The Jewish South: Race, Region, and Religion	3
ANTH 312	From the Equator to the Poles: Case Studies in Global Environmental Change	3
ANTH 318	Human Growth and Development	3
ANTH 319	Global Health	3
ANTH 350	Anthropology of the State, Civil Society, and Politics	3
ANTH 355	Life, Society and Work in the Globalized City	3
ANTH 360	Latin American Economy and Society	3
ANTH 377	European Societies	3
ANTH 380	Anthropological Perspectives on Cultural Diversity	3
ANTH 422	Anthropology and Human Rights	3
ANTH 429	Culture and Power in Southeast Asia	3
ANTH 439	Political Ecology	3
ANTH 441	The Anthropology of Gender, Health, and Illness	3
ANTH 460	Historical Ecology	3
ANTH 470	Medicine and Anthropology	3
ANTH 502	Globalization and Transnationalism	3
ANTH 537	Gender and Performance: Constituting Identity	3
ANTH 585	Anthropology of Science	3
BUSI 404	Business Ethics	1.5
BUSI 405	Leading and Managing: An Introduction to Organizational Behavior	3
BUSI 500	Entrepreneurship and Business Planning [H]	3
BUSI 503	Family Business I: Introduction to Family Enterprise	1.5
BUSI 504	Launching the Venture	1.5
BUSI 506	Entrepreneurial Strategy: How to Think Like a Venture Capitalist	3
BUSI 512	Family Business II: Governance and Ownership	1.5
BUSI 610	Global Environment of Business	3
BUSI 611	International Development: Focus on Indigenous Issues	3
COMM 312	Persuasion	3
COMM 325	Introduction to Organizational Communication [H]	3
COMM 372	The Rhetoric of Social Movements	3
COMM 375	Environmental Advocacy	3
COMM 376		3
COMM 470	Political Communication and the Public Sphere	3
COMM 521	Communication and Social Memory	3
COMM 524	Gender, Communication, and Culture	3
COMM 525	Organizational Communication	3
COMM 571	Rhetorical Theory and Practice	3
COMM 572	Public Policy Argument [H]	3
COMM 574	War and Culture	3
COMM 575	Presidential Rhetoric	3
COMM 576	Making and Manipulating "Race" in the United States	3
COMM 624	Hate Speech	3
COMM 625	Communication and Nonprofits in the Global Context	3
COMM 652	Media and Difference	3
ECON 320	Macroeconomics: Theory and Policy	3
ECON 325	Entrepreneurship: Principles, Concepts, Frameworks, and Fluency [H]	3
ECON 345	Public Policy Toward Business	3
ECON 363		3
ECON 380	The Economics of Labor Relations	3
ECON 423	Financial Markets and Economic Fluctuations [H]	3
ECON 430		3
ECON 440	Analysis of Public Finance	3
ECON 445	Industrial Organization	3
ECON 450	Health Economics: Problems and Policy	3
ECON 454		3
ECON 455	Environmental Economic Theory	3

ECON 460	International Economics	3
ECON 465	Economic Development	3
ECON 480	Labor Economics	3
ECON 511	Advanced Game Theory in Economics [H]	3
ECON 586	Economics and Life: Applying Economics to Life's Big Questions	3
EDUC 401	Childhood Development: Prenatal Birth to Age 12	3
EDUC 441	Education in American Society	3
EDUC 506	Politics, Policymaking, and America's Schools	3
EDUC 521	Schools, Cultures, and Communities I: Youth	3
EDUC 533	Social Justice in Education	3
EDUC 535	Teachers and Schools	3
ENGL 164	Introduction to Latina/o Studies [H]	3
ENGL 279	Migration and Globalization	3
ENEC 463	Corporate Environmental Stewardship	3
ENEC 307	Energy and Material Flows in the Environment and Society	3
ENEC 308	Environmental History	3
ENEC 309	Environmental Values and Valuation	3
ENEC 330	Principles of Sustainability	3
ENEC 350	Environmental Law and Policy	3
ENEC 351	Coastal Law and Policy	3
ENEC 352	Marine Fisheries Ecology	3
ENEC 370	Agriculture and the Environment [H]	3
ENEC 462	Ecosystem Management	3
ENEC 474	Sustainable Coastal Management	3
ENEC 586	Water Quality Policies and Planning	3
ENEC 685	Environmental and Resource Economics	3
ENEC 698	Capstone: Analysis and Solution of Environmental Problems	3
ENEC/ENVR 470	Environmental Risk Assessment	3
ENEC/ENVR 585		3
ENEC/ENVR/ PLAN/PLCY 686		3
ENEC/PHIL 368	Living Things, Wilderness, and Ecosystems: An Introduction to Environmental Ethics	3
ENVR 600	Environmental Health	3
GEOG 281	Ethnographies of Globalization: From 'Culture' to Decolonization	3
GEOG 370	Introduction to Geographic Information	3
GEOG 391	Quantitative Methods in Geography	3
GEOG 414	Climate Change	3
GEOG 416	Applied Climatology: The Impacts of Climate and Weather on Environmental and Social Systems	3
GEOG 423	Social Geography	3
GEOG 428	Global Cities: Space, Power, and Identity in the Built Environment	3
GEOG 430	Global Migrations, Local Impacts: Urbanization and Migration in the United States	3
GEOG 435	Global Environmental Justice	3

GEOG 446	Geography of Health Care Delivery	3
GEOG 447	Gender, Space, and Place in the Middle East	3
GEOG 448	Transnational Geographies of Muslim Societies	3
GEOG/ENEC 451	Population, Development, and the Environment	3
GEOG 457	Rural Latin America: Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources [H]	3
GEOG 458	Urban Latin America: Politics, Economy, and Society	3
GEOG 460	Geographies of Economic Change	3
GEOG 470	Political Ecology: Geographical Perspectives	3
GEOG 480	Liberation Geographies	3
GEOG 491	Introduction to GIS	3
GEOG 541	GIS in Public Health	3
GEOG 542	Neighborhoods and Health	3
GLBL 382	Latin American Migrant Perspectives: Ethnography and Action	3
GLBL 390	Current Topics in Global Studies	3
HIST 238	The American Revolution, 1763-1815	3
HIST 365	The Worker and American Life	3
HIST 385	African American Women's History	3
HIST 510	Human Rights in the Modern World [H]	3
HIST 566	The History of Sexuality in America	3
HIST 568	Women in the South	3
HIST 577	United States Foreign Relations in the 20th Century	3
HIST 584	The Promise of Urbanization: American Cities in the 19th and 20th Centuries	3
HIST 589	Race, Racism, and America: (United States) Law in Historical Perspective	3
HPM 310	Introduction to Health Law and Ethics	3
HPM 330	Introduction to Health Organization Leadership, Management, and Behavior	3
HPM 340	Foundations of Health Care Financial Management	3
HPM 350	Introduction to the U.S. Health System I	3
HPM 351	Politics, Public Health, and Health Policy	3
HPM 352	Introduction to the U.S. Health System II	3
HPM 435		3
INLS 382	Information Systems Analysis and Design	3
INLS 515	Consumer Health Information	3
MASC 310		3
MASC 314		3
MEJO 340	Introduction to Media Law: Journalism Focus	3
MEJO 441	Diversity and Communication	3
MEJO 442	Gender, Class, Race, and Mass Media	3
MEJO 443	Latino Media Studies	3
MEJO 445	Media Effects on Audiences	3
MEJO 446	Global Communication and Comparative Journalism	3
MEJO 458	Southern Politics: Critical Thinking and Writing	3
MEJO 541	Economics Reporting	3
MEJO 560	Environmental and Science Journalism [H]	3
MEJO 652	Digital Media Economics and Behavior [H]	3

Code	Title	Hours
MNGT 345	Public Policy Toward Business	3
MNGT 365	The Worker and American Life	3
MNGT 380	The Economics of Labor Relations	3
MNGT 410	Formal Organizations and Bureaucracy	3
MNGT 412	Social Stratification	3
MNGT 415	Economy and Society	3
MNGT 427	The Labor Force	3
PHIL 364	Ethics and Economics	3
PHIL 370	Authority, Freedom, and Rights: Advanced Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 384	Gateway to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics [H]	3
PHIL 473	American Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 480	Philosophy of Law	3
PHIL 698	Philosophy, Politics, and Economics: Capstone Course	3
PLAN 330	Principles of Sustainability	3
PLAN 574	Political Economy of Poverty and Inequality	3
PLAN 585		3
PLAN 636	Urban Transportation Planning	3
PLAN 637	Public Transportation	3
PLAN 641	Watershed Planning	3
PLAN 651	Urban Form and the Design of Cities	3
PLAN 685	Water and Sanitation Planning and Policy in Less Developed Countries	3
POLI 400	Executive Politics	3
POLI 401	Political Economy I: The Domestic System	3
POLI 406	State Governments: Laboratories of Democracy	3
POLI 410	The Constitution of the United States	3
POLI 411	Civil Liberties under the Constitution [H]	3
POLI 412	United States National Elections [H]	3
POLI 416	Constitutional Policies and the Judicial Process	3
POLI 418	Mass Media and American Politics	3
POLI 419H	Race and Politics in the Contemporary United States	3
POLI 420	Legislative Politics [H]	3
POLI 431	African Politics and Societies	3
POLI 433	Politics of the European Union [H]	3
POLI 434	Politics of Mexico	3
POLI 438	Democracy and International Institutions in an Undivided Europe	3
POLI 442	International Political Economy	3
POLI 443	American Foreign Policy: Formulation and Conduct	3
POLI 444	Terrorism and International Peace	3
POLI 457	International Conflict Processes	3
POLI 470	Social and Political Philosophy [H]	3
POLI 472	Problems of Modern Democratic Theory [H]	3
PSYC 465		3
PSYC 467	The Development of Black Children	3
PSYC 469	Evolution and Development of Biobehavioral Systems	3
PSYC 471	The Study of Adolescent Issues and Development	3
PSYC 500	Developmental Psychopathology	3
PSYC 502	Psychology of Adulthood and Aging	3
PSYC 504	Health Psychology	3
PSYC 512		3
PSYC 514	Mania and Depression	3
PSYC 530	Design and Interpretation of Psychological Research	3
PSYC 531	Tests and Measurement	3
PSYC 532	Quantitative Psychology [H]	3
PSYC 561		3
PSYC 565	Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination	3
PSYC 601	Psychology and Law	3
PWAD 250	Introduction to Peace and Security Studies	3
PWAD 368	War and American Society to 1903	3
PWAD 416	Constitutional Policies and the Judicial Process	3
PWAD 443	American Foreign Policy: Formulation and Conduct	3
PWAD 444	Terrorism and International Peace	3
PWAD 453	Political Geography	3
PWAD 460	International Economics	3
PWAD 469	Conflict and Intervention in the Former Yugoslavia [H]	3
PWAD 574	War and Culture	3
PWAD 575	Presidential Rhetoric	3
PWAD 577	United States Foreign Relations in the 20th Century	3
RELI 423	Ethnicity, Race, and Religion in America	3
RELI 443	Evangelicalism in Contemporary America [H]	3
STOR 305	Introduction to Decision Analytics	3
STOR 358	Sample Survey Methodology	4
STOR 415	Introduction to Optimization	3
STOR 455	Methods of Data Analysis	3
SOCI 410	Formal Organizations and Bureaucracy	3
SOCI 412	Social Stratification	3
SOCI 415	Economy and Society	3
SOCI 418	Contemporary Chinese Society	3
SOCI 420	Political Sociology	3
SOCI 422	Sociology of Mental Health and Illness	3
SOCI 423	Sociology of Education, Experiential Education	3
SOCI 424	Law and Society	3
SOCI 425	Family and Society, Junior/Senior Section	3
SOCI 426	Sociology of Education	3
SOCI 427	The Labor Force	3
SOCI 431	Aging	3
SOCI 444	Race, Class, and Gender	3
SOCI 468	United States Poverty and Public Policy	3
SOCI 469	Health and Society	3
SPHG 350H	Introduction to Public Health	3
WGST 368	Women of Color in Contemporary United States Social Movements	3

WGST 388	🔅 The International Politics of Sexual and Reproductive Health	3
WGST 410	🔅 Comparative Queer Politics	3
WGST 610	🔅 Feminism, Sexuality, and Human Rights	3
WGST 662	Gender Issues in Planning and Development	3

H   Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans can be used as a guide to identify the courses required to complete the major and other requirements needed for degree completion within the expected eight semesters. The actual degree plan may differ depending on the course of study selected (second major, minor, etc.). Students should meet with their academic advisor to create a degree plan that is specific and unique to their interests. The sample plans represented in this catalog are intended for first-year students entering UNC–Chapel Hill in the fall term. Some courses may not be offered every term.

First Year		Hours
First-Year Foundations Courses		
IDST 101	🔅 College Thriving	1
ENGL 105 or ENGL 105I	🔅 English Composition and Rhetoric or 🔅 English Composition and Rhetoric (Interdisciplinary)	3
First-Year Seminar or First-Year Launch (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/ideas-in-action/first-year-seminars-launches/) [F]		3
Triple-I and Data Literacy (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/ideas-in-action/triple-i/)		4
Global Language through level 3 (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/ideas-in-action/global-language/)		varies
Major Courses		
ECON 101	🔅 Introduction to Economics [H, F]	4
PLCY 101 or PLCY 110	🔅 Making Public Policy (Optional, elective credit) [H] or 🔅 Global Policy Issues	3
Hours		**18**
Sophomore Year		
PLCY 210	Policy Innovation and Analysis [H]	3
PLCY 220	🔅 The Politics of Public Policy [H]	3
PLCY 340	🔅 Justice in Public Policy [H]	3
STOR 155	🔅 Introduction to Data Models and Inference (Strongly recommended) [F]	3
Hours		**12**
Junior Year		
PLCY 460	🔅 Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy [2, H]	4
PLCY 581	🔅 Research Design for Public Policy (PLCY 460 is a co- or prerequisite) [H]	3

PLCY 310 or ECON 410	Microeconomic Foundations of Public Policy or 🔅 Intermediate Microeconomics	3
Hours		**10**
Senior Year		
PLCY 698	🔅 Senior Capstone in Public Policy [1]	4
Elective credit at 300 level or above		3
Hours		**7**
Total Hours		**47**

H   Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

F   FY-Launch class sections may be available. A FY-Launch section fulfills the same requirements as a standard section of that course, but also fulfills the FY-SEMINAR/FY-LAUNCH First-Year Foundations requirement. Students can search for FY-Launch sections in ConnectCarolina using the FY-LAUNCH attribute.

[1]   or PLCY 691H and PLCY 692H.
[2]   or ECON 400 and ECON 470, or ECON 400 and ECON 570.

Special Opportunities in Public Policy
Undergraduate Research

Most courses in public policy include a research component. The Office for Undergraduate Research maintains a database of courses that qualify as research intensive, research exposure, and research methods courses. Earning a grade of C or better in any of these courses partially fulfills the requirements for the Carolina Research Scholar designation. In addition, the department offers opportunities for students to work directly with a faculty member on a research project through independent study. The honors thesis process enables students to undertake a major independent policy research project. The Duncan MacRae Jr. Public Policy Fund provides grants on a competitive basis to public policy majors engaged in mentored research with a public policy faculty member, in policy-relevant independent research, and in honors thesis research in public policy.

High-Impact/Experiential Education

UNC Public Policy's experiential education programs offer students structured, active-learning opportunities that invite them to integrate and apply their academic knowledge and skills in a real-world policy environment. Opportunities include internships, the Honors Seminar on Public Policy and Global Affairs in Washington D.C. (PLCY 352H and PLCY 353H), the public policy clinic (PLCY 393), the intersector (PLCY 394), and the public policy capstone course (PLCY 698). PLCY 130, PLCY 293, PLCY 393, PLCY 691H, PLCY 692H, and PLCY 698 are all approved as experiential education courses.

For more information, see the department's website (http://publicpolicy.unc.edu/academics/experiential-education/).

Capstone Course

The capstone course (PLCY 698) is the culminating experience of the public policy undergraduate major and is required for all seniors except those who complete an honors thesis. Students should register for the course in the fall or spring of their senior year. The course provides a bridge between policy analysis as it is studied in an academic setting and

policy analysis as it is practiced in the workplace. Students work in small teams to produce actionable, client-centered, public policy analysis for a government agency or nonprofit organization.

Honors Seminar on Public Policy and Global Affairs in Washington, D.C.

The Honors Seminar on Public Policy and Global Affairs offers Carolina undergraduates a unique learning, living, and internship opportunity in our nation's capital. The seminar offers students first-hand engagement with the actors and organizations that influence domestic and global affairs in Washington, D.C. It aims to expose students to a range of public policies that influence U.S. economic prosperity, national security, and its role in the broader global community. Internship placements provide opportunities for students to apply academic learning, to derive new insights and questions for seminar discussion, and to work directly with substantive policy experts.

Internships and Public Service

Students may receive academic credit for an approved internship if it provides an academically relevant experience in policy analysis or research. Students who wish to complete an internship with an external organization can do so through PLCY 293 (available to public policy majors and minors). PLCY 293 is a Pass/Fail course. The Duncan MacRae Jr. Public Policy Internship Grant aims to support internship opportunities for public policy majors and to defer some of the costs associated with engaging in unpaid summer internships. The Hodding Carter III Public Service Fellowship supports opportunities for UNC–Chapel Hill public policy majors to engage in public service opportunities in our communities, the American south, the nation, and around the globe. The Thomas W. Ross North Carolina Leaders Fellows Program supports public policy undergraduates pursuing public service opportunities in the State of North Carolina during the summer. The Richard ("Pete") Andrews Fellowship in Environmental Policy supports a student interested in working on environmental policy during the summer or a policy research-related project during the academic year.

Undergraduate Funding and Awards

Each year UNC Public Policy holds a graduation ceremony to honor students' achievements. The Kathy Taft Education Policy Award recognizes a rising senior majoring in public policy with an interest in and dedication to education policy. The Michael A. Stegman Award for Policy Research and Advocacy is awarded to a graduating public policy major who has demonstrated an ability to use policy research and analysis to advocate for social change and a commitment to play a future role in policy research and advocacy.

Honors in Public Policy

Public policy majors who have at least a 3.3 overall grade point and a 3.5 in the core public policy courses are eligible to apply to the department's honors program in the spring of their junior year. The honors thesis offers an opportunity for motivated students to move beyond traditional coursework and apply critical thinking skills to an academic public policy thesis. This program is organized as an original, independent research project under the direction of a faculty advisor. Students considering writing an honors thesis must complete PLCY 581 before enrolling in PLCY 691H.

Completion of an honors thesis provides a total of six credit hours toward the major, including three credits toward a policy field concentration. Students who complete an honors thesis and maintain all other eligibility criteria may be recommended by their thesis

advisor and the Undergraduate Affairs Committee for graduation with honors or highest honors in public policy. The department's website (http://publicpolicy.unc.edu/academics/undergraduate-program/honors/) provides more information.

Public Policy Majors Union

The Public Policy Majors' Union (PPMU) was founded in 1988 in an effort to help govern the department's curriculum. The PPMU has since expanded its role to include representation of policy majors within the University community and sponsorship of policy-related events. Membership is open to all public policy majors.

Department Programs

Major

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Minor

- Public Policy Minor (https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/public-policy-minor/)

Professional

- M.P.P. (https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/public-policy/)

Graduate Programs

- M.A. in Public Policy (https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/public-policy/)
- Ph.D. in Public Policy (https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/public-policy/)

Contact Information

Department of Public Policy
Visit Program Website (http://publicpolicy.unc.edu)
114 Abernethy Hall, CB# 3435
(919) 962-1600

Chair
Douglas MacKay
dmackay@email.unc.edu

Student Services Officer
Meredith Albright
merealb@unc.edu

Director of Undergraduate Studies
William Goldsmith
william.goldsmith@unc.edu