



Public Policy

If you are interested in analyzing problems, seeking solutions and advocating for change, you should consider a career in public policy. Working in public policy allows you to play a role in the decision-making that affects certain issues you are passionate about; decisions that can affect your community, both locally and globally, and the people within that community.

You may work with policy making in the following areas:

- Education
- Environment
- Immigration
- Public Finance
- Water
- Agriculture
- Government
- Health
- Housing
- Social Policy
- Employment & Income
- Economic Development

Recommended Courses for Domestic Policy (P = Prerequisite)

Advanced Electives in the major in order of relevance

- Econ 441 *Analytical Public Finance* (P: Econ 301)
- Econ 450 *Wages and the Labor Market* (P: Econ 301)
- Econ 521 *Game Theory and Economic Analysis* (P: Econ 301, **Math 222**)
- Econ 522 *Law and Economics* (P: Econ 301)
- Econ 623 *Population Economics* (P: Econ 301, 310)

Applied Fields in the major

- Econ 325 *Public Utilities*
- Econ 330 *Money and Banking*

Suggested Courses Outside of the Department of Economics

- Urb R PI 641 *Housing Economics and Policy*
- Poli Sci 219 *Introduction to Public Policy*
- Poli Sci 405 *State Government and Public Policy*
- Poli Sci 473 *Public Opinion*
- Cons Sci 575 *Family Economics and Public Policy*
- * Also consider a major in Political Science
- * Also consider the accelerated program or Master's Degree in the LaFollette School of Public Affairs

Recommended Courses for Education Policy (P = Prerequisite)

Advanced Electives in the major in order of relevance

- Econ 410 *Introductory Econometrics* (P: Econ 310, **Math 221**)
- Econ 441 *Analytical Public Finance* (P: Econ 301)
- Econ 623 *Population Economics* (P: Econ 301, 310)
- Econ 522 *Law and Economics* (P: Econ 301)
- Econ 525 *Economics of Education: Theory and Measurement* (P: Econ 301 or 311; Econ 410)

Applied Fields in the major

- Econ 325 *Public Utilities*
- Econ 330 *Money and Banking*

Suggested Courses Outside of the Department of Economics

- Ed Pol 150 *Education and Public Policy*
- Ed Pol 412 *History of American Education*
- Ed Pol 665 *History of the Federal Role in American Education*
- Ed Pol 795 *Economics of Education*

Recommended Courses for International Trade Policy (P = Prerequisite)

Advanced Electives in the major in order of relevance

- Econ 464 *International Trade and Finance* (P: Econ 301, 302)
- Econ 467 *International Industrial Organizations* (P: Econ 301, **Math 221**)
- Econ 475 *Economics of Growth* (P: Econ 301, 302; **B or higher in Math 221**)
- Econ 666 *Issues in International Finance* (P: Econ 301, 302, 310; **B or higher in Math 221**)
- Econ 450 *Wages and the Labor Market* (P: Econ 301)
- Econ 521 *Game Theory and Economic Analysis* (P: Econ 301, **Math 222**)
- Econ 623 *Population Economics* (P: Econ 301, 310)

Applied Fields in the major

- Econ 421 *Economic Decision Analysis*
- Econ 462 *Latin American Economic Development*
- Econ 473 *Economic Growth and Development in Southeast Asia*
- Econ 474 *Economic Problems of Developing Areas*
- Econ 477 *Agricultural and Economic Development in Africa*
- Econ 663 *Population and Society*
- Econ 671 *Energy Economics*

Suggested Courses Outside of the Department of Economics

- Poli Sci 316 *Principles of International Law*
- Poli Sci 103 *Introduction to International Relations*
- Poli Sci 376 *Analysis of International Relations*
- Poli Sci 359 *Problems in American Foreign Policy*
- Poli Sci 312 *Politics of the World Economy*

Recommended Courses for Environmental/Energy Policy (P = Prerequisite)

Advanced Electives in the major in order of relevance

- Econ 441 *Analytical Public Finance* (P: Econ 301)
- Econ 522 *Law and Economics* (P: Econ 301)

Applied Fields in the major

- Econ 343 *Environmental Economics*
- Econ 531 *Natural Resource Economics*
- Econ 449 *Government and Natural Resources*
- Econ 663 *Population and Society*
- Econ 671 *Energy Economics*

Suggested Courses Outside of the Department of Economics

- Geog 460 *American Environmental History*
- Envir St 402 *Business, Development and the Environment*
*Also consider a major or certificate in Environmental Studies

Student Organizations

- [Economic Student Association](#)
- [Academy Health Student Group](#)
- [Support, Advocacy, and Awareness of Neurodegenerative Diseases](#)

Gain Technical Skills (FREE FOR STUDENTS!)

- [DoIT Software Training for Students](#)
- [SSCC Training Classes](#)

Job and Internship Search

- [BuckyNet](#)
- [Policy Jobs](#)

Sample Job Titles

- Program Analyst
- Administrative Analyst
- Government Relations Advisor
- Policy Coordinator
- Budget Analyst
- Consultant, Public Sector
- Trade Policy Analyst
- Research Associate
- Community Affairs Advisor

Additional Resources

- [Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [National Association of School of Public Affairs and Administration](#)
- [Public Service Careers](#)
- [Almanac of Policy Issues](#)
- [Center for American Progress](#)
- [Citizens for Global Solutions](#)
- [Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington](#)
- [NAACP](#)
- [Association of American Universities](#)
- [Women's Foreign Policy Group](#)
- [Henry L. Stimson Center](#)
- [US-Asia Institute](#)
- Vault Career Guides (access through Career Insider on BuckyNet homepage)