

POLITICS AND PUBLIC POLICY, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The minor in Politics and Public Policy enables students in any major to develop a robust understanding of the political and governmental processes through which public policies are formulated and implemented. Students learn various frameworks for designing and evaluating governmental policies, along with tools to analyze the impact and effectiveness of those policies. The knowledge and skills cultivated by the minor are important to any citizen interested in how government can and does respond to collective problems, as well as to future leaders who strive to influence the policymaking process. The minor is particularly useful to students who are interested in applying the expertise they are developing in their major field of study to public debate, decisions, and administration, and to those aspiring to careers at the intersection of industry and government regulation.

To complete the minor, students take 9 credits of required courses that provide a foundational understanding of the public policy process; the political context of policy advocacy, debate, and decisions; and the predominant methods of policy analysis and evaluation. They build upon this core knowledge with a choice of 9 credits of introductory and upper level courses from Political Science and partner disciplines that focus on the policy process itself, the actors and institutions that are central to the policy process, and the development of specific policy areas.

Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18-19

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
PLSC 1	American Politics: Principles, Processes and Powers	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
PLSC 202 or PUBPL 304	American Public Policy Public Policy Analysis	3
Select 3-4 credits from the following:		3-4
PLSC 309	Quantitative Political Analysis	
PLSC 309H	Quantitative Political Analysis	
STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	
Supporting Courses and Related Areas		
<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>		

Select 9 credits from the following (at least 6 credits must be at the 400-level or above): 9

AFAM 416	Race, Gender and Science
AFAM 431	Black Liberation and American Foreign Policy
AFAM 435N	Black Ecologies
AFAM 445Y	Politics of Affirmative Action
AFAM 465	The Post-World War II Civil Rights Movement
AFAM 492	Identities, Power and Perceptual Pedagogies in Teaching and Learning
AFR 305	Introduction to Global Health Issues
AFR 310	Language Rights, Policy, and Planning
AFR 440	Globalization and Its Implications
AFR 479	History of Imperialism and Nationalism in Africa
AGBM 430	U.S. Food and Agricultural Policy
APLNG 230N	Language and Social Justice
APLNG 310	Language Rights, Policy, and Planning
ARCH 311W	Architectural and Planning Theories
ARCH 316	Analysis of Human Settlements: Cities
ARCH 412	Integrative Energy and Environmental Design
BIOL 418	Biology of Human Infectious Diseases
BIOL 419	Ecological and Environmental Problem Solving
BRS 350	Introduction to Life Cycle Assessment
BRS 402	Foundations of Sustainable Business
BRS 422	Energy Analysis in Agricultural and Biorenewable Systems
BRS 426	Safety and Health in Agriculture and Biorenewable Industries
CAS 375	Rhetoric and Public Controversy
CED 201	Introductory Environmental and Resource Economics
CED 309	Land Economics and Policy
CED 375	Community, Local Knowledge, and Democracy
CED 409	Land Use Planning and Procedure
CED 417	Power, Conflict, and Community Decision Making
CED 430W	Principles of Community Economic Development
CED 431W	Economic Analysis of Environmental and Resource Policies
CED 460W	Policy, Politics and Perspectives on Social & Environmental Responsibility
CRIMJ 415	Drug Control Policy in Comparative Perspective
CRIMJ 416	The Death Penalty
CRIMJ 417	Hate Crime, Extremism, and Terrorism
CRIMJ 435	Border Security
CRIMJ 441	The Juvenile Justice System
CRIMJ 469	Drugs and Drug Policy in the United States
CYBER 262	Cyber-Defense Studio
CYBER 342W	Cyber Incident Handling and Response
EBF 402	Energy Law and Contracts
EBF 473	Risk Management in Energy Industries
ECON 102	Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy
ECON 104	Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy
EDTHP 115	Education in American Society
EDTHP 115S	Competing Rights: Issues in American Education

EDTHP 200	Educational Reform and Public Policy	PLSC 120N	State, Society, and Public Policy
EDTHP 420	Education and Public Policy	PLSC 177N	Politics and Government in Washington DC
EDTHP 426	Economic Foundations of Education Policy	PLSC 223N	Ethnic and Racial Politics
EDTHP 427	Intelligence and Educational Policy	PLSC 297	Special Topics
EDTHP 430	History of Education in the United States	PLSC 403	The Legislative Process
EDTHP 447	Ethnic Minorities and Schools in the United States	PLSC 404	Analyzing Public Policy in the American States
ENVE 424	Solid Waste Management	PLSC 405	The American Presidency
ENVE 425	Hazardous Waste Management	PLSC 419	The Bureaucratic State
ENVE 430	Sustainable Engineering	PLSC 425	Government and Politics of the American States
ENVE 460	Environmental Law	PLSC 426	Political Parties and Interest Groups
ENVE 470	Air Quality	PLSC 438	National Security Policies
ENVSC 297	Special Topics in Environmental Science	PLSC 442	American Foreign Policy
ENVSC 400W	Case Studies in Environmental Analysis and Problem-Solving	PLSC 444	Government and the Economy
ENVSE 450	Environmental Health and Safety	PLSC 460	Science, Technology, and Public Policy
ERM 402	Foundations of Sustainable Business	PLSC 473	American Judicial Behavior
ERM 411	Legal Aspects of Resource Management	PLSC 476	Empirical Legal Studies
ERM 429	The Chesapeake Bay Watershed: Issues and Careers in Complex Environmental Problem Solving	PLSC 477	Sex, Race, & Justice: The U.S. Supreme Court and Equality
ERM 430	Air Pollution Impacts to Terrestrial Ecosystems	PLSC 482	American State and Urban Politics
ERM 449	Sustainable Water Management: Economics and Policy	PLSC 488	Comparative Public Policy
ERM 497	Special Topics	PLSC 489	Public Administration
FDSYS 490	From Agriculture to Culture: Perspectives on your food from seed to plate	PLSC 490	Policy Making and Evaluation
FOR 450W	Human Dimensions of Natural Resources	PUBPL 305	Leadership Studies
FOR 480	Policy and Administration	PUBPL 306	Introduction to Crisis and Emergency Management
HPA 401	Comparative Health Systems	PUBPL 419	Race and Public Policy
HPA 440	Principles of Epidemiology	PUBPL 475	Critical Infrastructure Protection
HPA 444	Aging Policy in the United States	PUBPL 476	Homeland Security Intelligence
HPA 447	Financing Health Care	PUBPL 481	Seminar in Environmental Policy
IST 432	Legal and Regulatory Environment of Information Science and Technology	PUBPL 482	Seminar in Health Policy
IST 445	Globalization Trends and World Issues	PUBPL 483	Seminar in National Security Policy
IST 452	Legal and Regulatory Environment of Privacy and Security	PUBPL 490	Seminar in Public Policy
IST 453	Legal, Regulatory, Policy Environment of Cyber Forensics	PUBPL 495	Internship
LER 445Y	Politics of Affirmative Action	PUBPL 496	Independent Studies
LHR 400	Comparative Employment Relations Systems	PUBPL 497	Special Topics
LHR 401	The Law of Labor-Management Relations	SOC 201	Presumed Innocent? Social Science of Wrongful Conviction
LHR 410	Employment Strategies for People with Disabilities	SOC 210Z	Social Determinants of Health
LHR 434	Advanced Collective Bargaining and Contract Administration	SOC 269	Intercultural Dialogue Concepts and Practice
LHR 435	Labor Relations in the Public Sector	SOC 409	Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America
LHR 458Y	History of Work in America	SOC 428	Homelessness in America
LHR 466	Labor Union Structure, Administration and Governance	SOC 440	Family Policy
LHR 468	American Labor Unions	SOC 445	U.S. Immigration
LHR 475H	Labor in the Global Economy	SOC 447	Ethnic Minorities and Schools in the United States
NUCE 420	Radiological Safety	SOC 450	Justice and the Environment
NUCE 442	Nuclear Security System Design	SOC 451	Health, Disease & Society
NUCE 446	Reliability and Risk Concepts in Design	SOC 452	Spatial Inequality
		SOC 454	The City in Postindustrial Society
		SOC 459	Communities and Crime
		SOILS 422	Natural Resources Conservation and Community Sustainability
		STS 233Z	Ethics and the Design of Technology
		STS 416	Race, Gender and Science
		STS 420	Energy and Modern Society

STS 460	Science, Technology, and Public Policy
SUST 150N	The Science of Sustainable Development
SUST 325N	Health and Environmental Sustainability
WFS 209N	Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation
WFS 430	Conservation Biology
WFS 450	Wetland Science and Sustainability
WMNST 103	Racism and Sexism
WMNST 116N	Family and Gender Roles in Modern History
WMNST 120	Sex, Gender, and the Body
WMNST 136	Race, Gender, and Employment
WMNST 420W	Gender and International Development
WMNST 423	Sexual and Domestic Violence
WMNST 424	Women and Sport
WMNST 428	Gender and Politics
WMNST 453	Women and the Criminal Justice System
WMNST 456	Gender, Occupations, and Professions
WMNST 458	Critical Feminist Issues in Reproduction
WMNST 472	Work-Life Practices and Policies

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

University Park

Liberal Arts Academic Advising

814-865-2545

Use the Liberal Arts Meet the Academic Advisers web page (<https://la.psu.edu/student-services/academic-advising/meet-the-academic-advisers/>) to see the contact information for the specific adviser(s) of this program

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