PUBLIC POLICY, CERTIFICATE

UW–Madison's Undergraduate Certificate in Public Policy complements existing majors across campus and extends the La Follette School's mission to training and mentoring the next generation of leaders in their careers and communities.

The certificate program allows undergraduate students to apply a policy perspective to their major course of study and bolsters their skills for success in the workforce or in their graduate school coursework. Students build a strong foundation for careers in government, nonprofit organizations, or the private sector.

The Undergraduate Certificate in Public Policy is ideal for students seeking careers related to key domestic and international issues such as criminal justice, education, energy, environmental studies, finance, transportation, and poverty. It also prepares students to be engaged citizens, ready to use their talents to improve the world around them.

HOW TO GET IN

To declare the Undergraduate Certificate in Public Policy, students must:

• Have sophomore standing
• Be in good academic standing
• Have completed or be enrolled in at least one class that meets certificate requirements
• Certify that they have attended an orientation to the certificate and understand certificate requirements
• Write a letter of intent explaining how they envision applying public policy to the context of their major program and in their future career
• Submit their resume

REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Course: 1 course required</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUB AFFR 200</td>
<td>Contemporary Public Policy Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLI SCI 272</td>
<td>Introduction to Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analytical Tools for Policy Design, Implementation, and Evaluation: 1 course required</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUB AFFR 240</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Policy Making</td>
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<td>PUB AFFR 278</td>
<td>Public Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUB AFFR 380</td>
<td>Analytic Tools for Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Specialization: 3 courses from any of these areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUB AFFR 520</td>
<td>Inequality, Race and Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC WORK 206</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 370</td>
<td>Economics of Poverty and Inequality</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 401</td>
<td>Psychology, Law, and Social Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC WORK 420</td>
<td>Poverty and Social Welfare</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Policy</td>
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NURSING 444 | Health Systems, Policy, Economics, and Research |         |
SOC/ C&E SOC 533 | Public Health in Rural & Urban Communities |         |
Environmental Policy | A A E 246 | Climate Change Economics and Policy |         |
ENVIR ST/ GEOG 439 | US Environmental Policy and Regulation |         |
ENVIR ST/ ECON/POLI SCI/ URB R PL 449 | Government and Natural Resources |         |
ENVIR ST/ F&W ECOL 515 | Natural Resources Policy |         |
Education Policy | ED POL 145 | Introduction to Education Policy |         |
ED POL 200 | Race, Ethnicity, and Inequality in American Education | 3     |
ED POL 575 | Education Policy and Practice                   |         |
Family Policy | HDFS 535 | A Family Perspective in Policymaking |         |
CNSR SCI 575 | Family Economics and Public Policy |         |
CNSR SCI 579 | Consumer Policy Analysis                        |         |
International Policy | POLI SCI 340 | The European Union: Politics and Political Economy |         |
POLI SCI 359 | American Foreign Policy                         |         |
ECON 435 | The Financial System                            |         |
Fieldwork and Internship: 1 course required | 3       |
POLI SCI 315 | Legislative Internship                           |         |
POLI SCI 402 | Wisconsin in Washington Internship Course       |         |

Total Credits | 12       |

RESIDENCE & QUALITY OF WORK

At least 6 credits must be earned In Residence

A 2.000 GPA is required in all courses counting toward the certificate

1 Courses taken Pass/Fail do not meet certificate requirements or calculate in the GPA.

CERTIFICATE COMPLETION REQUIREMENT

This undergraduate certificate must be completed concurrently with the student's undergraduate degree. Students cannot delay degree completion to complete the certificate.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of major current and past public policy debates, and how to approach questions and research with a public policy lens.
2. Students will gain knowledge and demonstrate application of methodological tools utilized in the public policy arena (e.g., policy
memo writing, policy analysis, experience working with administrative data, program evaluation, cost-benefit analysis, performance management).

3. Students will demonstrate understanding and application of knowledge regarding the substantive policy area of interest of their choice (e.g., education, health, social, environmental, science).

4. Students will gain practical professional experience in a public policy work setting.

**ADVISING AND CAREERS**

Mo O'Connor, Senior Student Services Coordinator, La Follette School of Public Affairs

- mcoconnor@lafollette.wisc.edu
- 608-262-3582
- 107 Observatory Hill Office Building

David Wright-Racette, Student Services Associate, La Follette School of Public Affairs

- wrightracette@lafollette.wisc.edu
- 608-262-9163
- 110A Observatory Hill Office Building

Katie Lorenze, Administrator and Career Services Coordinator, La Follette School of Public Affairs

- lorenze@lafollette.wisc.edu
- 608-263-2409
- 104A Observatory Hill Office Building

Steve Kulig, Associate Director, La Follette School of Public Affairs

- skulig@lafollette.wisc.edu
- 608-262-8631
- 103 Observatory Hill Office Building

**SKILLS & CAREERS**

Given the increasing complexity in every realm of public policy, students in the public policy certificate program gain skills in quantitative analysis, communication, writing, critical thinking, and problem solving that are in demand by more and more employers in almost every sector.

The certificate program focuses on evidence-based practices and provides students with the skills to gather data and information from various sources, analyze and synthesize the findings, and write a clear and concise report to illustrate the main points.

With the focus on evidence-based practices, the public policy certificate program provides research and data analysis skills that are transferrable to nearly any occupation. Students maximize their electives and earn a credential that highlights these highly sought-after skills in the context of real-world practice.

Career development is an integral part of the La Follette School experience, with staff members and alumni eager to support and mentor students with diverse interests. Students benefit from networking opportunities, employer visits, professional development seminars, and other services.