

# PUBLIC POLICY, CERTIFICATE

## ADVISING AND CAREERS

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The La Follette School of Public Affairs welcomes you to reach out to our student services team. Here are some quick steps toward getting what you need. Before getting in touch, be sure to visit our undergraduate certificate in public policy webpage (<https://lafollette.wisc.edu/academics/undergraduate-certificate-in-public-policy/>) as many questions you may have may be answered there. It is updated regularly and just may hold the answers you seek!

- If you're interested in learning more about the certificate or would like guidance as a current certificate student, contact Kelly Otto at [klotto@wisc.edu](mailto:klotto@wisc.edu).
- If you're unable to get in touch with Kelly, contact Mary Michaud at [mdmichaud@wisc.edu](mailto:mdmichaud@wisc.edu).
- If you're already a certificate student, you can connect with Marie Koko, our Career Services Coordinator, about careers and internships. Send her an email at [marie.koko@wisc.edu](mailto:marie.koko@wisc.edu).
- If you have a technical question about your DARS report, enrollment, or other things administrative, connect with David Wright-Racette at [wrightracette@lafollette.wisc.edu](mailto:wrightracette@lafollette.wisc.edu).
- If you're interested in learning more about La Follette's graduate programs in public and international affairs, contact Mo O'Connor, our graduate advisor, at [mcoconnor@lafollette.wisc.edu](mailto:mcoconnor@lafollette.wisc.edu).
- If you're an alumnus, parent, or student who is curious about how to get involved or contribute to the mission of the La Follette School, please contact Associate Director Steve Kulig at [skulig@lafollette.wisc.edu](mailto:skulig@lafollette.wisc.edu).

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### SKILLS AND CAREERS

Given the increasing complexity in every realm of public policy, students in the undergraduate certificate in public policy 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.

### L&S CAREER RESOURCES

Every L&S major opens a world of possibilities. SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps students turn the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and other coursework into fulfilling lives after graduation, whether that means jobs, public service, graduate school or other career pursuits.

In addition to providing basic support like resume reviews and interview practice, SuccessWorks offers ways to explore interests and build career skills from their very first semester/term at UW all the way through graduation and beyond.

Students can explore careers in one-on-one advising, try out different career paths, complete internships, prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications, and connect with supportive alumni and even employers in the fields that inspire them.

- SuccessWorks (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/>)
- Set up a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Enroll in a Career Course (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/career-courses/>) - a great idea for first- and second-year students:
  - INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit)
  - INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Comm B General Education Requirement)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)
  - INTER-LS 260 Internship in the Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Activate your Handshake account (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/handshake/>) to apply for jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers recruiting UW-Madison students

- Learn about the impact SuccessWorks has on students' lives (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/about/mission/>)