

**School of Public Policy**  
**Graduate Student Handbook**  
**2018-2019**

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**GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK  
2018-2019**

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# School of Public Policy

## Graduate Student

### Introduction

#### Mission

Our mission is to provide an excellent public policy education for a diverse range of high quality students (both full-time and part-time) with a variety of aspirations and career goals. These include:

- students who have recently completed their undergraduate education and are interested in pursuing careers in policy analysis, management, or research;
- in-service (mid-career) professionals who want to improve their abilities and qualifications;
- students who have already completed a master's degree in public policy, public administration, planning, or a related discipline and wish to pursue additional education;
- individuals interested in teaching or research positions in public policy-related fields at academic institutions.

#### Faculty at UMBC

Teaching and research in the master's and doctoral program are carried out by a distinguished and nationally recognized full-time core faculty in Public Policy and related social science departments on the UMBC campus. Many of the faculty members have had substantial experience in public policy positions during their careers.

The Public Policy faculty roster consists of members of the School of Public Policy and members of other departments who teach courses regularly in our

graduate programs and serve on dissertation and thesis committees for Public Policy students. A listing of Program Faculty can be found on pages 27-29.

#### Relationships with Other University System of Maryland Campuses

Public Policy students may take courses on other campuses of the University System of Maryland when this will help achieve their educational objectives. When added to the regular program curriculum, the courses offered in the University of Maryland at Baltimore (UMB) School of Social Work and School of Law and in the University of Maryland at College Park (UMCP) School of Public Affairs, School of Education, School of Business Administration, and Urban Studies and Planning Program create a comprehensive opportunity for policy study.

Description of courses and schedules may be obtained from the relevant school. Students desiring to take such courses should be certain they meet prerequisites and should have the permission of their Public Policy advisor. They also must submit an advisor approved *Application for Inter-Institutional Enrollment* to the UMBC Registrar's Office.

Students from other campuses of the University of Maryland System are welcome to register for appropriate courses in Public Policy with the permission of the instructor.

# ACADEMIC INFORMATION

## Degrees Offered

### M.P.P. degree

The Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) degree requires the completion of 37 course credits, including an internship (that may be satisfied with other work experience), and the writing of a policy analysis paper. A thesis may substitute for three specialization credits and the policy analysis paper, but requires an additional six credits of thesis research.

Students may transfer up to six hours of prior graduate coursework if it is relevant, was obtained during the past five years, and was not applied towards another degree. In addition, a previously taken course may make a required course redundant. In this case, the student may ask to be *exempt* from the requirement. Exemptions *do not* reduce the total number of credits necessary, but they do give the student more flexibility in taking advanced courses and electives.

### Ph.D. degree

The requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy, Public Policy (Ph.D.) degree include completion of 48 course credits, including PUBL 609 (the comprehensive examination course), a field qualifying examination, registering for 18 hours of dissertation research (PUBL 899), and writing and successfully defending a dissertation.

Previous graduate coursework, if it is relevant, and taken within the past five years, may lead the advisor to recommend a *reduction* in the 48 course credit hours required for the Ph.D. The maximum reduction is 18 credits. As with the M.P.P. degree, a previously taken course may make a required course redundant. In this case, the student may ask to be *exempt* from the requirement. Exemptions *do not* reduce the total number of credits necessary, but they do give the student more flexibility in taking advanced courses and electives.

### Accelerated Pathways

The Accelerated Pathways Program provides a way for UMBC undergraduates with strong academic

records to begin taking graduate level courses toward the M.P.P. degree in their junior year. Through

careful planning in conjunction with the student's undergraduate and Public Policy advisors, a student may be able to apply up to four graduate level courses taken as an undergraduate toward the M.P.P. degree. By taking advantage of this option, a UMBC undergraduate can reduce the time to obtain the M.P.P. by as much as a year.

UMBC undergraduates interested in enrolling in the Accelerated Pathways bachelor's/master's program, should apply for admission by the second semester of their junior year. Contact the School of Public Policy for other details.

## Related Degree Programs

### M.A. in Economic Policy Analysis

The M.A. in Economic Policy Analysis is a joint program offered by the UMBC Department of Economics and the School of Public Policy. It provides students with a broad perspective on policy formulation along with focused training in analytic techniques commonly used by economists. The M.A. Program in Economic Policy Analysis also has an Accelerated Pathways degree option. For more information, contact Dr. Tim Gindling, GPD, Department of Economics (econ-masters@umbc.edu; 410-455-3629 or 410-455-2160).

### Dual Degree Programs with the Schools of Law

Programs leading to the J.D. /M.P.P. or J.D. /Ph.D. degrees are offered by the University of Maryland School of Law and the School of Public Policy. A comparable J.D. /Ph.D. program also exists with the University of Baltimore School of Law.

To participate in these programs, candidates must be admitted independently and separately to the School of Public Policy master's or doctoral program and to the law school. Under the joint programs, the law

schools will accept up to nine credits from the Public Policy courses, and the School of Public Policy will accept up to six appropriate law credits for the master's degree and up to fifteen law credits for the Ph.D. All programs depend on the acceptance of credits by each school. Not all specializations with the master's and doctoral program will allow for the maximum transfer of credits. All other degree requirements for both programs still apply.

Each student's curriculum must be approved by the advisor for the joint program at the appropriate law school and by the Public Policy advisor. While students may enter either joint program at any time during their study, it is most efficient to make that decision before too many credits have been accumulated.

For more information on the law school programs, contact the Admissions Office, University of Maryland School of Law ([law.umaryland.edu](http://law.umaryland.edu)) or Law Admissions, University of Baltimore School of Law ([ubalt.edu/lawschool](http://ubalt.edu/lawschool)).

### **Articulated M.P.A. - Ph.D. in Public Policy with the University of Baltimore**

Qualified students in the University of Baltimore's Master of Public Administration program may apply for early admission into the Public Policy Ph.D. program. For more information, contact the administrator of academic affairs, School Public Policy.

### **M.P.P. /M.D. with the University of Maryland School of Medicine**

A student pursuing a medical degree at the School of Medicine may also earn a master of public policy degree at UMBC. For additional information, contact the administrator of academic affairs, School of Public Policy.

## **Research Institutes and Centers**

Several important centers and institutes on campus focus on public policy, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches to social science research and community engagement.

### **Center for Social Science Scholarship**

The newly formed Center for Social Science Scholarship will support and strengthen social science research, teaching, and community and professional engagement and enhance the future of innovative collaborative, cross- and inter-disciplinary, and cutting edge social science scholarship at UMBC. By providing events, training, visibility and support for grants, activities and other social science initiatives across campus, the Center will convene and connect students and faculty with shared interests across social science disciplines. For more information, visit: [socialscience.umbc.edu](http://socialscience.umbc.edu).

### **Maryland Institute for Policy Analysis and Research**

The Maryland Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (MIPAR) serves as an institute for applied scholarly research. MIPAR conducts policy analysis and program evaluations on a wide range of topics including education policy, health policy, public management, and urban policy. Clients include federal, state and local governmental agencies, foundations, and corporations. Through external grants and contracts, MIPAR offers faculty and students unique opportunities to engage in applied policy research. For more information visit: [mipar.umbc.edu](http://mipar.umbc.edu).

### **The Hilltop Institute**

The Hilltop Institute is Maryland's premier research center for health policy. Hilltop is dedicated to improving the health and social outcomes of vulnerable populations. Hilltop conducts research, analysis, and evaluation on behalf of governmental agencies, foundations, and other non-profit organizations at the national, state, and local levels. For more information, visit: [hilltopinstitute.org](http://hilltopinstitute.org).

### **Center for Urban Environmental Research and Education (CUERE)**

CUERE's mission is to advance the understanding of the environmental, social, and economic consequences of transformation of the urban landscape through cooperative research projects, conferences and symposia, support of UMBC teaching programs, and assistance to K-12 education. For more information, visit: [cuere.umbc.edu](http://cuere.umbc.edu).

## **Shriver Center**

The Shriver Center addresses critical social challenges by bridging campus and community through engaged scholarship and applied learning. Through the work of The Shriver Center, UMBC has become a national leader in applied learning, community engagement, and community-based service delivery. The Center offers return Peace Corps Volunteers graduate fellowships. For more information, visit: [shrivercenter.umbc.edu](http://shrivercenter.umbc.edu).

## **Advising and Curriculum Planning**

Frequent contact with your faculty advisor is essential for graduate study, particularly for part-time students. The advisor is responsible for collaborating with the student to plan a curriculum and, for a Ph.D. candidate, setting up the dissertation committee.

Upon entering the program, each student should select a field of specialization, if only provisionally. The faculty advisor will initially be one of the primary advisors for the specialization committee the student wishes to pursue. Specialization committee advisors are listed in this handbook. M.P.P. and Ph.D. students who have not yet selected an area of specialization should seek advice from the Graduate Program Director. Students should contact their advisors at least once a semester for advice on course selection and other matters. Once a Ph.D. student has selected a chair for his/her dissertation, the chair normally becomes the student's advisor.

In working with their advisors to plan their curricula, Ph.D. students are expected to review the requirements for the core comprehensive exam course, the field qualifying examination, the curriculum suggested for Ph.D. students (page 31) and their previous graduate coursework. The Ph.D. curriculum sequence is designed to prepare students for the required examinations and dissertation. Progress is measured in terms of mastery of subjects rather than counting credits. For Ph.D. students, 48 hours of coursework (plus 18 hours of dissertation credits) is ordinarily the minimum necessary for students without previous graduate study. However, each Ph.D. student's curriculum is customized to best match the student's abilities and interests as well as the preparation required for his or her anticipated dissertation project.

As described above, previous graduate coursework, if relevant and recent, may lead the advisor to recommend a reduction in the number of course credit hours required for the degree or an exemption from a required course. The maximum reduction is six credits for M.P.P. students and 18 credits for Ph.D. students. In some cases, particularly for students in the Accelerated Pathways bachelor's/master's program, 12 credits taken as an undergraduate may be used to meet curricular requirements. For both reductions and exemptions, the student's advisor will submit a recommendation with supporting documents to the Graduate Program Director (GPD) in writing or via email. The GPD will then inform the student of the decision.

## **GPA Requirements**

Students must maintain at least a GPA of 3.0, or they will be put on academic probation by the Graduate School. Students may not have more than two (2) grades of C or lower. If a student receives a third grade of C or lower, the director or the GPD will write the student informing him or her that a decision will be taken at the next faculty meeting regarding whether to dismiss the student. This will allow the student to appeal and/or to provide an explanation and request not to be dismissed. In any event, the matter will be taken up in a faculty meeting and a decision will be rendered.

## **Communication**

You will be enrolled in two email lists: the Public Policy Graduate Students Blackboard Community (which will appear in the "To" line as "pss"), and the Public Policy listserv (which will appear in the "To" line as "publicpolicy@lists"). Students are also strongly encouraged to join the UMBC Public Policy Linked-In Group and the UMBC Public Policy Groups page at [my.UMBC.edu](http://my.UMBC.edu).

Faculty and staff send email notifications, announcements, and academic information to the student's "username@umbc.edu" email address only. It is your responsibility to maintain contact with us; if you prefer to use a different email address, please forward your "umbc.edu" email to that address. Students should check that email frequently and respond as required. Students must also keep us informed of name and address changes.

## Student Disabilities:

If a student has a documented disability that may require an accommodation, the student should register with UMBC's Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) who can provide advisement on requesting accommodations. The Office of Disabilities Services office is in Math/Psychology. (sds.umbc.edu)

## Curriculum

The program requirements are intended to ensure an interdisciplinary foundation in public policy analysis. They are based on the principle that all students should master a common set of concepts and analytical tools, but that each student needs to develop expertise in a specific area based on his or her intellectual and vocational goals.

The curriculum, therefore, is divided into three categories: core courses, disciplinary foundation courses, and courses in a particular policy area or discipline.

## M.P.P. Curriculum

The M.P.P. is a 37 credit program. The core curriculum consists of seven courses (16 credits):

### **Basic concepts** (10 credits):

PUBL 603 Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis  
PUBL 613 Managing Public Organizations  
PUBL 623 Governmental Budgeting  
PUBL 697 Internship (non-credit course)  
PUBL 699 Policy Analysis Paper (1 credit)

### **Research methods and quantitative analysis** (6 credits):

PUBL 600 Research Methodology  
PUBL 604 Statistical Analysis

### **Disciplinary Foundations**

ECON 600 Policy Consequences of Economic Analysis or (if qualifications are met)  
ECON 601 Microeconomic Analysis  
PUBL 601 Political and Social Context of the Policy Process  
SOCY 606 Social Inequality and Social Policy

## Specializations (Tracks)

Students may choose either a policy specialization or a disciplinary specialization. Specializations require a total of four courses (12 credits) for the M.P.P. One of these must be a specialization approved statistical/methodological/analytical course.

### *Policy Specializations* (and advisors):

**Education Policy** (Pamela Bennett, F. Chris Curran, Jane Lincove)  
**Emergency Services** (Ph.D. only) (Lucy Wilson)  
**Environmental Policy** (Tim Brennan, Lauren Edwards)  
**Evaluation and Analytical Methods** (F. Chris Curran, Jane Lincove, Zoe McLaren, David Salkever)  
**Health Policy** (Zoe McLaren, Nancy Miller, David Salkever)  
**Public Management** (Lauren Hamilton Edwards, Susan Sterett)  
**Urban Policy** (Pamela Bennett, John Rennie Short)  
**Customized Specialization** (see page 17)

### *Disciplinary Specializations* (and advisors):

**Economics** (Ph.D. only) (Tim Gindling)  
**Policy History** (Ph.D. only) (Daniel Ritschel)

Most master's level students wishing to pursue a specialization in economics enroll in the ECPA program described above. Specific requirements for these areas of specialization above are listed on pages 8-16. UMBC also offers the M.A. in History, M.A. in Aging Studies, and M.A. in Applied Sociology. For the courses in these programs, consult the Graduate School catalog.

## Other M.P.P. Curriculum Requirements:

### **M.P.P. Policy Analysis Paper**

Master's students are required to write a policy analysis paper, usually in conjunction with one of their specialization courses. Students are required to register for PUBL 699 (a one-credit course) during the semester in which they are completing this requirement. See *Individual Student Policy Analysis Paper Guidelines* on page 21-23.

### **Master's Internship Requirement**

M.P.P. students without relevant public policy work experience are required to complete an approved

internship after their first 15 credits. The internship must total 300 hours and can take place during the academic year, or in the summer. The internship coordinator must give prior approval to any internship a student proposes to use to fulfill the internship requirement. Students should enroll in PUBL 697, and the Career Center practicum course during the internship.

Once the internship has concluded, the student must write a paper in the form of responses to a series of structured questions about the intern experience. The internship requirement will be met when the student enrolls in PUBL 697, concludes the 300 hour internship, and receives a “pass” for the intern experience paper and also passes the Career Center practicum course.

Students may request a waiver of the internship if they can demonstrate that they possess two years of full-time public policy experience. The request for waiver must describe the student’s work experience, and how it is relevant to the public policy discipline. The waiver request should be submitted no later than 90 days before the beginning of the student’s final semester. The waiver must be approved by the graduate program director. Students requesting a waiver should complete and submit the *Petition for a Waiver of the Internship Requirement* to the internship coordinator, Sally Helms (helms@umbc.edu).

### **Master’s Thesis Option**

Students may write a master’s thesis instead of the policy analysis paper. They will then substitute six credit hours of master’s thesis research for the one credit hour policy analysis paper. Students choosing this option are required to take only three specialization courses instead of the four required of other students. As a consequence, students choosing the master’s thesis option will engage in a 39 credit hour master’s program instead of the 37 hour program required of non-thesis students.

### **Ph.D. Curriculum**

The Ph.D. curriculum includes 48 credits of coursework, comprehensives and field qualifying examinations, and a dissertation.

The core curriculum consists of six courses (18 credits):

#### **Core Curriculum**

PUBL 600 Research Methodology  
PUBL 603 Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis  
PUBL 604 Statistical Analysis

Two additional research method/quantitative analysis courses appropriate to the student’s specialization such as:

PUBL 607, PUBL 608, PUBL 611, ECON 605, ECON 611, SOCY 619; or another methodological/analytical course approved by the specialization advisor  
PUBL 609 Comprehensive Exam Course

#### **Disciplinary Foundations**

All Ph.D. students must take the following three disciplinary foundation courses (9 credits):

ECON 600 Economics Consequences of Policy Analysis or  
ECON 601 Microeconomic Analysis  
PUBL 601 Political and Social Context of the Policy Process  
SOCY 606 Social Inequality and Social Policy

Additionally, 18 credits of PUBL 899 Doctoral Dissertation Research, a fixed nine credit course, which is required of all Ph.D. student, each semester, while a doctoral candidate.

#### **Ph.D. Specializations**

Students may choose either a policy specialization or a disciplinary specialization from the same list as those for M.P.P. students, with the same advisors. Specializations require five courses (15 credits). Ph.D. students in all specializations, except the Emergency Services and Policy History, are required to take a relevant economics course as part of their five specialization courses or two electives.

#### **Ph.D. Examinations**

In addition to examinations, in particular courses, a Ph.D. comprehensive examination course and Ph.D. field examination are also required. Students should consult with their advisors before enrolling in PUBL 609 (the comprehensive exam course), and/or their field qualifying examination, which may not be taken



until passing PUBL 609. The application to take the field exam, and previous examinations, are on the Public Policy Blackboard site.

### **Comprehensive Examination Course**

The Ph.D. comprehensive examination course (PUBL 609) is a 3-credit doctoral seminar that will culminate in a comprehensive exam paper. The course will provide an overview of philosophical and theoretical foundations of academic policy analysis and research. Students will learn to apply theory in their own empirical research and to develop theory-driven dissertation research questions. The course will be offered each spring semester.

Students are eligible to take the comprehensive examination after they have completed the first three courses of the core curriculum (PUBL 600, PUBL 603, and PUBL 604) and the disciplinary foundation courses (PUBL 601, ECON 600, and SOCY 606). Enrollment will also be allowed concurrently with the final two courses from the list above. Students must complete the remaining course or courses in the semester that they enroll in PUBL 609. Doctoral students must take the comprehensive examination course (PUBL 609) no more than two semesters after completing the core and disciplinary foundation courses required for this examination.

Grading for this course will be pass/fail and based on the comprehensive examination paper. A student who fails the course has the right to rewrite the paper once. The student must inform the course instructor and his/her advisor of the intent to rewrite the paper within 60 days of receiving a failing grade. The student will have 120 days from the date his or her failing grade is received to complete and submit the revised paper. A second failure constitutes a failure of the comprehensive examination. Students who fail on the first try will receive a grade of complete, which will change to pass or fail based on grading the revision.

### **Field Qualifying Examination**

The Ph.D. field qualifying examination is designed to test a student's knowledge of a particular specialization. Students may not take the field examination until they have passed the comprehensive examination course and completed at least four specialization courses, including all required courses for the specialization.

This exam must be taken no more than two semesters after completing all or nearly all of the specialization courses required for this examination.

### **Field Examination Grading**

The PUBL 609 comprehensive exam course will have two graders, the instructor, and the student's mentor/advisor.

The field examination is marked by two graders with an honors, pass, conditional pass, or fail grade. The Examination Committee receives the evaluations of the graders on each question and then determines the final outcome for the whole examination. Should a student not pass an examination, a second opportunity may be granted. A second failure normally results in a recommendation to the Graduate School that the student be terminated from the doctoral program.

In the event that a student fails the comprehensive exam course, the student must repeat the course. If a student fails the field qualifying exam, in part or in whole, the student must sign up for and retake the field examination no more than two semesters after his or her first attempt at the examination. If a student signs up for the field qualifying examination and does not take the examination, this shall count as a failure of the examination.

### **Doctoral Dissertation**

The distinguishing characteristic of the Ph.D. curriculum is dissertation research. For more information, see the *Doctoral Dissertation Handbook* on the Public Policy Groups page, and Blackboard community.

## **POLICY SPECIALIZATIONS**

### **EDUCATION POLICY**

Education is an important policy area and a large budget item for most state and local governments. Federal and state education policies are often on the frontiers of policy development. In the education policy specialization, students focus on various types of education policies made at every level of government, and learn about the multiple disciplinary and methodological perspectives on education policy.

#### **Specialization Committee**

F. Chris Curran\* (Public Policy), Pamela R. Bennett\* (Public Policy), Lisa Dickson (Economics), Douglas Lamdin (Economics), Jane Arnold Lincove\* (Public Policy), Eugene Schaffer (Education)

\* designated primary advisors

#### **Required Courses**

PUBL 636 Law, Politics and American Education Policy (M.P.P. and Ph.D.)  
PUBL 610 Special Topic: The Social Context of Education  
PUBL 610 Special Topic: Education Policy Analysis  
PUBL 637 Evaluation of Educational Interventions  
ECON 654 Economics of Education and Human Capital

#### **Additional Electives**

ECON 651 Economics of Human Resource Policy	EDPS 601 Contemporary Social Issues in Ed.
PUBL 610 Special Topic: Issues in Higher Education	EDPS 614 Politics of Education
PUBL 645 The U.S. City	EDPS 615 Economics of Education
SOCY 615 Higher Education and Social Inequality	EDPS 751 Law, Equity & Diversity in Education
SOCY 622 Inequality and Education	EDHI 752 Federal Policies in Post-Secondary Edu.
HIST 647 The History of Civil Rights since WW II	EDHI 754 Higher Education Finance
	EDHI 853 Leadership in Higher Education

(EDPS and EDHI courses listed above are taught at the University of Maryland College Park in the Education Policy Studies (EDPS) and Education Leadership and the Higher Education and International Education (EDHI) graduate programs. Check their schedule of classes for course offerings.)

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES (Ph.D. only)**

This specialization is for the professional specializing in public health, disaster care and emergency management. There are two pathways: emergency health and emergency management. The emergency health pathway includes courses in disaster health, catastrophes, and system design. The emergency management pathway includes courses in disaster mitigation, catastrophe preparation and response, and strategic planning. Students who have completed the Emergency Health Services master's program at UMBC make take the Emergency Services field exam before the comprehensive exam course (PUBL 609).

**Specialization Committee:** J. Lee Jenkins (Emergency Health Services), Bruce J. Walz (Emergency Health Services), Lucy Wilson\* (Emergency Health Services)

\*designated primary advisor

### **Required Courses for both Pathways (9 credits)**

EHS 630 Issues Analysis and Proposal Writing  
EHS 640 Introduction to High Performance EMS  
EHS 642 Event-Driven Resource Development

### **Electives for Emergency Health Pathway**

EHS 632 Disaster Health Services  
EHS 633 Refugee Health Services  
EHS 639 Catastrophe Preparation and Response  
EHS 641 EHS Law and Policy  
EHS 650 EHS System Design and Contracting  
EHS 691\* Business Development and Strategic Planning  
EHS 720\* EHS Quality Assessment  
PREV 600\*\* Intro to Epidemiology  
PUBL 613 Managing Public Organizations  
PUBL 618 Health Care Financing and Service Delivery  
PUBL 623 Governmental Budgeting  
SOCY 620\* Social Epidemiology

### **Electives for the Emergency Management Pathway**

EHS 632 Disaster Health Services  
EHS 633 Refugee Health Services  
EHS 634\* Disaster Mitigation  
EHS 636 Disaster Response  
EHS 637 Disaster Recovery  
EHS 638 Disaster Preparedness  
EHS 639 Catastrophe Preparation and Response  
EHS 720\* EHS Quality Assessment  
PUBL 613 Managing Public Organizations  
PUBL 623 Governmental Budgeting

\*These courses are acceptable as either Public Policy elective credits or as specialization elective credits. One course cannot count as credit for both.

\*\* PREV courses are offered through the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)

Other courses taught at UMBC and sister institutions within the University System of Maryland may be relevant to the Emergency Services registering for any such course(s), approval from an advisor is required.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY (M.P.P. only)**

The Environmental Policy specialization is especially suited to students who wish to understand the complex problems of the physical environment and the nexus between the environment and public policy. How do existing public policies affect the environment in positive and/or negative ways? How might policies be developed and implemented in order to help undo environmental damage and/or to prevent further damage?

**Specialization Committee:** Tim Brennan\* (Public Policy), Lauren Edwards\* (Public Policy), Scott Farrow (Economics), Roy Meyers (Political Science), David Lansing (Geography and Environmental Systems)

\* designated primary advisor

**Required Courses** (for the M.P.P., two courses from the list below; for the Ph.D., three courses from this list)

ECON 691 Environmental Economics  
GES 624 Environmental Justice  
GES 629 Seminar in Geography of Disease and Health  
GES 628 Scientific Practice and Environmental Policy  
GES 636 Global Environmental Change  
GES 686 Introduction to GIS  
PUBL 610 The Politics of Environmental Policy  
PUBL 648 Cities and Environmental Issues

### **Additional Electives**

ECON 637 Natural Resources Economics  
GES 600 Global Poverty and Inequality  
GES 662 GIS and Human-Environmental Systems (Prerequisite is GES 686)  
GES 685 Environmental Mapping (Prerequisite is GES 686)  
GES 700 Seminar in Environment and Society

## **EVALUATION and ANALYTICAL METHODS**

How do policymakers know if the programs they design and implement are having the effects intended? This is the focus of the evaluation and analytical methods specialization. Evaluation research involves everything from large-scale assessments of the extent to which federal programs affect the quality of life for certain populations, to smaller-scale analyses of local programs. Students receive training in a variety of analytical methods, including statistics, operations research, and benefit-cost evaluation, and apply these skills to public policy and management issues.

**Specialization Committee:** Marina Adler, (Sociology), Dennis Coates (Economics), F. Chris Curran\* (Public Policy), Scott Farrow (Economics), Laura Hussey (Political Science), Jane Lincove\* (Public Policy), Kenneth Maton (Psychology), Zoe McLaren\* (Public Policy), David Salkever\* (Public Policy)

\* designated primary advisors

### **Required Courses**

All M.P.P. students in this specialization must take at least two of the following courses. All Ph.D. students in this specialization must take all three of the following courses.

PUBL 607 Statistical Applications in Evaluation Research

PUBL 608 Applied Multivariate Regression Analysis

PUBL 611 Causal Inference in Program Evaluation

### **Additional Electives**

All M.P.P. and Ph.D. students in this specialization must take two additional specialization courses. These courses may be chosen from the courses listed above that the student has not taken as required courses or from the electives listed below. Special Topics may also apply, subject to approval by your advisor.

ECON 605 Benefit-Cost Evaluation

ECON 611 Advanced Econometric Analysis I

ECON 612 Advanced Econometric Analysis II

PREV 600\* Principles of Epidemiology

PSYC 695 Program Evaluation

PSYC 711 Data Analytic Procedures II

PSYC 715 Measurement of Behavior

PUBL 637 Evaluation of Educational Interventions

SOCY 620 Social Epidemiology

Note: PUBL 610 Special Topics courses may be approved as a specialization elective on a case-by case-basis by the student's advisor and one of the designated specialization advisors.

(\*PREV courses are offered through the Department of Epidemiology, University of Maryland School of Medicine and are subject to availability.)

## HEALTH POLICY

Students in the health policy specialization study the critical problems facing our health care system through disciplines such as sociology, political science, economics and history. The School partners with agencies such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Social Security Administration, and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to train students to understand the development, present operation, and future of our health care system.

Within the health policy specialization, Ph.D. students should take **three required** courses, two additional courses within the specialization and two additional electives that are related to health or to a student's specific health policy interests (e.g., governmental budgeting). M.P.P. students should take **two required** courses and two additional courses within the health policy specialization, one of which must be an approved statistical/methodological/analytical course.

**Specialization Committee:** Zoe McLaren\* (Public Policy), Nancy Miller\* (Public Policy), David Salkever\* (Public Policy), John Schumacher (Sociology), Cynthia Woodcock (The Hilltop Institute), Christine Yee (Economics)

\* designated primary advisors

### Required courses for Ph.D. students

PUBL 618 Issues in Health Care Finance and Service Delivery  
PUBL 652 Politics of Health  
ECON 652 Economics of Health

### Required courses for M.P.P. students

Two of the above three courses are required.

### Additional Electives:

In addition to the above courses, a wide range of health care policy courses are offered from which students can complete the remaining specialization courses. These include:

PUBL 610	Special Topics in Public Policy
SOCY 657	Social History of American Medicine
SOCY 658	Sociology of Mental Health & Illness
SOCY 620	Social Epidemiology
SOCY 651	Sociology of Health and Illness Behavior
SOCY 652	Health Care Organization and Delivery
SOCY 698	Neighborhoods and Health Inequalities
GERO 681	Epidemiology of Aging
PHR 703**	Health Services Research (UMB)
PHR 756**	Health Survey Research (UMB)

(\*\*PHR courses are offered through the Department of Epidemiology, University of Maryland School of Medicine.)

## **PUBLIC MANAGEMENT**

Public management is concerned with the skills and strategies that managers require to translate government policy into action. The public manager must understand not only organizational systems, but also how the political environment shapes or constrains approaches to management and implementation. The public management specialization introduces students to a toolbox of management skills drawn from professionals in the public, nonprofit and private sectors.

**Specialization Committee:** Lauren Hamilton Edwards\* (Public Policy), Kevin Eckert (Sociology), Laura Hussey (Political Science), Scott Farrow (Economics), Roy Meyers (Political Science), Susan Sterett (Public Policy)  
\*designated primary advisor

### **Required Course for MPP and Ph.D.**

PUBL 625 Theories of Public Administration

### **Additional Required Courses for Ph.D.**

PUBL 613 Managing Public Organizations

PUBL 623 Governmental Budgeting

An advanced economics course, such as ECON 605 Benefit-Cost Evaluation or ECON 691 Urban Economics

### **Additional Electives**

ECON 615 Property Rights, Organizations and Management

ECON 651 Economics of Human Resources Policy

ECON 661 Microeconomics of Public Finance

SOCY 681 Social and Institutional Roles of Nonprofits

GES 686 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

PSYCH 635 Community Psychology

PUBL 610 Special Topics (especially Law and Public Policy; and Workforce Development)

PUBL 645 The U.S. City

PUBL 646 The Global City

SOCY 681 Social and Institutional Roles of Nonprofits

## **URBAN POLICY**

Many of the nation's most serious problems, such as poverty, unemployment, crime, and inadequate education are centered in our urban areas. The urban policy specialization combines analytical training with opportunities for applied research and real world experience. Operating in the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan area, one of the nation's most strategic urban corridors, the program exposes students to urban issues in neighborhoods, cities, suburbs, and metropolitan areas.

**Specialization Committee:** Pamela Bennett\* (Public Policy), John Rennie Short\* (Public Policy), Lauren Hamilton Edwards (Public Policy), Christelle Viaurox (Economics)

\* designated primary advisor

### **Required Courses**

All M.P.P. students must take at least two of the following seven urban courses. Ph.D. students must take at least three of these courses.

PUBL 644 Urban Theory  
PUBL 645 The U.S. City  
PUBL 646 The Global City  
PUBL 648 Cities and Environmental Issues

### **Additional Electives**

Courses will be selected with the advice and approval of the student's advisor. The range of courses includes, but is not limited to those that follow. For M.P.P. students, at least one course must be an approved statistics or methodology course.

ECON 605	Benefit-Cost Evaluation	GES 687	Advanced Applications of Geographic Information Systems
ECON 691	Urban Economics	PUBL 610	Segregation and Housing Policy
GES 640	Seminar in Urban Geography	PUBL 610	Urban Sociology (SOCY 660)
GES 651	Seminar in Urban Sustainability	PSYC 635	Community Psychology
GES 686	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems		

### **Approved statistics/methodology courses**

PUBL 607, 608, 611; ECON 605, 611, 612; SOCY 619; GES 686 and 687; and PSYC 679

### **Other courses:**

Various courses taught in the School of Public Affairs and in the Urban Studies and Planning Program (USRP), University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), and other courses taught at UMBC and sister institutions within the University System of Maryland may be relevant to the urban policy specialization. Before registering for any such course, a student should first check with and get the approval of the specialization advisor.



## **DISCIPLINARY SPECIALIZATIONS**

### **ECONOMICS (Ph.D. only)**

In the economics specialization, students learn to apply economic analysis techniques to problems in fields such as health, public finance, human resources and international economics. Students are trained in the theory and application of microeconomics and econometrics, and in mathematical techniques to perform economic analysis of public policies. Students who have graduated from the ECPA masters at UMBC, may take the field exam before the comprehensive exam course (PUBL 609).

**Specialization Committee:** Salem Abo-Zaid (Economics), Maria Bernedo Del Carpio (Economics), Tim Gindling\* (Economics), Scott Farrow (Economics), David Mitch (Economics)

\*designated primary advisor

### **Required Courses**

ECON 601    Microeconomic Analysis  
ECON 611    Advanced Econometric Analysis I  
ECON 612    Advanced Econometric Analysis II

### **Additional Electives**

ECON 417	Economics of Strategic Interactions	ECON 651	Economics of Human Resources Policy
ECON 423	Economic Forecasting	ECON 652	Health Economics
ECON 433	Urban Economics	ECON 653	Household Economics
ECON 434	Regional Economics	ECON 654	Economics of Education and Human Capital
ECON 439	Environmental Economics	ECON 661	Microeconomics of Public Finance
ECON 464	State and Local Public Finance	ECON 671	Money and Capital Markets
ECON 482	International Finance	ECON 672	Monetary Theory and Policy
ECON 490	Mathematical Economics	ECON 674	Financial Management
ECON 602	Macroeconomic Analysis	ECON 675	Financial Investment Analysis
ECON 605	Benefit-Cost Evaluation	ECON 681	Economics of International Commercial Policy
ECON 613	Advanced Topics in Econometric Methods	ECON 682	Asian Economic History
ECON 614	Economics of Government Policy Toward Business	ECON 685	The Economics of Developing Countries
ECON 615	Property Rights, Organization Management	ECON 686	Topics in Economic Development
ECON 618	The Economics of Innovation and Technology	ECON 691	Selected Topics in Economic Policy
ECON 637	The Economics of Natural Resources	ECON 801	Individual Study in Economics
ECON 641	American Economic History	PUBL 608	Applied Multivariate Regression Analysis
ECON 642	European Economic History	PUBL 617	Economics of Law

## **POLICY HISTORY (Ph.D. only)**

How do we explain change in public policy in the past and the present? What idea, experiences, and interests have shaped these changes? Why do different policies emerge and secure acceptance at different times? The Policy History specialization seeks to provide answers to these questions. Historical analysis provides a context for exploring policy shifts over time, and explains how past experiences shape current discussions.

**Specialization Committee:** Marjoleine Kars (History), Christy Ford Chapin (History), Daniel Ritschel\* (History), Meredith Oyen (History)

\*designated primary advisor

### **Required Courses**

HIST 701 The Study of History I  
HIST 702 The Study of History II  
HIST 801 Institutional and Policy History (or equivalent)

### **Additional Electives**

HIST 629	History of Baltimore	HIST 714	Seminar in Intellectual History
HIST 635	Twentieth-Century American Foreign Policy	HIST 715	Seminar in Cultural History
HIST 641	Origins of Modern America, 1877-1945	HIST 716	Seminar in Historiography
HIST 642	The United States, 1917-1945	HIST 717	Seminar in History of Science
HIST 643	The United States since 1945	HIST 718	Seminar in Women's History
HIST 647	History of Civil Rights since the Civil War	HIST 750	Directed Study
HIST 710	Seminar in Political History	HIST 790	Internship/Practicum in Historical Studies
HIST 711	Seminar in Administrative and Policy History	HIST 798	Special Topics in Historical Studies
HIST 712	Seminar in Economic History		
HIST 713	Seminar in Social History		

## **CUSTOMIZED SPECIALIZATION**

On an exceptional basis, it may be possible for students to create a customized specialization in an area that is related to public policy and management. Such a specialization will be approved only if the student's interests are not adequately covered by one of the existing specializations, and if UMBC has the capability (in terms of faculty and courses) to provide the desired program. At least half of the courses taken in the specialization must be courses offered at UMBC. To arrange a customized specialization, a student must, after first consulting with the M.P.P. or Ph.D. advisor as appropriate, find a UMBC faculty member willing to serve as an advisor for that specialization. Both that advisor and the Public Policy Director must determine that UMBC has the capability to provide the student with instruction and guidance in the area of the specialization, and that the customized specialization is in the best interest of the student.

After initial discussion with the faculty member identified as the advisor for the proposed customized specialization, the student must present a short (3-5 pages) proposal describing and justifying the proposed specialization. The proposal must set forth the overall rationale for the customized specialization, what the student wants to do, why it cannot be done through one of the existing specializations, and a list of courses the student proposes to take in the specialization. For the M.P.P., this list must not exceed, by more than two courses, the number of courses required in the specialization; for the Ph.D., the list must not exceed the minimum required in the specialization and electives by more than three courses. The proposal must be approved by the advisor and sent to the Director for final approval. The Director shall circulate the proposal to Public Policy faculty for comments and, taking any comments received within two weeks into account, make a decision.

## Academic Integrity: Rights and Responsibilities

By enrolling in degree programs of the School of Public Policy at UMBC, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, a failing grade for the assignment, a failing grade for the course, suspension or dismissal. The policies and procedures for graduate student academic conduct are available at [umbc.edu/gradschool/essentials/proc\\_misconduct](http://umbc.edu/gradschool/essentials/proc_misconduct).

Plagiarism is a particular concern. Plagiarism is defined as "taking and passing off as one's own the ideas, writings, etc., of another" (Webster, 1983). In other words, plagiarism is theft of another's words and ideas. It constitutes **serious academic dishonesty**. Plagiarism can result from a student's failure to cite a source (e.g., of the ideas, writings, etc., of another that the student uses in his or her paper), or failure to appropriately block or use quotation marks (and an appropriate source citation) around directly quoted material.

This policy does not distinguish between intentional and inadvertent plagiarism. Nor does it distinguish between "drafts" and final submissions. Clearly, intentional plagiarism is a serious offense. Some students may feel, however, that inadvertent plagiarism is not a serious offense. It is – for at least two reasons. First, it is difficult (some might say impossible) to distinguish between intentional and inadvertent plagiarism. Second, inadvertent plagiarism suggests that students either have not paid attention to this policy or are willing to submit work that is carelessly and sloppily completed. In either event, plagiarism will be appropriately punished if it is found in any work for this course.

All students in Public Policy are required to read and be familiar with the following:

### *UMBC Policies and Procedures*

- UMBC Statement of Values for Student Academic Integrity  
[http://www.umbc.edu/undergrad\\_ed/ai/overview.php](http://www.umbc.edu/undergrad_ed/ai/overview.php)
- USM Board of Regents Rights and Responsibilities for Academic Integrity  
<http://www.usmd.edu/regents/bylaws/SectionIII/III100.html>
- Policy and Procedures for Student Academic Misconduct  
<http://www.catalog.umbc.edu/index.php@catoid=4>

### *What Is Plagiarism and How to Avoid It*

- A.O. Kuhn Library, "Avoiding Plagiarism"  
[aok.lib.umbc.edu/information\\_literacy/plagiarism.php](http://aok.lib.umbc.edu/information_literacy/plagiarism.php)

At this time there is no single Public Policy standard regarding citation style, although specific instructors may require a particular citation style. Style guides for several common formats for citing sources can be accessed through the following:

- A.O. Kuhn Library, "Citing Source"  
[lib.guides.umbc.edu/citing](http://lib.guides.umbc.edu/citing)
- The Writing Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Documentation"  
[writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Documentation.html](http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Documentation.html)

We encourage you to bring any questions you might have regarding the meaning and importance of academic integrity, what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, and citation styles to faculty advisors and instructors.

## Suggested Master's Degree Timeline

Before classes begin, or sometime within the first few weeks of classes, meet with your specialization advisor and fill out a draft curriculum worksheet. Submit a copy of the worksheet to the Public Policy office.

### First year in the program

During your first year in the program, you should take PUBL 600 (Research Methodology) and PUBL 604 (Statistical Analysis). If you are a full-time student, ideally, you should also plan to enroll in ECON 600 (Economic Consequences of Policy Analysis), PUBL 601 (Political and Social Context of the Policy Process), and PUBL 603 (Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis) during the first year. SOCY 606 (Social Inequality and Social Policy) may be taken during the spring or summer session.

### The summer after your first five courses in the program (or thereafter)

Students must complete a Public Policy approved internship, unless a waiver of the requirement has been approved. During the semester in which the internship is completed, you must register for PUBL 697. Instructions for the internship, and internship and waiver forms, are available through the School's Public Policy Institutional Group.

### Second year

Typically, students will be enrolled in PUBL 613 Managing Public Organizations and PUBL 623 Governmental Budgeting and specialization courses.

The individual policy analysis paper may be written at any time during the student's pursuit of the M.P.P. degree. During the semester in which a student begins writing the policy analysis paper, he or she must register for one credit of PUBL 699 with a faculty/mentor/reader. Students must turn in a copy of their paper, and the *M.P.P. Policy Analysis Paper Approval Sheet* to the graduate program director, or administrator of academic affairs, to qualify for graduation.

### For thesis-option candidates

Check with the graduate program director and the Graduate School Catalog for related information regarding: choosing a thesis advisor, forming the thesis examination committee, preparing for and having a thesis proposal defense and the conduct of the final thesis defense, and preparation of your final thesis for submission to the Graduate School.

Two months prior to your thesis defense, you will need to submit a *Nomination of Members for the Final Master's Thesis Examination Committee* to the Graduate School. Two weeks prior to your thesis defense, you will need to submit the form, *Certification of Readiness to Defend the Master's Thesis*, to the Graduate School. Once you have completed the thesis, you will be required to submit a final copy of the thesis to the Public Policy office, and to the Graduate School (electronically). Go to the Graduate School's website for details on deadlines for submission of your thesis and guidelines for preparation of your final thesis.

### For all M.P.P. students during the semester that you intend to complete your degree requirements

Go to the Graduate School website for the requirements for graduation (includes forms, procedures, and deadlines). You must be registered the semester in which you intend to graduate. Also, you will need to submit the *Application for Diploma* within the first three weeks of the semester and file a *Certification of Completion of Master's Degree without Thesis* form by the due date set forth by the Graduate School. Since most forms require the signature of your advisor, and the graduate program director, allow at least two weeks for the forms to be signed. All students who plan to march in the commencement ceremony in December or May will also need to order regalia from the UMBC bookstore (dates will be posted on the Graduate School website). Also, one month prior to the graduation date, you will need to pay the cashier all outstanding university debt. To be certified for receipt of the M.P.P. diploma by mail, your transcripts will be audited and you must also submit a copy of the approved policy analysis paper, with the approval form, to the administrator of academic Affairs or the GPD.

## **Model Schedule for Full Time M.P.P. Students**

### **YEAR ONE**

#### **Fall Semester**

PUBL 600 Research Methodology

#### **Two of the following:**

PUBL 601 The Political and Social Context of the Policy Process

ECON 600 Economic Consequences of Policy Analysis (or ECON 601 Microeconomic Analysis)

PUBL 603 Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis

#### **Spring Semester**

PUBL 604 Statistical Analysis

#### **Two of the following:**

PUBL 601 The Political and Social Context of the Policy Process

PUBL 603 Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis

SOCY 606 Social Inequality and Social Policy (or a course equivalent)

#### **Summer Session, or thereafter**

PUBL 697 Internship

SOCY 606 Social Inequality and Social Policy (if available)

### **YEAR TWO**

#### **Fall Semester**

PUBL 613 Managing Public Organizations (or specialization course)

Specialization Course(s)

PUBL 699 Policy Analysis Course (or final semester)

#### **Spring Semester**

PUBL 613 Managing Public Organizations (or specialization course)

PUBL 623 Governmental Budgeting

SOCY 606 Social Inequality and Social Policy

Specialization Course(s)

PUBL 699 Policy Analysis Paper

**All students should take PUBL 600 and PUBL 604 early in their curricula, preferably their first year.**

## **Individual Student Policy Analysis Paper (PUBL 699) Guidelines for MPP Students**

The individual student policy analysis paper (sometimes referred to as the capstone paper) is the summation of a master's student's education and training in the School of Public Policy. It should clearly demonstrate that the student is capable of high quality policy analysis.

The M.P.P. policy analysis paper is based on a paper written for a course in the student's specialization. Before taking that course, the student needs to inform the professor for that course that he or she wishes to apply that paper toward the policy analysis paper requirement. If you choose to write the policy analysis paper in that course, the guidelines below apply; these guidelines may not apply to papers written for that course that are not capstones. The student will also register for PUBL 699, a one credit course, with the professor of that course to reflect the extra work involved. If a student decides after the drop/add period to apply the paper to the capstone, he or she will have to register for PUBL 699 in the semester following the one in which he or she took the course, and revise that paper to meet the guidelines below.

This policy analysis is expected to be a professional quality paper, approximately 25 to 40 pages in length that addresses a significant public policy problem, as agreed upon between the student and the professor under whom the student is writing the analysis (the faculty reader). The policy analysis paper must include the following sections:

1. Problem/Issue Definition and Discussion – what is the problem, why should anybody care about it, what evidence says that it is a problem, what are the dimensions and effects of the problem?
2. Rationale for Governmental Intervention – plausible reasons why the government might step in and do something about this problem.
3. Identification of Alternatives – present and describe reasonable alternatives to the status quo (i.e., making NO change in current policies). Limit your analysis to only those alternatives that have been proposed in the political press, policy publications and/or academic literature as being currently available for addressing the problem. Describe what these alternatives look like, how they would work, and (relative to the status quo) what their effects would be.
4. Criteria for Evaluation – describe and explain the criteria that you will use for comparing each alternative to the status quo. Criteria that should be considered include: cost, effectiveness, political feasibility, equity, legality, sustainability, and process values. The precise set of criteria will be determined in discussion between the student and the faculty reader
5. Analysis of Alternatives – each alternative should be compared with the status quo using the criteria for evaluation selected by the student. This section should include both a narrative analysis and a matrix that summarizes the rankings of the alternatives according to the criteria. In some cases, benefit-cost or cost-effectiveness analysis will be included in this analysis (whether to include one of these should be determined in discussion between the student and the faculty reader).
6. Recommendation – finally, based on the analysis of the alternatives, recommend the one (or more) that best address the problem in terms of the selected criteria. Explain why this recommendation and why other alternatives were not recommended. What are the limitations, if any, of this alternative?
7. The analysis must include a three to five page executive summary that is a high level summary of the policy analysis and is written with a relevant policy official (or officials) in mind as the audience.

The following book should be used as a guide in developing this policy analysis: Eugene Bardach, 2009. *A Practical Guide to Policy Analysis*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Washington, DC: CQ Press. It is strongly suggested that students review and possibly model their policy analysis on the policy analysis (re. the salmon fishery in British Columbia) in the Weimer and Vining textbook that is used in PUBL 603 (Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis).

This policy analysis must be based upon solid analysis, drawn most particularly from the relevant scholarly literature (that is, research) on the subject (including solutions), and also on literature from the field of practice in which the problem is located. Typically, every paper must include a literature review (Bardach, Ch. 2) and most should include a review of best practices (Bardach, Part III), but this should be negotiated between the student and faculty reader.

The data and evidence will generally, but not always, be drawn from secondary sources. The reader does not expect the student to gather new quantitative or qualitative information, although he or she is free to do so in consultation with his or her reader. These, and indeed all, elements of the paper should be agreed upon in discussion between the student and faculty reader.

In some papers, applying the appropriate data and evidence will be best accomplished by incorporating the relevant literature (scholarly and from the practice) appropriately into the sections of the paper noted above (e.g., problem discussion, alternatives). In others, it may be more appropriate to include separate literature and best practices review sections (e.g., between sections 2 and 3 above). Students should consult with their reader about which model of literature review to employ in their papers.

Papers must be written in a standard narrative style. Writing must be clear throughout and may not contain any grammatical or spelling errors. Students should use the first person active voice style of writing. Papers must be well-organized with proper headings and sub-headings, be double-spaced and employ a 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Papers must begin with a cover page, followed by an executive summary of not more than three to five pages, and must contain a table of contents. Papers must be submitted in hard copy and/or in MS Word at the discretion of the student's faculty reader. Students may use either the APA style of source citations or footnotes, also at the discretion of their readers.

Below is a *suggested* schedule that should enable a student to complete his or her policy analysis in a given semester. Merely following the schedule, however, is not as a guarantee of satisfactory completion of the paper on time. That is dependent on whether the student completes the work on time (as agreed between the student and the faculty reader) and the quality of the student's paper.

***Students should confer, early and often, with the faculty reader not only on the schedule for completing it (including deliverables), but also on all other important matters around it.***

#### **Suggested Schedule**

	Submitted by student	Feedback from reader(s)
Topic approved by professor	Week 1	NA
Draft of problem definition, intervention rationale	Week 4	Week 5
Draft of evaluation criteria	Week 5	Week 6
Draft of alternatives	Week 10	Week 11
Full draft	Week 12	Week 13
Final paper	Week 14 or 15	NA (When grades are due)

Finally, each student must complete and have his or her reader sign the following form and submit it along with a hard copy of his or her policy analysis paper to Public Policy in order to complete the requirements for this paper.



**UMBC  
School of Public Policy**

**M.P.P. Policy Analysis Paper (PUBL 699)**

**Approval Sheet**

**M.P.P. students are required to submit a copy of their final policy analysis paper and an approval sheet, signed by the faculty reader, to Public Policy before they are eligible for their diplomas.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Specialization: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Paper Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Approval: The signature of the faculty reader below signifies that he or she has read and approved the aforementioned student's M.P.P. policy analysis paper.**

Faculty reader: \_\_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Once the final version of this paper has been completed, the paper and this approval form should be submitted to Sally Helms, School of Public Policy, Public Policy Bldg., room 407.**

## Ph.D. Degree Timeline

<b>Planning your Courses</b>	The <i>Ph.D. Curriculum Worksheet</i> should be drafted and approved in collaboration with the faculty advisor. Students should meet with their advisors regularly.
<b>Course Waivers and Reductions</b>	Submit a memo to graduate program director for consideration after approval by faculty advisor and relevant faculty who teach cognate courses.
<b>Comprehensive Examination Course (PUBL 609)</b>	Should be taken after at least 4 of the six core courses in the core curriculum; a student may be enrolled in the last two courses in the semester he/she is taking the COMPS course (PUBL 609). The six core courses are: PUBL 600, PUBL 601, PUBL 603, PUBL 604, ECON 600 or ECON 601, and SOCY 606.
<b>Field Qualifying Examination</b>	The field qualifying examination should be taken after passing the comprehensive course (PUBL 609) and must be taken no more than two semesters after completing the field courses. The student must submit the Public Policy form, <i>Application to take the Ph.D. Field Qualifying Examination</i> , to his or her faculty advisor for approval.
<b>Identification of Topic and Possible Chair</b>	This is accomplished in consultation with the student's mentor and prior to taking either Pre-Candidacy Dissertation credits (PUBL 898).
<b>Notifying Faculty of a Dissertation Proposal</b>	Prior to forming a full dissertation committee, the student's mentor must share a brief two to three page dissertation proposal abstract with the public policy core faculty. (See the <i>Doctoral Dissertation Handbook</i> ).
<b>Public Policy Approval of Committee Members</b>	The student's mentor and the student agree upon dissertation committee membership. The mentor submits the Public Policy form, <i>Application to Form a Preliminary Dissertation Committee</i> , to the Public Policy administrator of academic affairs a minimum of two months prior to the proposal defense. (See the Graduate School rules for committee makeup.)
<b>Defense of Dissertation Proposal</b>	A formal dissertation proposal defense is required. Two weeks prior to the defense, the student must submit an abstract of the proposal and a notice of the defense to Public Policy. The Public Policy form, <i>Approval of Dissertation Proposal</i> , must be signed by all members of the dissertation committee immediately after the proposal defense and submitted to the administration of academic affairs in the School of Public Policy. The proposal should be defended within five years of starting the program, otherwise a waiver of the five year rule must be request from the Graduate School.
<b>Applying for Candidacy</b>	Once the proposal has been defended, the student should apply for Ph.D. candidacy using the Graduate School form, <i>Application for Admission to Candidacy</i> . Once a student is a candidate, he or she should enroll in PUBL 899 Doctoral Dissertation Research, (a fixed nine credit course) with his or her dissertation chairperson for at least two semesters.
<b>Formal Nomination of Dissertation Committee</b>	The Graduate School form, <i>Nomination of Members for the Final Doctoral Examining Committee</i> , must be filed with Public Policy and the Graduate School a minimum of six months prior to the final dissertation defense.
<b>Applying to Graduate</b>	The Graduate School form, <i>Application for Diploma</i> , must be filed with the Graduate School by the deadline set forth on their website.
<b>Preparing for the Final Defense</b>	The <i>Announcement of Ph.D. Dissertation Defense</i> and <i>Certification of Readiness to Defend the Doctoral Dissertation</i> forms must be signed and filed with Public Policy and the Graduate School two weeks prior to the defense. The defense is announced to the Public Policy community.

<b>Defense of Dissertation</b>	All committee members must be present at the defense. The candidate's presentation is open to the public. However, the examination portion of the defense is open only to members of the Graduate Faculty and only committee members may ask questions of the candidate. The Graduate School representative is responsible for the form <i>Report of the Examining Committee</i> . This form must be signed by the committee upon completion of the defense, and submitted to the Graduate School, within 48 hours of the defense. A copy of the dissertation must also be submitted to the School of Public Policy. The dissertation should be defended within four years of admission to candidacy, otherwise a waiver from the Graduate School is required.
<b>Submit Final Copies of Doctoral Dissertation to Graduate School Electronically</b>	The dissertation must be submitted electronically to the Graduate School by the due date designated on the Graduate School website. See Graduate School document <i>Instructions for Preparing Final Copies of Doctoral Dissertations</i> and consult with them for electronic submission procedures. A copy of the dissertation must also be submitted to Public Policy at this time.

Graduate School forms are available at [gradschool.umbc.edu](http://gradschool.umbc.edu).

Public Policy graduate program forms are available on the Public Policy Graduate Student Blackboard site.

**School of Public Policy**

**Application to take the Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination Course (PUBL 609)**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Semester/Year of PUBL 609: \_\_\_\_\_

1. To enroll in PUBL 609, a student must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in the 6 public policy PhD core courses:

PUBL 600, PUBL 601, PUBL 603, PUBL 604, ECON 600 or 601, and SOCY 606 or PUBL 610-01 with Pam Bennett

**Please attach your curriculum worksheet as evidence of completion of the core coursework.**

2. Each student in PUBL 609 must identify a faculty reader from the core or affiliate public policy faculty who will serve as a reader for the student's comprehensive exam paper.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty reader name (printed) and signature

**Please return this form, with signatures and attachments, to Sally Helms, 407 Public Policy Building.**

**School of Public Policy**

**Application to take the Ph.D. Field Qualifying Examination**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Specialization: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the Examination: \_\_\_\_\_

By the end of the semester, I will have completed all of the required courses for the specialization, and my specialization advisor and I, are in agreement that I am eligible to take the field examination. **Please attach a curriculum worksheet and a transcript to this form.**

If I have been given approval to waive or transfer one or more of the specialization courses from another degree or institution, these waivers or transfers of credits have been approved by my specialization advisor, and by the graduate program director, and they have been properly documented on my curriculum worksheet.

I understand that I must be enrolled for the semester I plan to take this examination.  
I understand that once I have submitted this form to Public Policy, I may not withdraw from this examination, after the cut off day to cancel, without penalty. Any exception to withdraw after the cut off day requires the approval of the Examination Committee.

Please enroll me for the \_\_\_\_\_ Field Qualifying Examination for  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Semester and year)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

This student has met all prerequisites to take the Field Qualifying Examination.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Specialization advisor's name (printed) and signature

**Please submit this form, with signatures and attachments, to Sally Helms, administrator of academic Affairs, School of Public Policy, Public Policy Bldg., room 407, helms@umbc.edu.**

## School of Public Policy - Core and Affiliate Faculty 2018-2019

### PUBLIC POLICY

SUSAN STERETT, Director  
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## M.P.P. CURRICULUM WORKSHEET

Student	Specialization	Advisor	
<p><i>I. <u>Public Policy Core</u> (16 credits):</i></p> <p>a. PUBL 600</p> <p>b. PUBL 603</p> <p>c. PUBL 604</p> <p>d. PUBL 613</p> <p>e. PUBL 623</p> <p>f. PUBL 697 Internship (non-credit)</p> <p>g. PUBL 699 Policy Paper (1 credit)</p>	<p><u>Enrollment</u> <u>Date</u></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><u>Grade</u></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><u>Transfer Courses</u> (limit 6 credits)</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p><i>II. <u>Disciplinary Foundations</u> (9 credits):</i></p> <p>ECON 600/ECON 601</p> <p>PUBL 601</p> <p>SOCY 606</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p><i>III. <u>Disciplinary or Policy Specialization</u> (12 credits)</i></p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p> <p>3. _____</p> <p>4.* _____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

\*Must be a specialization approved statistical/methodological/analytical course, such as PUBL 607, PUBL 608, PUBL 611, ECON 605, ECON 611, ECON 612, SOCY 619, or another methodological/analytical course recommended by the specialization advisor.

*IV. Thesis-option Graduation Requirements: 3 courses in III, and six credits of thesis research (PUBL 799)*

Not required to complete PUBL 699.

PUBL 799 Thesis Research (6 credits) \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit a copy of a completed worksheet, signed by your advisor, to the graduate program director or administrator of academic affairs when you apply for graduation.**

## Ph.D. CURRICULUM WORKSHEET

Student	Specialization	Advisor	Transfer Credits (Limit 18 credits)
<u>Courses</u>	<u>Enrollment Date</u>	<u>Grade</u>	
<i><u>I. Public Policy Core (18 credits)</u></i>			
a. PUBL 600	_____	_____	_____
b. PUBL 603	_____	_____	_____
c. PUBL 604	_____	_____	_____
d. See below	_____	_____	_____
e. (choose 2)*	_____	_____	_____
f. PUBL 609 (Comps course)	_____	_____	_____
<i><u>II. Disciplinary Foundations (9 credits)</u></i>			
a. ECON 600 or 601	_____	_____	_____
b. PUBL 601	_____	_____	_____
c. SOCY 606	_____	_____	_____
<i><u>III. Disciplinary or Policy Specialization (15 credits)**</u></i>			
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
<i><u>IV. Electives (6 credits)</u></i>			
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
<i><u>V. Other Degree Requirements</u></i>		<u>Completion Date</u>	
a. Examinations			
(1) Comprehensive Exam Course (PUBL 609)		_____	
(2) Field Qualifying Exam		_____	
b. Ph.D. Dissertation (18 credits; PUBL 899)			
(1) Committee formed		_____	
(2) Topic approved (proposal defense)		_____	
(3) Final dissertation defense		_____	
c. Recommended for degree		_____	

\* choose two: PUBL 607, 608, 611, ECON 605, 611, or 612; SOCY 619, or another methodological/analytic course recommended by the specialization advisor.

\*\* One of your specialization courses should be a graduate level economics course approved by your advisor, except for the Emergency Services and the Policy History specialization.