PUBLIC POLICY STUDIES

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Public Policy Studies is a multidisciplinary major grounded in the social sciences, with substantial inputs from economics, sociology, political science, and law, among other disciplines. The major recognizes that public issues are not neatly contained within traditional disciplinary boundaries and that analysts possessing a broad range of social scientific understanding, quantitative expertise, and communication skills are well placed to contribute to improved public policies. Public Policy involves direct contact with policy problems, ensuring that academic speculations are well-informed and connected to real-world conditions.

The Public Policy major strives to put analysis before advocacy, stressing that compelling policy analysis is a central component of effective advocacy. We aim to be open and helpful to students of all political persuasions and challenge students to rethink clichéd responses to policy problems. The program of study for the BA degree in public policy studies is designed to introduce students to policy analysis and implementation, equip them to use quantitative and economic techniques and methods, train them in policy research, and give them a thorough grounding in one or more specific policy areas.

The program also encourages students to undertake an internship experience either during the academic year or during the summer. PBPL 29600 Internship: Public Policy offers academic course credit for students completing an approved, policy-oriented internship.

Students should contact the program administrator with questions about meeting requirements for the public policy studies degree.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The suggested sequence described below is typical, but many other variations are possible. There is flexibility within the program regarding when required courses can be taken.

First Year

During their first or second year, students should take two quarters of calculus plus PBPL 26400 Quantitative Methods in Public Policy. Other quantitative courses may be substituted for PBPL 26400 with the permission of the program director.

Second Year

Many students take the following required three-quarter sequence in their second year. Taking the courses in the same year is not required, however, and the courses may be taken in any order.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PBPL 22100</td>
<td>Politics and Policy</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>PBPL 22200</td>
<td>Public Policy Analysis</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBPL 22300</td>
<td>Problems of Public Policy Implementation</td>
<td>100</td>
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</table>
Students are required to take either PBPL 20000 Economics for Public Policy or ECON 20000 The Elements of Economic Analysis I; completion of one of these two courses is a prerequisite for the sequence course PBPL 22200 Public Policy Analysis. PBPL 20000 Economics for Public Policy assumes no prior economics training, whereas ECON 20000 The Elements of Economic Analysis I requires ECON 19800 Introduction to Microeconomics or other prior training in microeconomics.

Third Year

Students typically complete the courses that follow in their third year.

At least one course in statistics

Students are required to take STAT 22000 Statistical Methods and Applications or STAT 23400 Statistical Models and Methods.

Courses in an area of specialization

Students should identify their area of specialization and submit a proposal for their program of study to the program administrator by the end of Winter Quarter in their third year. Students are required to complete three substantive policy courses that make up a specialization in a public policy field. Students may meet the specialization requirement in one of two ways: (1) by taking three courses that thematically connect (e.g., courses in urban politics, urban economics, and urban society would count as an urban specialization; or courses in international relations, international finance, and history of the European Union might be an international specialty); or (2) by taking three courses beyond the introductory course in one discipline other than public policy (e.g., economics, political science, sociology, statistics). Courses that satisfy the area of specialization requirement do not have to be listed or cross-listed as public policy courses; however, these courses should involve a substantial policy component. Please see the Public Policy Studies website for examples of some specialization courses: pbpl.uchicago.edu/page/areas-specialization.

Research Practicum

Students must fulfill a two-quarter research program. One of the quarters must be drawn from a “Methods” course, and the other quarter must be drawn from a “Windows” course, where the terminology reflects the idea that such a course represents a window from the ivory tower into the “real world.” Most students will fulfill this requirement through the two-quarter “practicum” sequence PBPL 26200-26300 Field Research Project in Public Policy I-II. Each sequence is designed to teach research methods (e.g., focus groups, community surveys, GIS mapping) in a hands-on way. Many of the practicums in the past have involved collective work on a real-world policy problem; see, for example, some final reports at cpri.uchicago.edu.

Sometimes PBPL 26200 Field Research Project in Public Policy I will be offered in a stand-alone manner, as a one-quarter Methods course, and PBPL 26300 Field Research Project in Public Policy II also will be offered in a stand-alone fashion, as a one-quarter Windows course. Alternatives to one or both quarters of PBPL 26200-26300 Field Research Project in Public Policy I-II can be drawn from the Methods and Windows courses listed below. Students may petition the program
director for permission to fulfill either their Methods or Windows requirement (or both) with courses that are not listed.

The Methods courses include:
PBPL 26200 Field Research Project in Public Policy I
PBPL 26500 Quantitative Policy Analysis Using Microsoft Excel
PBPL 26605 Regression, Factor Analysis, and Other Methods in Public Policy Research
PBPL 27040 Public Finance and Public Policy
GEOG 28200 Introduction to GIS
SOCI 20001 Sociological Methods
SOCI 20111 Survey Analysis I
PPHA 34600 Program Evaluation
PPHA 34810 Mixed Methods Approaches to Policy Research
SSAD 30200 Social Intervention: Research and Evaluation

The Windows courses include:
PBPL 26300 Field Research Project in Public Policy II* (not offered in 2015–16)
PBPL 26301 Field Research Project in Public Policy* (stand-alone version offered in Autumn Quarter 2015 and Spring Quarter 2016)
PBPL 24751 The Business of Non-Profits: The Evolving Social Sector
SOCI 20140 Qualitative Field Methods
CHDV 20305 Inequality in Urban Spaces

* NOTE: PBPL 26301 cannot be taken after completion of PBPL 26300 without prior departmental approval.

The research practicum is generally taken by students in their third year. Students who plan to study abroad in Winter or Spring Quarter of their third year may opt to complete the research practicum in their second or fourth year. One of the goals of the practicum requirement is to prepare students to write excellent BA papers, so generally it is best if the practicum can be taken before the fourth year.

Fourth Year

Students must write a BA paper in their fourth year. The required seminar course, PBPL 29800 Senior Seminar, offered in the Autumn Quarter, is designed to assist students in developing and writing their BA papers. The instructor of PBPL 29800 Senior Seminar, the public policy preceptor, serves as a reader for the BA papers. Students are encouraged to choose a faculty adviser as a second reader for the project. Outstanding BA papers can earn an honors designation. In early April, fourth-year students present their BA papers at a Public Policy undergraduate research symposium.

The PBPL 29800 Senior Seminar informs students about sources, methods of research, and treatment of evidence. Students work throughout Winter and Spring Quarters with the preceptors (and possibly faculty advisers) in revising their BA
papers. In addition to the PBPL 29800 Senior Seminar requirement, students may take one or two quarters of PBPL 29900 BA Paper Preparation: Public Policy for general elective credit. PBPL 29900 BA Paper Preparation: Public Policy, typically coordinated by a preceptor or faculty adviser, is designed to ensure that students will have sufficient time to write a quality BA paper.

Public Policy Studies may accept a BA paper that also is being used to satisfy the requirements of a second major. Approval from both program chairs is required to submit one BA paper to two majors. A consent form, to be signed by both chairs, is available from the College advising office. It must be completed and returned to the College adviser by the end of Autumn Quarter of the student’s year of graduation.

Courses

Many courses in related disciplines (e.g., Anthropology; Economics; History; Law, Letters, and Society; Political Science; Sociology; Biological Sciences) count toward the major when used as “specialization” courses.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL EDUCATION

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 13100-13200</td>
<td>Elementary Functions and Calculus I-II (or higher)</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>200</td>
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MAJOR

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PBPL 26400</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods in Public Policy *</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBPL 22100</td>
<td>Politics and Policy</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; PBPL 22200</td>
<td>and Public Policy Analysis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; PBPL 22300</td>
<td>and Problems of Public Policy Implementation</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 20000</td>
<td>The Elements of Economic Analysis I</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>or PBPL 20000</td>
<td>Economics for Public Policy</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 22000</td>
<td>Statistical Methods and Applications *</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>or STAT 23400</td>
<td>Statistical Models and Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three courses in an area of specialization</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>PBPL 26200-26300</td>
<td>Field Research Project in Public Policy I-II (or equivalent)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBPL 29800</td>
<td>Senior Seminar</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA paper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>1200</td>
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* Credit may be granted by examination.

+ PBPL 26400 Quantitative Methods in Public Policy may be replaced with a different quantitative course as previously described.

It is recommended that students take an additional course in statistics.
Grading
All courses counting toward the public policy major must be taken for quality grades unless students have prior approval for P/F grading from the undergraduate program chair.

Honors
Fourth-year students are eligible for honors if their overall GPA is 3.4 or higher. Those students are recommended for honors if their BA papers are of substantial quality. For additional information about qualifying for honors, visit the Public Policy Studies website (pbpl.uchicago.edu).

Public Policy Studies - College Courses

PBPL 20000. Economics for Public Policy. 100 Units.
This course develops the microeconomic theories of consumer and producer choices, as well as demonstrates the application of these theoretical tools to policy problems. Supply, demand, and competitive markets are examined, along with the conditions under which government policy can increase efficiency.
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh, Staff Terms Offered: Autumn, Spring
Prerequisite(s): Completion of two quarters of calculus required; prior knowledge of economics not required. For ECON majors and students who have taken ECON 20000: consent of instructor required.
Note(s): PBPL 20000 or ECON 20000 is required of all students who are majoring in public policy. PBPL 20000 satisfies the ECON 20000 prerequisite for PBPL 22200. Students who have taken ECON 20000 require the instructor’s consent to enroll in PBPL 20000.

PBPL 21800. Economics and Environmental Policy. 100 Units.
This course combines basic microeconomic theory and tools with contemporary environmental and resources issues and controversies to examine and analyze public policy decisions. Theoretical points include externalities, public goods, common-property resources, valuing resources, benefit/cost analysis, and risk assessment. Topics include pollution, global climate change, energy use and conservation, recycling and waste management, endangered species and biodiversity, nonrenewable resources, congestion, economic growth and the environment, and equity impacts of public policies.
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): ECON 19800 or higher, or PBPL 20000
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 21800, LLSO 26201

PBPL 22100. Politics and Policy. 100 Units.
This course has two fundamental aims. The first is to introduce students to a set of analytical tools and concepts for understanding how political institutions generate public policy. The second is to apply these tools in examining the major institutions of democracy in the United States.
Instructor(s): C. Berry Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Public Policy 22100-22200-22300 may be taken in and out of sequence.
PBPL 22200. Public Policy Analysis. 100 Units.
This course reviews and augments the basic tools of microeconomics developed in ECON 20000 and applies these tools to policy problems. We examine situations in which private markets are likely to produce unsatisfactory results, suggesting a potential rationale for government intervention. Our goal is to allow students to comprehend, develop, and respond to economics arguments when formulating or evaluating public policy.
Instructor(s): J. Leitzel Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): PBPL 20000 or ECON 20000
Note(s): PBPL 22100-22200-22300 may be taken in or out of sequence. PBPL 22200 is not intended for students majoring in public policy who are planning to specialize in economics or to take advanced economics courses; those students should meet with the program director or administrator to arrange an alternative.

PBPL 22300. Problems of Public Policy Implementation. 100 Units.
Once a governmental policy or program is established, there is the challenge of getting it carried out in ways intended by the policy makers. We explore how obstacles emerge because of problems of hierarchy, competing goals, and cultures of different groups. We then discuss how they may be overcome by groups, as well as by creators and by those responsible for implementing programs. We also look at varying responses of target populations.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): One prior 20000-level social sciences course
Note(s): PBPL 22100-22200-22300 may be taken in or out of sequence.

PBPL 23000. Organizational Analysis. 100 Units.
This course is a systematic introduction to theoretical and empirical work on organizations broadly conceived (e.g., public and private economic organizations, governmental organizations, prisons, professional and voluntary associations, health-care organizations). Topics include intraorganizational questions about organizational goals and effectiveness, communication, authority, and decision making. Using recent developments in market, political economy, and neoinstitutional theories, we explore organizational change and interorganizational relationships for their implications in understanding social change in modern societies.
Instructor(s): E. Laumann Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 20101, SOCI 30101
PBPL 23100. Environmental Law. 100 Units.
This lecture/discussion course examines the development of laws and legal institutions that address environmental problems and advance environmental policies. Topics include the common law background to traditional environmental regulation, the explosive growth and impact of federal environmental laws in the second half of the twentieth century, regulations and the urban environment, and the evolution of local and national legal structures in response to environmental challenges.
Instructor(s): R. Lodato Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Third- or fourth-year standing, or consent of instructor
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 23100, LLSO 23100

PBPL 23200. The Economics of Crime. 100 Units.
This course uses theoretical and empirical economic tools to analyze a wide range of issues related to criminal behavior. Topics include the police, prisons, gang behavior, guns, drugs, capital punishment, labor markets and the macroeconomy, and income inequality. We emphasize the analysis of the optimal role for public policy.
Instructor(s): S. Levitt Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20100 required; ECON 21000 or STAT 23400 strongly recommended
Note(s): This course is offered only in even numbered years.
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 28700

PBPL 23600. Political Sociology. 100 Units.
This course provides analytical perspectives on citizen preference theory, public choice, group theory, bureaucrats and state-centered theory, coalition theory, elite theories, and political culture. These competing analytical perspectives are assessed in considering middle-range theories and empirical studies on central themes of political sociology. Local, national, and cross-national analyses are explored. The course covers readings for the Sociology Ph.D Prelim exam in political sociology.
Instructor(s): T. Clark Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Completion of the general education requirement in social sciences
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 20106, ENST 23500, SOCI 30106

PBPL 24500. Economics of Urban Policies. 100 Units.
This course covers tools needed to analyze urban economics and address urban policy problems. Topics include a basic model of residential location and rents; income, amenities, and neighborhoods; homelessness and urban poverty; decisions on housing purchase versus rental (e.g., housing taxation, housing finance, landlord monitoring); models of commuting mode choice and congestion and transportation pricing and policy; urban growth; and Third World cities.
Instructor(s): G. Tolley, K. Ierulli Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20100
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 26600, GEOG 26600, GEOG 36600, LLSO 26202
PBPL 24510. Gender and Development. 100 Units.
In this class, students will engage basic issues, conflicts, and innovative field research in gender and development. In particular, we will review theoretical foundations of gender and development, data and methods of research on gender and development, psychosocial, economic, political development, intersections of religion and conflict and development, and a review of recent work in international research and impact evaluations related to gender and development.
Instructor(s): A. Gonzalez Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): ECON 19800 or PBPL 22200; STAT 22000 recommended.
Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 14510, SOCI 28070, ECON 14510

PBPL 24701. U.S. Environmental Policy. 100 Units.
Making environmental policy is a diverse and complex process. Environmental advocacy engages different governmental agencies, congressional committees, and courts, depending on the issue. This course examines how such differentiation has affected policy making over the last several decades.
Instructor(s): R. Lodato Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 24701, LLSO 24901

PBPL 24751. The Business of Non-Profits: The Evolving Social Sector. 100 Units.
Led by an experienced practitioner, this course aims to provide both an intellectual and experiential understanding of the contemporary nonprofit sector. In addition to a seminar component examining the rapidly evolving social sector, students engage in a hands-on consulting project for an area nonprofit involving analysis, reporting, and presentation.
Instructor(s): C. Velasquez Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter, Spring
Prerequisite(s): Instructor consent required. During 6th and 7th week, students must submit an application to CampusCATALYST, a nonprofit that assists in the coordination of consulting projects. Please see the quarterly time schedules for the CampusCATALYST application link.

PBPL 24800. Urban Policy Analysis. 100 Units.
This course addresses the explanations available for varying patterns of policies that cities provide in terms of expenditures and service delivery. Topics include theoretical approaches and policy options, migration as a policy option, group theory, citizen preference theory, incrementalism, economic base influences, and an integrated model. Also examined are the New York fiscal crisis and taxpayer revolts, measuring citizen preferences, service delivery, and productivity.
Instructor(s): T. Clark Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 30120, SOCI 20120
PBPL 24901. Trade, Development, and Poverty in Mexico. 100 Units.
Taking the past twenty years as its primary focus, this course examines the impact of economic globalization across Mexico with particular emphasis on the border region and the rural South. We explore the impact of NAFTA and the shift to neoliberal policies in Mexico. In particular, we examine the human dimension of these broad changes as related to social development, immigration, indigenous populations, and poverty. While primarily critical, the primary objective of the course is to engage in an interdisciplinary exploration of the question: Is trade liberalization an effective development strategy for poor Mexicans?
Instructor(s): C. Broughton Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): This course is offered in alternate years.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 24901, LACS 24901

PBPL 25120. Child Development and Public Policy. 100 Units.
The goal of this course is to introduce students to the literature on early child development and explore how an understanding of core developmental concepts can inform social policies. This goal will be addressed through an integrated, multidisciplinary approach. The course will emphasize research on the science of early child development from the prenatal period through school entry. The central debate about the role of early experience in development will provide a unifying strand for the course. Students will be introduced to research in neuroscience, psychology, economics, sociology, and public policy as it bears on questions about “what develops?”, critical periods in development, the nature vs. nurture debate, and the ways in which environmental contexts (e.g., parents, families, peers, schools, institutions, communities) affect early development and developmental trajectories. The first part of the course will introduce students to the major disciplinary streams in the developmental sciences and the enduring and new debates and perspectives within the field. The second part will examine the multiple contexts of early development to understand which aspects of young children’s environments affect their development and how those impacts arise. Throughout the course, we will explore how the principles of early childhood development can guide the design of policies and practices that enhance the healthy development of young children, particularly for those living in adverse circumstances, and thereby build a strong foundation for promoting equality of opportunity, reducing social class disparities in life outcomes, building human capital, fostering economic prosperity, and generating positive social change. In doing so, we will critically examine the evidence on whether the contexts of children’s development are amenable to public policy intervention and the costs and benefits of different policy approaches.
Instructor(s): A. Kalil Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Attendance on the first day of class is required or registration will be dropped.
Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 25120, PSYC 25120
PBPL 25370. Social Justice and Social Policy. 100 Units.
What is a fair policy? Policy makers often appeal to justice, fairness or rights to justify policy. Yet it is often unclear what exactly these concepts mean. This class will examine contemporary theories of justice and teach students how these theories can be applied to public policy issues. We will start with three general theories of justice: utilitarianism, liberal equality and libertarianism. We will then discuss more specific issues pertaining to marginalized groups such as immigrants or the disabled. Finally, we will examine empirical evidence about peoples’ fairness beliefs in the US and abroad. The course will allow students to form a more coherent notion of what they think is fair, while understanding that rational people can legitimately disagree with each other about what is fair.
Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): I. Marinescu

PBPL 25405. Child Poverty and Chicago Schools. 100 Units.
This discussion- and debate-based course begins with a sociological and historical examination of child poverty, focusing on its origin, experience, and perpetuation in disadvantaged Chicago communities. Class meetings will involve debating school reform efforts, such as “turnaround” schools, charter schools, Promise Neighborhoods, and stepped-up teacher evaluations. Further, the barriers that have contributed to the failure of previous reform initiatives—barriers that include social isolation, violence, and the educational system itself—will be identified and analyzed in-depth.
Instructor(s): C. Broughton Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): 2nd year standing required; attendance on the first day of class is required or registration will be dropped.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 25405

PBPL 25630. Poverty, Work, and Family Policy. 100 Units.
This course examines contemporary policy questions of concern to families, especially low-income working families. The course will consider demographic, labor market, and policy trends affecting family economic well-being and child outcomes; conceptual frameworks and policy debates concerning the responsibility of government, corporate, and informal sectors to address family needs; and specific policy and program responses directed at (1) improving employment and economic outcomes and (2) reconciling the competing demands of employment and parenting. Throughout the course, we will consider the ideological, conceptual, and empirical bases for the issues we study. Although our primary focus will be on issues affecting low-income families in the United States, relevant comparisons will be made throughout the course—cross-nationally, across race/ethnicity, and across income.
Instructor(s): J. Henly Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Third- or fourth-year standing; second-year students require instructor consent.
PBPL 25810. Social Problems, Social Policy, & Social Change. 100 Units.
This course is designed to provide an analytic framework that enables students to understand how social problems are socially constructed, how social policies are created in response to those identified problems, and how social change efforts both shape and respond to the policy environment. During the quarter, we will examine how social problems, policies and programs are framed, reframed, and addressed and how individuals, organizations, and relevant constituencies are involved in these processes. In addition to providing an overview of the relationship between social problems, social policy, social change efforts, the course encourages critical thought about the role of professionals (social workers, activists, journalists, etc.) in constructing and contesting social problems and solutions.
Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): J. Mosley

PBPL 26200-26300. Field Research Project in Public Policy I-II.
These courses are designed to expose students to real-world policy-making questions and field-based research methodologies. The courses PBPL 26200 and PBPL 26300 can be offered as a two-quarter practicum project, or can be offered in one-quarter, standalone versions. Though the projects differ considerably among students and quarters, typically practicum students work together on designing the research project, gathering information, analyzing data, and presenting findings. Past practicums have connected with a variety of clients including the Chicago Cultural Alliance, the City’s Department of Family and Support Services, the Logan Center for the Arts, and the Woodlawn Public Safety Alliance. Both PBPL 26200 and PBPL 26300 generally are offered twice during an academic year. A standalone version of PBPL 26200 meets a student’s “Methods” requirement, while a standalone version of PBPL 26300 meets the “Windows” requirement.
Instructor(s): C. Broughton, Staff
Prerequisite(s): Open only to public policy studies majors. Third year standing recommended.
Note(s): Not offered in 2015–16
PBPL 26300. Field Research Project in Public Policy II. 100 Units.
Instructor(s): C. Broughton, Staff
Prerequisite(s): PBPL 26200; open only to public policy studies majors. Third year standing recommended.
Note(s): Not offered in 2015–16

PBPL 26300. Field Research Project in Public Policy II. 100 Units.
Instructor(s): C. Broughton, Staff
Prerequisite(s): PBPL 26200; open only to public policy studies majors. Third year standing recommended.
Note(s): Not offered in 2015–16

PBPL 26301. Field Research Project in Public Policy. 100 Units.
This one-quarter, project-based research course introduces students to hands-on social and policy research in the service of a client. Students will engage in a variety of field research methods, both quantitative and qualitative, in order to gather data on sociological and policy-based questions related to the needs of our community-based, not-for-profit clients. Students will use the data they gather to practice their write-up and presentation skills, culminating in a final research-based client presentation and extended memo.
Instructor(s): C. Broughton, Staff Terms Offered: Autumn, Spring
Prerequisite(s): Open only to public policy studies majors. Third-year standing recommended.
Note(s): This course satisfies the Public Policy windows practicum requirement and is intended only for that purpose. This stand-alone course PBPL 26301 cannot be taken after completing PBPL 26300 without prior department approval.

PBPL 26400. Quantitative Methods in Public Policy. 100 Units.
This course involves a problem-by-problem investigation of how to apply the right statistics to contemporary public policy issues (in contrast to the method-by-method approach traditionally used to teach statistics). Quantitative public policy involves the use of four core methodologies: analysis of cross-tabulations, ordinary least squares regression, logistic regression, and analysis of variance. This course prepares students to understand scholarly articles using these four methods. We use a case analysis approach teaching specific decision algorithms in the application of the four methods. We also conduct analyses in SPSS using General Social Survey data and write up the results.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn, Spring
PBPL 26530. Environment, Agriculture, and Food: Economic and Policy Analysis. 100 Units.
The connections between environment, agriculture, and food are inherent in our social, cultural, and economic networks. Land use, natural resource management, energy balances, and environmental impacts are all important components in the evolution of agricultural systems. Therefore it is important to develop ways in which to understand these connections in order to design effective agricultural programs and policies. This course is designed to provide students with guidance on the models and tools needed to conduct an economic research study on the intersecting topics of environment, agriculture, and food. Students learn how to develop original research ideas using a quantitative and applied economic policy analysis for professional and scholarly audiences. Students collect, synthesize, and analyze data using economic and statistical tools. Students provide outcomes and recommendations based on scholarly, objective, and policy relevant research rather than on advocacy or opinions, and produce a final professional-quality report for a workshop presentation and publication. This small seminar course is open by instructor consent to undergraduate and graduate students who meet the prerequisites. For consideration, please submit a one-page proposal of research to pge@uchicago.edu.
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20000 or ECON 20100 or PBPL 20000 or PBPL 22200 (or equivalent), STAT 22000 or STAT 23400 or PBPL 26400 (or equivalent); for ECON
Enrollment: ECON 20000 and ECON 20100, STAT 23400
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 26530,ECON 26530,PPHA 32510

PBPL 26531. Environment, Agriculture, and Food: Advanced Economic and Policy Analysis. 100 Units.
This course is an extension of ENST 26530 but also stands alone as a complete course itself. Students don’t need to take ENST 26530 to enroll in this course. This small seminar course is open by instructor consent to undergraduate and graduate students who meet the prerequisites. For consideration, please submit a one-page proposal of research to pge@uchicago.edu.
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20000 or ECON 20100 or PBPL 20000 or PBPL 22200 (or equivalent), STAT 22000 or STAT 23400 or PBPL 26400 (or equivalent); for ECON
Enrollment: ECON 20000 and ECON 20100, STAT 23400
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 26531,ECON 26540,PPHA 32520
PBPL 26700. Economics of Education. 100 Units.
This course explores economic models of the demand for and supply of different forms of schooling. The course examines the markets for primary, secondary, and post-secondary schooling. The course examines numerous public policy questions, such as the role of government in funding or subsidizing education, the design of public accountability systems, the design of systems that deliver publicly funded (and possibly provided) education, and the relationship between education markets and housing markets.
Instructor(s): D. Neal Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): ECON 21000
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 26700

PBPL 27000. International Economics. 100 Units.
This course covers international economics with an emphasis on international trade. The basic theories of international trade are introduced and used to analyze welfare and distributional effects of international trade, government policies, and technology diffusion. In addition, this course also discusses the main empirical patterns of international trade and international investment.
Instructor(s): F. Tintelnot Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20100
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 27000

PBPL 27040. Public Finance and Public Policy. 100 Units.
This course analyzes the rationales for government intervention in the economy, the form that intervention takes, and the effects of government policy. We will review the economic tools of analysis used in public finance, including cost-benefit analysis, and apply them to government policies, largely at the federal level. The course will focus on policies to remedy externalities, the provision of public goods, social insurance, and the effects of taxes. Within social insurance, we will cover social security and health reform. We will also explore the role taxation plays in government policy. Tax topics include the effect of taxes on consumers and firms, savings and corporate decisions, and fundamental tax reform.
Instructor(s): A. Jones Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): PBPL 20000 or ECON 20000

PBPL 27501. Regulating Speech. 100 Units.
This course concerns private and public policy with respect to speech and expression. Varieties of speech considered include blasphemy, obscenity, and advertising. Policies considered include prohibition; taxation; licensing; and time, place, and manner controls. The intellectual framework employed for the evaluation of various policies is primarily economic and legal, though other disciplines also are drawn upon.
Instructor(s): J. Leitzel Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course is offered in alternate years.
PBPL 27750-27751. Practicum in Environment, Agriculture, and Food Policy I-II.  
This course sequence is designed to acquaint students to real-world policy-making questions. Students will work together, along with an organizational partner, on designing and conducting a research project. Course work will involve academic literature reviews, various forms of data collection, research design, statistical analysis, and presentation of a final report. Previous projects have included certification of green restaurants in Chicago, mapping of campus green roofs in Chicago, transportation research for a Chicago museum exhibit, and design of incentive programs for storm water management in Chicago. Students in the course will also handle all aspects of running the Environment, Agriculture, and Food Working Group (eaf.uchicago.edu), including communication and outreach through website content and social media. Completion of the two-quarter sequence satisfies the undergraduate public policy studies practicum requirement.

PBPL 27750. Practicum in Environment, Agriculture, and Food Policy I. 100 Units.  
This course sequence is designed to acquaint students to real-world policy-making questions. Students will work together, along with an organizational partner, on designing and conducting a research project. Course work will involve academic literature reviews, various forms of data collection, research design, statistical analysis, and presentation of a final report. Previous projects have included certification of green restaurants in Chicago, mapping of campus green roofs in Chicago, transportation research for a Chicago museum exhibit, and design of incentive programs for storm water management in Chicago. Students in the course will also handle all aspects of running the Environment, Agriculture, and Food Working Group (eaf.uchicago.edu), including communication and outreach through website content and social media. Completion of the two-quarter sequence satisfies the undergraduate public policy studies practicum requirement.  
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh  
Terms Offered: Autumn  
Prerequisite(s): Open only to Public Policy majors and Environmental Studies majors and minors  
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 27750

PBPL 27751. Practicum in Environment, Agriculture, and Food Policy II. 100 Units.  
No description available.  
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh  
Terms Offered: Winter  
Prerequisite(s): Open only to Public Policy majors and Environmental Studies majors and minors  
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 27751

PBPL 27751. Practicum in Environment, Agriculture, and Food Policy II. 100 Units.  
No description available.  
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh  
Terms Offered: Winter  
Prerequisite(s): Open only to Public Policy majors and Environmental Studies majors and minors  
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 27751
PBPL 27820. Schools and Communities. 100 Units.
This course focuses on the relationship between the organization of schools and communities with an emphasis on school reform. The readings represent historical, anthropological, and sociological perspectives as we explore questions about the purpose and history of public schools, the influences on the character of their structure and organization (especially in urban contexts), and how these institutions might be improved. The topics detailed below provide essential intellectual perspectives on the history, work, and complexities of reforming urban schools. Instructor(s): S. Stoelinga, K. Kapadia Matsko Terms Offered: Autumn Prerequisite(s): Consent required; consent obtained by application only; to apply, please email Nahida Teliani nteliani@uchicago.edu; preference given to UChicago Careers in Education Professions students; no first-year students admitted.

PBPL 27821. Urban Schools and Communities. 100 Units.
This course explores the intersection of urban schools and community, with a focus on the evolution of urban communities, families, and the organization of schools. It emphasizes historical, anthropological, and sociological perspectives as we explore questions about the purpose and history of public schools, and factors that influence the character of school structure and organization in urban contexts, such as poverty, segregation, student mobility, etc. The topics covered provide essential intellectual perspectives on the history, work, and complexities of urban schools with a particular focus on the communities that surround them. Instructor(s): S. Stoelinga, K. Matsko Terms Offered: Spring Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 27821, SOCI 20226

PBPL 27900. Global-Local Politics. 100 Units.
Globalizing and local forces are generating a new politics in the United States and around the world. This course explores this new politics by mapping its emerging elements: the rise of social issues, ethno-religious and regional attachments, environmentalism, gender and life-style identity issues, new social movements, transformed political parties and organized groups, and new efforts to mobilize individual citizens. Instructor(s): T. Clark Terms Offered: Winter Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 20116, HMRT 20116, HMRT 30116, SOCI 30116

PBPL 28050. Remaking Chicago: The City that Works on Social Change. 100 Units.
In this sociological and policy-oriented course, students interface with change-agents in Chicago—community residents, religious leaders, and social activists; not-for-profit and governmental actors; and educators and researchers. The course explores how these change-agents advance innovative and also tried-and-true approaches to social problems, especially those of low-income areas characterized by troubled schools and high rates of crime (and with a particular focus on South Side neighborhoods). Students are asked to think critically about how meaningful social change occurs, and why it so often does not. The central components of the course are Chicago-oriented readings, guest speakers and panels, Friday excursions, and independent field research. Instructor(s): C. Broughton Terms Offered: Spring Prerequisite(s): Open to Study Chicago Program students.
PBPL 28270. Economics and International Health. 100 Units.
This course uses the tools of applied microeconomics to explore public health issues in the developing world. The course will develop an economic approach to health and health behavior, and examine how health care markets in developing countries mediate the welfare of patients. We will consider the economic aspects of HIV, malaria, diarrhea, and air pollution. Along the way, we will weigh the merits of common policy responses to these problems.
Instructor(s): D. Bennett Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Econ 19800, Econ 20000 or PBPL 20000 (Microeconomics) and a Statistics course or consent of the instructor.

PBPL 28350. Education and Development: Policy and Research. 100 Units.
This course covers policy issues related to education in developing contexts. We will analyze education policies and reforms, review relevant research on each topic, and examine implications of the findings to policy and practice. Topics include understanding factors that influence educational decisions, provision of basic needs in schools, teacher pay and incentives, school choice, discrimination and inclusion in education, early childhood education, and education in emergency settings. We will often have guest speakers who are working in policy and practice share their on-the-ground experiences followed by a class-led discussion about related academic papers.
Instructor(s): A. Adukia Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): A microeconomics course and a statistics course. This course is intended for third- and fourth-year students; first-year students not admitted; second-year students require instructor consent.

PBPL 28501. Process and Policy in State and City Government. 100 Units.
This course consists of three interrelated sub-sections: (1) process and policy in city and state government; (2) the role played by influential, key officials in determining policy outcomes; and (3) policymaking during and after a political crisis. Issues covered include isolating the core principles driving policy at city and state levels; understanding how high level elected officials can shape the course of policy; and determining how a political crisis affects policy processes and outcomes. Most of the specific cases are drawn from Chicago and the State of Illinois.
Instructor(s): C. Harris Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter, Spring

PBPL 28605. Economic Analysis of Law. 100 Units.
This course involves the application of the choice theory of economics to the opportunities obtainable within different legal environments. The likelihood that a person will choose to return a lost wallet, keep a promise, drive more carefully, or heed the terms in a will is partly a function of the applicable laws and regulations. Alternative rules, under the standard Law and Economics approach, are compared in terms of the economic efficiency of their subsequent outcomes. This efficiency lens of Law and Economics is applied to rules concerning property, torts, contracts, and criminal behavior.
Instructor(s): J. Leitzel Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): ECON 20100
Equivalent Course(s): ECON 28600
PBPL 28702. Electoral Politics. 100 Units.
This course involves the scientific study of elections in advanced democracies with a primary focus on the modern United States. We will address empirical and theoretical questions about voters, candidates, parties, and the electoral system as a whole. For example, who runs for political office? How do they choose their policy platforms? How do citizens form their vote choices? Who turns out to vote and why? Who is informed and why? Does it matter that many citizens abstain from politics and are uninformed? What roles do race, ethnicity, and prejudice play in elections? What role does the media play? What laws and policies could improve political participation and political representation? We will address these questions through the applications of game theory, microeconomic theory, and most importantly quantitative/statistical analysis.
Instructor(s): A. Fowler Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Basic familiarity with American politics and statistics is required.

PBPL 28805. Behavioral Economics and Policy. 100 Units.
The standard theory of rational choice exhibits explanatory power in a vast range of circumstances, including such disparate decision making environments as whether to commit a crime, have children, or seek to emigrate. Nonetheless, shortfalls from full rationality seem not to be uncommon, and are themselves, to some extent, systematic. Behavioral economics documents and tries to account for these departures from full rationality. This course looks at areas in which some modification of the traditional rational choice apparatus might most be warranted; these include decisions that unfold over time, involve low probability events, or implicate willpower. To what extent should public policy respond to shortfalls from rationality or concern itself with promoting happiness?
Instructor(s): J. Leitzel Terms Offered: Spring

PBPL 29000. Energy and Energy Policy. 100 Units.
This course shows how scientific constraints affect economic and other policy decisions regarding energy, what energy-based issues confront our society, how we may address them through both policy and scientific study, and how the policy and scientific aspects can and should interact. We address specific technologies and the policy questions associated with each, as well as with more overarching aspects of energy policy that may affect several, perhaps many, technologies.
Instructor(s): S. Berry, G. Tolley Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): PQ: Third- or fourth-year standing. For ECON majors who want ECON credit for this course (ECON 26800): PQ is ECON 20100.
Equivalent Course(s): CHSS 37502,ECON 26800,ENST 29000,PPHA 39201,PSMS 39000,BPRO 29000
PBPL 29120. Poverty Law and Policy Reform. 100 Units.
This seminar seeks to give students a comprehensive understanding of the major anti-poverty programs in the United States with an emphasis on current challenges and reform proposals. We will spend the first half of the course exploring the implementation and evaluation of the programs that make up the traditional safety net for poor Americans: income supports, health insurance, and housing assistance. We will spend the rest of the quarter exploring topics that complicate the traditional social policy regime, including how the safety net is more robust for some groups, such as the elderly and veterans, than others. We will explore how the legal systems of immigration and incarceration hamper anti-poverty policy and how safety net programs address the needs of rural and Native Americans. Finally, we will investigate two recent developments in the field: social entrepreneurship and the critique of procedural rights.
Instructor(s): A. Hammond Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): No first year students; attendance on the first day of class is required.
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 29120

PBPL 29355. Seminar: Leading Complex Organizations. 100 Units.
In virtually any field of endeavor, individuals will find themselves operating within organizations — many of them quite complex. By studying leadership of such organizations at the outset of a career, individuals will learn how to better succeed within any organization and will attain a level of preparation for assuming leadership positions if they ultimately become available. The seminar will cover a number of critical subjects: the difference between leadership and management; the development of the organization’s sense of mission and the strategy to achieve it; organizational culture; building and leading a team; addressing major decisions, organizational transformation and crises; how a leader relates to an organization’s governing body and external constituencies; how leaders are held accountable. At various points in the seminar, we will be joined by, and learn insights from, current or former leaders of corporations, not-for-profits, professional services firms and governmental entities.
Instructor(s): T. Cole
Prerequisite(s): 3rd or 4th year students admitted.
PBPL 29411. Mediation, Moderation, and Spillover Effects. 100 Units.
This course is designed for graduate students and advanced undergraduate students from social sciences, statistics, public health science, public policy, and social services administration who will be or are currently involved in quantitative research. Questions about why a treatment works, for whom, under what conditions, and whether one individual’s treatment could affect other individuals’ outcomes are often key to the advancement of scientific knowledge. We will clarify the theoretical concepts of mediated effects, moderated effects, and spillover effects under the potential outcomes framework. The course introduces cutting-edge methodological approaches and contrasts them with conventional strategies including multiple regression, path analysis, and structural equation modeling. The course content is organized around application examples. The textbook “Causality in a Social World: Moderation, Mediation, and Spill-Over” (Hong, 2015) will be supplemented with other readings reflecting latest developments and controversies. Weekly labs will provide tutorials and hands-on experiences. All students are expected to contribute to the knowledge building in class through participation in presentations and discussions. Students are encouraged to form study groups, while the written assignments are to be finished and graded on an individual basis. Intermediate Statistics, Introduction to Causal Inference, and their equivalent are prerequisites.
Instructor(s): G. Hong Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Intermediate Statistics, Introduction to Causal Inference, and their equivalent
Note(s): CHDV Distribution, M*; M*
Equivalent Course(s): PSYC 32411, STAT 33211, CCTS 32411, SOCI 30318, CHDV 32411

PBPL 29600. Internship: Public Policy. 100 Units.
Students write a paper about their experience working for a government agency or nonprofit organization.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter, Spring
Prerequisite(s): Consent of program chair
Note(s): Open only to students who are majoring in public policy. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. Must be taken for P/F grading. Students must make arrangements with the program chair before beginning the internship.

PBPL 29700. Reading and Research: Public Policy. 100 Units.
No description available.
Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter, Spring
Prerequisite(s): Open only to students who are majoring in public policy
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.
PBPL 29701. Readings and Research: Working Group in Environment, Agriculture, and Food (EAF) 100 Units.
This course consists of participation in the Environment, Agriculture, and Food Group in a role assigned by the instructor.
Instructor(s): S. Shaikh Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Registration by instructor consent only
Note(s): Please email Sabina Shaikh at sabina@uchicago.edu.
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 29701

PBPL 29800. Senior Seminar. 100 Units.
PBPL 29800, the Senior Seminar, is offered in Autumn Quarter and is designed to assist students in developing and writing the required BA paper. Students register for PBPL 29800 in Autumn Quarter and continue to work throughout Winter and Spring Quarters with a BA Seminar instructor/preceptor (and possibly faculty advisers) in revising their BA papers. The Autumn Quarter class informs students about sources, methods of research, and treatment of evidence. The instructor/preceptor of the Senior Seminar serves as a reader for the BA papers. Students may choose a faculty adviser as a second reader—though second readers are not required. Outstanding BA papers can earn an honors designation. As part of the BA process, students write a policy memo that distills their BA research and, in early April, present their BA papers at the yearly Public Policy undergraduate research symposium for graduating seniors.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Open only to fourth-year students who are majoring in public policy
Note(s): Must be taken for a quality grade.

PBPL 29900. BA Paper Preparation: Public Policy. 100 Units.
No description available.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter, Spring
Prerequisite(s): Open only to fourth-year students who are majoring in public policy
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.