

## Bachelor of Science in Public Policy

The Public Policy major is designed for students interested in policy issues, politics, public administration, and related areas like policy analysis and policy advocacy. The program explores a myriad of critical issues facing our communities, the nation, and the world. Students receive the educational foundation for careers in the public sector, in government-related businesses, and in non-profit organizations, as well as for graduate work in the fields of law, public administration, criminal justice, public policy, political science, and health care administration. Building on the program core, students may choose electives from a broad array of courses in public policy and other areas



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Content reviewed and approved Fri September 1, 2023 10:56:34 am



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**PennState**  
Harrisburg

**School of Public Affairs**



**Bachelor of Science in  
Public Policy**

## Curriculum

Students may wish but are not required to pursue a concentration within the Public Policy major. The following concentrations are available:

- U.S. Public Policy
- Law and Justice
- International Policy

Students should consult their adviser for a complete listing of courses in each of these concentrations. Overall, the Public Policy program seeks to advance the ideals of an active, informed citizenry and a commitment to public service.

For a B.S. degree in Public Policy, a minimum of 120 credits is required.

### Entry to the Major

Entry to the Public Policy major requires a 2.00 or higher cumulative grade-point average and an average of C (2.00) or better in any course already taken in the major.

## Testimonials

Since I have been in the Public Policy program, I have had the advantage of each professor having a varied working knowledge within several facets of politics. This has proven to be a key asset in obtaining the crucial tools providing the building blocks that employers are looking for. It's nice to put in all of this hard work and in the end the program *does* work for you.

### Nicholas Fallon

*Department of Community  
and Economic  
Development, Swatara  
Township*

## Courses

For a B.S. degree in Public Policy, a minimum of 120 credits is required.

In addition to [General Education requirements](#) (45 credits), this major requires the following:

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR:** 65 credits  
(This includes 6 credits of General Education GS courses.)  
(At least 15 credits must be at the 400 level.)

**PRESCRIBED COURSES** (15 credits)[1]  
ECON 102 GS(3), ECON 104 GS(3), PL SC 001 GS(3),  
PL SC 309(3), PUBPL 304W(3) (Sem: 1-6)

**ADDITIONAL COURSES** (18 credits)  
Select 9 credits from the following: PL SC 300-499(3),  
PUBPL 241(3), PUBPL 300-499(3) (Sem: 1-8)

*Select 6 credits from the following:* PL SC 419(3), PL  
SC 425(3), PL SC 444(3), PL SC 488(3), PL SC 489(3),  
PUBPL 305(3) (Sem: 5-8)

*Select 3 credits from the following:* PUBPL 480(3),  
PUBPL 481(3), PUBPL 482(3), PUBPL 483(3), PUBPL  
484(3), PUBPL 485(3), PUBPL 490(3) (Sem: 5-8)

**SUPPORTING COURSES AND RELATED  
AREAS** (32 credits)

Select 12 credits from the following: ACCTG 200-  
499(3), AFRAS 300-499(3), AM ST 300-499(3), BE SC  
300-499(3), COMMS 300-499(3), CRIMJ 300-499(3),  
ECON 300-499(3), ENVE 460(3), FIN 300-499(3), HIST  
300-499(3), MGMT 300-499(3), MKTG 300-499(3),  
SCLSC 300-499(3), SO SC 300-499(3), SOC 300-  
499(3), SRA 211(3), WMNST 300-499(3) (Sem: 5-8)

Select 20 credits in consultation with an academic  
adviser and in support of the student's interests (Sem:  
5-8)

[1] A student enrolled in this major must receive a  
grade of C or better, as specified in Senate Policy 82-  
44.

## Undergraduate Admissions Requirements

Minimum high school course requirements for admission to baccalaureate (four-year) degree programs are listed below. Keep in mind that specific programs may have additional requirements or recommendations.

### English

Four units, including one unit each in composition and literature, are required.

### Social Studies/Art/Humanities

Three units in any combination of social studies, arts, and humanities are required.

### World Language

Two units in a single world language other than English are required. However, a student may be admitted with fewer than two units in a world language other than English, but must correct this deficiency by the time s/he earns 60 credits or graduates from Penn State, whichever comes first. This deficiency may be corrected by passing one three- or four-credit college level world language course or by demonstrating proficiency equivalent to two units of high school world language study.

Either a third unit in the same language or an additional unit in a second world language other than English is recommended.

### Science

Three units of science are required  
Preparation in chemistry and physics is recommended but not required for our Science and Engineering/Engineering Technology programs

### Math

Three units of mathematics are required (four are recommended), selected from any combination of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry  
Some programs have additional mathematics requirements. Our Business, Engineering/Engineering Technology, and Science programs require one-half unit of trigonometry or higher level math within the required three units

Penn State requires proof of graduation or a GED for admission to four-year degree programs.

\*In most high school curricula, one unit = one year.

Visit Undergraduate Admissions: Admissions Requirements for more information (<http://goo.gl/eVGAMB>)