INDIANA UNIVERSITY

University Graduate School
2007–2008
Academic Bulletin

Public Policy

Combined Degree Program

College of Arts and Sciences
School of Public and Environmental Affairs
Bloomington

Director
Professor Emeritus Roger B. Parks*

Departmental E-mail
speainfo@indiana.edu

Note: Be sure to specify the program in which you are interested in when sending mail.

Departmental URL
www.spea.indiana.edu/

Graduate Faculty

(An asterisk [*] denotes membership in the University Graduate School faculty with the endorsement to direct doctoral dissertations.)

Department of Political Science

See listing under Political Science.

School of Public and Environmental Affairs

See listing under Public Affairs.

Academic Advisor
Associate Professor David Reingold*, SPEA 441, (812) 855-2457

Degree Offered

Doctor of Philosophy

Special Departmental and School Requirements

See also general University Graduate School requirements.

Doctor of Philosophy Degree

The joint Ph.D. Program in Public Policy is a collaborative endeavor of the Department of Political Science and the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA). Its emphasis is on the broad field of public policy, concerning the environment of public policy; the processes of policy formation, management, and implementation; and the analysis and evaluation of policy outputs and results. The institutional setting and design of the program offer a unique educational opportunity. Students in the program receive rigorous social science training and gain knowledge of government decision making processes, problem-solving capabilities, and an understanding of the substantive aspects of public problems and their effects on public institutions.

Admission
All applicants to the public policy program are subject to approval by a SPEA-Department of Political Science joint admissions committee. **Application materials can be found at www.gradapp.indiana.edu/.** Applicants for admission and for financial assistance are required to submit a statement of career goals, official results of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work, and a minimum of three letters of recommendation. Students whose native language is not English must also submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The Joint Program Committee in Admissions and Financial Aid examines each application closely to determine suitability for the program. The committee looks beyond the formal academic record at the applicant's demonstrated ability to pursue independent study, language and research-skill training, and maturity and experience.

Advisory Committee
The advisory committee must include at least two faculty members from SPEA and two from the Department of Political Science. Members of the committee who hold joint appointments are considered representatives of their primary unit. The chairperson of the committee serves as the student's principal advisor. Early in the student's program term—no later than the third semester—the committee provides the student with a formal review of the progress made toward the degree.

Degree Requirements

The Graduate School requires doctoral students to complete 90 hours of graduate credit. Typically, two-thirds of the 90 hours are taken in formal course work and one-third in thesis credit. Students holding a Master's in Public Administration or similar degree may be allowed to transfer some if their graduate course work (30 hours maximum) if approved by their Progress Review Committee.

Core Requirements

Public Policy students are required to complete the following courses:

SPEA V680 Research Design and Methods in Public Affairs (3 cr.) **or**
POLS Y570 Introduction to the Study of Politics (3 cr.)

SPEA V690 Seminar in Public Policy Process (3 cr.) **or**
POLS Y565 Public Administration, Law, and Policy: Approaches and Issues (3 cr.)
This course is offered alternately each fall semester by SPEA (V690) and the Department of Political Science (Y565).

SPEAV691 Workshop in Public Policy (1 cr.)

Each student is required to take this 1 credit hour course for six semesters. The workshop features research presentations by faculty, visiting scholars, and advanced students. It prepares students to critique current literature in the field, to prepare manuscripts for presentation and publication, and to

defend their ideas and theories. There are two sections offered: one by SPEA and the other by the Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis.

SPEA V621 Seminar in Teaching Public and Environmental Affairs (2 cr.) **or**
POLS Y550 Political Science and Professional Development (1-3 cr.)

These courses prepare students for college teaching and their professional responsibilities toward current and future students. They are taken in a student's first year in the program.

Research Tool Skills

Required course work for research skills includes a basic two-semester statistics sequence and two additional elective courses or proficiency in a foreign language.

Basic Tool Skills:

The two-semester quantitative analysis sequence requirement is generally fulfilled through one of the course sequences listed below.

SPEA V606 Statistics for Research in Public Affairs I (3 cr.) **and**
SPEA V607 Statistics for Research in Public Affairs II (3 cr.)

POLS Y575 Political Data Analysis I (3 cr.) **and**
POLS Y576 Political Data Analysis II (3 cr.)

SOC S554 Statistical Techniques in Sociology I (3 cr.) **and**
SOC S650 Statistical Techniques in Sociology II (3 cr.)

Advanced Tool Skills:

In addition, students must demonstrate either (1) advanced proficiency in quantitative analysis or specialized research skills by completing two additional courses approved by the student's Progress Review Committee, **or** (2) proficiency in a language appropriate to his/her field of study approved by the Progress Review Committee. To qualify as language-proficient, a student must take a language proficiency exam from the appropriate language department at Indiana University.

Fields of Concentration

The School of Public and Environmental Affairs and the Department of Political Science share equally in delivering public policy as the major field of preparation and specialization. Students in the Public Policy program select two concentration areas—one from SPEA and one from Political Science—in addition to the required concentration in public policy.

The fields of concentration include the following:

SPEA   **Political Science**

Environmental Policy   American Politics

Public Management   Comparative Politics

Public Finance   International Relations

Urban Policy   Political Philosophy

                              Political Theory and Methodology

There are course offerings in SPEA and Political Science that help the student prepare for examinations in these fields, and students supplement their coursework with directed readings and research. There is no predetermined set of courses required of all students. Course selection is the responsibility of the student working with his or her Progress Review Committee.

Major Junctures

Progress Review Committee

The Progress Review Committee consists of from four to six faculty members. Two SPEA faculty must be selected for the SPEA concentration and two Political Science faculty for the Political Science concentration. For the shared public policy concentration there must be one SPEA and one Political Science faculty member. One faculty member is chosen by the student to act as the chair of the committee. The chairperson serves as the student's mentor and guides him/her through the Progress Review and qualifying examination process.

Prior to the meeting of the Progressive Review Committee, the student develops a Progress Review Statement. The statement needs to include background professional and educational information, course work completed and planned in each concentration and for basic and advanced tool skills, and tentative dates for taking qualifying exams and a discussion of a proposed dissertation topic. Once approved by the committee, the statement serves as a contract for the completion of degree requirements.

Qualifying Examinations

After a student has completed the course work for a concentration s/he is eligible to take the qualifying exam for that concentration. With the exception of the Political Science concentration, each student's exam schedule is negotiated with his/her exam committee. The Political Science Department gives field exams twice a year at times scheduled by the department. For the policy exam and the School of Public and Environmental Affair's concentration exams, the exams are written by the members of the Progressive Review Committee representing those areas.

Dissertation

After filing for candidacy status, the doctoral candidate forms a Research Committee consisting of at least four faculty members. Two of the members must be School of Public and Environmental Affairs faculty and two must be from Political Science. This committee may, but will not necessarily, be identical to the Progress Review Committee. Instead, the selection of committee members should reflect the dissertation topic and expertise of the faculty chosen.

The candidate prepares a dissertation proposal which s/he then presents and defends in a meeting of the Research Committee. The committee will review the research proposal and require changes as needed.

Once the dissertation research is completed, the candidate defends the thesis in an open oral examination meeting. The Research Committee is ultimately responsible for determining whether the dissertation is acceptable.

Placement

The Ph.D. office, the director of the program, and individual faculty work hard to ensure that graduates of the program are placed in academic or research organizations. Graduates of the Joint Program in Public Policy have been very successful in obtaining such positions. Recent placements include George Washington University, Emory University, Kennesaw State University, Minnesota State University, Ohio State University, the University of Arizona, Ulsan University (South Korea), the University of Massachusetts, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the University of Washington.