

BA in Public Policy

Program Codes:

20GP5366BA

Degree Requirements

To earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from UIC, students must complete university, college, and department degree requirements. The Department of Public Policy, Management, and Analytics degree requirements are outlined below. Students should consult the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs section for additional degree requirements and college academic policies. Elective courses may have prerequisites.

Code	Title	Hours
Summary of Requirements		
General and Basic Education Requirements		29-33
Core Program Requirements		36
Electives		51-55
Total Hours		120

Basic and General Education Requirements ^a

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
UPA 120	Urban and Public Affairs Seminar I ^b	1
UPA 121	Urban and Public Affairs Seminar II ^b	1
ENGL 160 & ENGL 161	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts and Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	6
MATH 110	College Algebra	4
ECON 120	Principles of Microeconomics ^c	4
Understanding the Past course ^d		3
Understanding the Creative Arts course ^d		3
Exploring World Cultures course ^d		3
Analyzing the Natural World course ^d		3-5
One elective course from any General Education Core category ^d		3
Total Hours		29-33

a The University General Education Core requirement is a total of 24 semester hours distributed across the six categories. Two required courses in the major are approved for General Education credit and count toward the student's 24 hours of General Education Core courses, including the Understanding U.S. Society category.

b Required for new freshmen only.

c This course meets the General Education course requirements for Understanding the Individual and Society.

d Consult the [General Education](#) section for lists of approved courses in each of these General Education categories.

Core Program Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
PPOL 100	Individual Action and Democratic Citizenship ^a	3
PPOL 105	Programming and Data Analysis for Public Policy I	3
ECON 220 or US 240	Microeconomics: Theory and Applications ^b Urban and Community Economics	3
PPOL 205	Programming and Data Analysis for Public Policy II	3
PPOL 210	Introduction to Public Policy ^c	3
PPOL 303	Policy Implementation and Management	3
PPOL 305	Policy Analysis	3
PPOL 405	Evaluating Public Policies and Programs	3
PPOL 491	Internship Experience in Public Policy and Urban Studies	3
Three Policy Specialization courses at the 200 level and above ^d		9
Total Hours		36

a This course is approved for the Understanding the Individual and Society General Education category. Two courses from the major will count toward the university requirement of a total of 24 semester hours of General Education courses.

b Students completing the BA in Public Policy who have not completed MATH 121 or an equivalent course should consult with their academic advisor.

c PPOL 210 is approved for the Understanding U.S. Society General Education category. Two courses from the major will count toward the university requirement of a total of 24 hours of General Education Core courses. One must be a course from the Understanding U.S. Society category.

d Options for three-course specializations are listed below. Students may choose from these lists or customize their own three-course specializations. All specializations must be approved by the undergraduate program coordinator in the Department of Public Policy, Management, and Analytics.

Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Courses		
Electives required outside the Basic and General Education and Core Program Requirements		51-55
Total Hours		51-55

If any of the three-course specialization classes have prerequisites that are not already covered in the Basic and General Education Requirements, students should choose electives that also serve as prerequisites for their specialization courses. For example, students interested in a Health Policy specialization must take PUBH 100, PUBH 110, and PUBH 120 as prerequisites for PUBH 310, PUBH 330, and PUBH 350. PUBH 100 is a U.S. Society course and PUBH 110

is a World Cultures course, so each one can fulfill General Education requirements as well. Check the Course Descriptions for prerequisite requirements for all courses.

Course Options for Public Policy Specializations

Students may choose any 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses for the 9 semester hours in a specialization requirement. The following groups of courses are offered as guidance to students who may have an interest in any of the educational paths shown below. Students may choose a specialization from the list or customize their own in conjunction with the appropriate departments (e.g., Criminology, Law, and Justice; Urban Planning and Policy; Communication) provided there is consultation and the approval of the advisor(s) in the department(s). All specializations must be approved by the undergraduate advisor in the Department of Public Policy, Management, and Analytics, who will seek endorsement from the appropriate department(s) offering the advanced coursework. Students interested in pursuing a minor in any of these areas should refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for further requirements not listed here. Consult XE Registration for terms during which courses are offered. The Department of Public Policy, Management, and Analytics does not determine course offerings in other departments. Military Science courses (200-, 300-, and 400-level) may be applicable to a specialization with approval of the advisor or director of undergraduate studies.

Code	Title	Hours
Specialization Course Options		
Economic Development Policy		
ECON 334	Economic Development	
ECON 342	Regional Economics	
FIN/ECON 311	Introduction to Urban Real Estate	
PPOL 212	Evidence-Based Public Policy	
PPOL 232	International Development Policy	
US 202	Social Justice and the City	
US 240	Urban and Community Economics ^a	
US 301	Political Economy of Urban Development	
Education Policy		
ECON 214	Economics of Education	
ED 200	Education Policy Foundations	
ED 252	Contemporary Controversies in U.S. Schools	
ED 402	Philosophy of Education and Urban School Policy	
ED 403	Policy Issues in the History of American Education	
EDPS 412	Politics of Urban Education	
Environmental Policy		
EAES 116	Energy for Future Decision-Makers	
LAS 493	Topics in Energy	
PA 494	Special Topics in Public Administration	
PPOL 240	Environmental Policy	
US 230	Practices for Sustainable Cities	
UPP 403	Just and Sustainable Planning Practices for Great Cities	
Fiscal Policy		
ECON 121	Principles of Macroeconomics	

ECON 221	Macroeconomics in the World Economy: Theory and Applications
ECON 328	Public Finance
FIN 250	Personal Finance
FIN 300	Introduction to Finance
PA 553	State and Local Public Finance
POLS 211	Chicago's Future
POLS 212	State Government
POLS 228	U.S. Congress
POLS 246	History of American Capitalism
PPOL 296	Special Topics in Public Policy (section needs to be chosen in consultation with the student's advisor)
PPOL 309	Public Budgeting and Financial Management
Health Policy	
ECON 215	Health Economics
PUBH 310	Public Health and Global Citizenship
PUBH 330	Health Equity and Health Disparities
PUBH 350	Health Systems, Health Policy
SOC 251	Health and Medicine
Foreign and Global Policy	
MILS 217	Introduction to United States Military History
POLS 281	United States Foreign Policy
POLS 284	International Security
POLS 287	International Law
POLS 384	International Relations Theory
PPOL 232	International Development Policy
Social Policy	
BLST/SOC 271	Race and the Politics of Incarceration ^b
PPOL 231	Social Policy and Inequality in the U.S.
PPOL 232	International Development Policy
SJ 201	Theories and Practices of Social Justice
SOC 225	Racial and Ethnic Groups ^b
SOC 241	Social Inequalities ^b
SOC 265	Sociology of Politics ^b

a If US 240 is taken as an alternative to ECON 220 to meet the core program requirements, this course cannot count toward the Economic Development Policy specialization hours.

b Has prerequisite of SOC 100 or SOC 105; both courses meet the Understanding the U.S. Society General Education requirement.

Sample Course Schedule

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman Year		
First Semester		
UPA 120	Urban and Public Affairs Seminar I	1
MATH 110	College Algebra	4
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
PPOL 100	Individual Action and Democratic Citizenship	3

General Education course		3
Hours		14
Second Semester		
UPA 121	Urban and Public Affairs Seminar II	1
PPOL 105	Programming and Data Analysis for Public Policy I	3
ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
ECON 120	Principles of Microeconomics	4
General Education course		3
Hours		14
Sophomore Year		
First Semester		
PPOL 210	Introduction to Public Policy	3
US 240	Urban and Community Economics	3
General Education course		3
General Education course		3
Elective		3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
PPOL 305	Policy Analysis	3
PPOL 205	Programming and Data Analysis for Public Policy II	3
General Education course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		15
Junior Year		
First Semester		
PPOL 303	Policy Implementation and Management	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
Policy Specialization course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		15
Senior Year		
First Semester		
PPOL 405	Evaluating Public Policies and Programs	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Policy Specialization course		3
Policy Specialization course		3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
PPOL 491	Internship Experience in Public Policy and Urban Studies	3
Policy Specialization Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		4
Elective		4
Hours		17
Total Hours		120