

School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs

Website (<http://www.northeastern.edu/cssh/policyschool>)

Jennie Stephens, PhD

Director

j.stephens@northeastern.edu

Graduate Program Directors

Alan Clayton-Matthews, PhD

PhD Program, Public Policy

a.clayton-matthews@northeastern.edu

Christopher Bosso, PhD

JD/MS Program, Law and Public Policy

MPP Program, MPA Program

Certificate Program, Public Policy Analysis

Certificate Program, Nonprofit Sector, Philanthropy, and Social Change

c.bosso@northeastern.edu

Jeffrey Juris, PhD

MA Program, International Affairs

j.juris@northeastern.edu

Daniel O'Brien, PhD

MS Program, Urban Informatics

Certificate Program, Urban Analytics

d.obrien@northeastern.edu

Gavin Shatkin, PhD

MS Program, Urban and Regional Policy

Certificate Program, Urban Studies

g.shatkin@northeastern.edu

Jennie Stephens, PhD

MS Program, Environmental Science and Policy

Professor and Graduate Program Director

j.stephens@northeastern.edu

310 Renaissance Park

617.373.8900

617.373.7905 (fax)

sppua@northeastern.edu

Graduate Programs Contacts

Louis DaRos, Graduate Program Administrator, l.daros@northeastern.edu

Julie Switkes, Graduate Program Administrator,

j.switkes@northeastern.edu

CSSH Graduate Programs General Regulations (https://www.northeastern.edu/cssh/graduate/current_students)

The School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs is nationally and internationally recognized for excellence and innovation in policy-oriented education, applied research, and engagement. Our mission is to educate professional master's and doctoral students who are sought after as policy analysts, program evaluators, and leaders of nonprofit, public, private sector, and academic institutions; to create and disseminate policy-relevant knowledge and analytical methods of value to policymakers and the public; and to serve the broader community through policy analysis and technical assistance.

The school is committed to excellence in research and education on pressing and emerging policy issues of the day—public health, climate change, environmental challenges, the court and justice systems, and creating sustainable and resilient cities that provide economic opportunity for their residents. We define our approach as locally informed and internationally relevant. Our hallmark is to engage students in building the world that they would like to live in through experiential learning opportunities and applied research.

Programs

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

- Public Policy (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/public-policy-phd>)
- Public Policy—Advanced Entry (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/public-policy-phd-advanced>)

Master of Arts (MA)

- International Affairs (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/international-affairs-ma>)

Master of Public Administration (MPA)

- Public Administration (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/public-administration-mpa>)

Master of Public Policy (MPP)

- Public Policy (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/mpp>)

Master of Science (MS)

- Urban Informatics (STEM Program) (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/urban-informatics-ms>)
- Urban and Regional Policy (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/urban-regional-policy-ms>)
- Urban Planning and Policy (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/urban-planning-policy-ms>)
- Environmental Science and Policy (College of Science) (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/science/marine-environmental-sciences/environmental-science-policy-ms>)
- Engineering and Public Policy with Concentration in Energy and Environment (College of Engineering) (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/engineering/civil-environmental-engineering-public-policy-energy-environment-ms>)
- Engineering and Public Policy with Concentration in Infrastructure Resilience (College of Engineering) (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/engineering/civil-environmental/engineering-public-policy-infrastructure-resilience-ms>)

Dual Degree

- Law and Public Policy, JD/MS (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/law-public-policy-jd-ms>)

Graduate Certificates

- Public Policy Analysis (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/public-policy-analysis-graduate-certificate>)
- Nonprofit Sector, Philanthropy, and Social Change (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/nonprofit-sector-philanthropy-social-change-graduate-certificate>)
- Urban Analytics
- Urban Studies (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/public-policy-urban-affairs/urban-studies-graduate-certificate>)

Courses

Public Policy and Urban Affairs Courses

PPUA 5260. Ecological Economics. 4 Hours.

Introduces methods and tools of ecological economics, an interdisciplinary field that draws on theories, concepts, and tools from the physical, life, and social sciences; unites the relevant aspects of different disciplines; and generates new knowledge that can serve as a basis for investment and policymaking that is responsive to biophysical constraints on economic processes. Illustrates the use of ecological economics with empirical applications. Offers students an opportunity to apply ecological economics to a variety of environmental issues.

PPUA 5261. Dynamic Modeling for Environmental Decision Making. 4 Hours.

Introduces the theory, methods, and tools of dynamic modeling for policy and investment decision making, with special focus on environmental issues. Makes use of state-of-the-art computing methods to translate theory and concepts into executable models and provides extensive hands-on modeling experience. Topics include discounting, intertemporal optimization, dynamic games, and treatment of uncertainty.

PPUA 5262. Big Data for Cities. 4 Hours.

Investigates the city and its spatial, social, and economic dynamics through the lens of data and visual analytics. Utilizes large public datasets to develop knowledge about visual methods for analyzing data and communicating results. Offers students an opportunity to develop a critical understanding of data structures, collection methodologies, and their inherent biases.

PPUA 5263. Geographic Information Systems for Urban and Regional Policy. 4 Hours.

Studies basic skills in spatial analytic methods. Introduces students to some of the urban social scientific and policy questions that have been answered with these methods. Covers introductory concepts and tools in geographic information systems (GIS). Offers students an opportunity to obtain the skills to develop and write an original policy-oriented spatial research project with an urban social science focus.

PPUA 5264. Energy Transitions and Climate Resilience: Technology, Policy, and Social Change. 4 Hours.

Explores the renewable energy transition with an emphasis on social innovations in energy systems, climate resilience, and the interconnections among technology, policy, and social change. The transition away from fossil fuels toward more efficient, renewable-based energy systems includes much more than a technological substitution; this transition also involves social, institutional, and cultural change in how individuals, households, communities, and organizations relate to and use energy. The emerging concept of energy democracy provides an innovative lens to explore the transformative potential of the renewable energy transition. Explores tensions associated with systemic vs. incremental change, centralized vs. decentralized systems, and infrastructural lock-in vs. flexibility through semester-long team projects in which students contribute to existing, ongoing, local energy transition initiatives.

PPUA 5266. Urban Theory and Science. 4 Hours.

Studies the evolution of urban science, looking at some seminal theories that seeded the field and the subsequent work they inspired, including the methodologies developed to examine them. For over a century, social scientists and policymakers have sought to better understand cities, asking important theoretical questions, such as: What is a neighborhood? How does a city grow? What is a city in the first place? Culminates in an examination of urban science in the digital age, exploring how modern technological trends, including “big data,” are posing new questions and offering new ways to answer them.

PPUA 5268. International Environmental Policy. 4 Hours.

Explores key environmental challenges from an international perspective. Provides a history of international environmental politics, as well as discussion of contemporary issues. Presents key paradigms for understanding environmental challenges, and aims to equip students with the analytical tools to look critically at important debates, understand the role of different actors, and assess policy options from multiple perspectives. Focus areas include natural resource management, multi-stakeholder negotiations, and climate change. Themes addressed throughout the course include the role of science in environmental policy, tensions between environment and development in international environmental politics, and the scale and complexity of international environmental governance.

PPUA 5270. Food Systems and Public Policy. 4 Hours.

Explores the public policy dimensions of the contemporary food system. Utilizes scholarly readings and case studies to assess the role of governing institutions and political actors in shaping the food supply; the effects of energy, transportation, and urban policies on food access; the ecological dimensions of food production; impacts of international trade regimes on global food trade; and the potential impacts of climate change on food security. Compares the United States and other nations and explores alternatives to the dominant food system. Seeks to engage students in applied policy analysis of specific food system issues.

PPUA 5275. Philanthropy and Civil Society. 4 Hours.

Examines the history of philanthropy in the United States and the contemporary role of private giving in the economy and civil society. A comparison of philanthropic theories and models provides context for examining philanthropy’s impact on individuals, communities, social movements, and policy. Emphasizes the relationship between wealth and power in a democratic society.

PPUA 5301. Introduction to Computational Statistics. 4 Hours.

Introduces the fundamental techniques of quantitative data analysis, ranging from foundational skills—such as data description and visualization, probability, and statistics—to the workhorse of data analysis and regression, to more advanced topics—such as machine learning and networks. Emphasizes real-world data and applications using the R statistical computing language. Analyzing and understanding complex data has become an essential component of numerous fields: business and economics, health and medicine, marketing, public policy, computer science, engineering, and many more. Offers students an opportunity to finish the course ready to apply a wide variety of analytic methods to data problems, present their results to nonexperts, and progress to more advanced course work delving into the many topics introduced here.

PPUA 5302. Information Design and Visual Analytics. 4 Hours.

Introduces the systematic use of visualization techniques for supporting the discovery of new information as well as the effective presentation of known facts. Based on principles from art, graphic design, perceptual psychology, and rhetoric, offers students an opportunity to learn how to successfully choose appropriate visual languages for representing various kinds of data to support insights relevant to the user's goals. Covers visual data mining techniques and algorithms for supporting the knowledge-discovery process; principles of visual perception and color theory for revealing patterns in data, semiotics, and the epistemology of visual representation; narrative strategies for communicating and presenting information and evidence; and the critical evaluation and critique of data visualizations. Requires proficiency in R.

PPUA 5390. Special Topics in Public Policy and Urban Affairs. 4 Hours.

Covers special topics in public policy and urban affairs. Topics are selected by the instructor and vary from semester to semester. May be repeated up to three times for up to 12 total credits.

PPUA 5976. Directed Study. 1-4 Hours.

Offers independent work under the direction of members of the department on a chosen topic. Course content depends on instructor. May be repeated without limit.

PPUA 6101. Environmental Science and Policy Seminar 1. 4 Hours.

Offers an integrated introduction to the intersection between environmental science and policy. Organized around the two central themes of sustainability transitions and climate resilience. Connects theoretical frameworks, including sociotechnical systems and coupled socioecological systems, to key science-policy issues related to transitioning to a more sustainable future and responding to a changing climate.

PPUA 6201. The 21st-Century City: Urban Opportunities and Challenges in a Global Context. 4 Hours.

Offers multidisciplinary examination of the wonders and challenges of urban life, focusing on current dynamics of urban location and prosperity in the context of a global economy. Examines forces that shaped the evolution of cities and metropolitan regions; assesses a range of policy issues confronting metro areas today and the respective roles played by public and private sectors in addressing those challenges; explores global forces that are transforming cities and regions throughout the world; and addresses key questions of urban well-being, civility, and civic engagement.

PPUA 6204. Urban Development and Politics. 4 Hours.

Analyzes the creation and implementation of urban development policies and programs. Explores subsidies and taxes, housing, commercial and industrial development, and job creation and training projects in terms of their historical, political, economic, and social dimensions.

PPUA 6205. Research Design and Methodology in Urban and Regional Policy. 4 Hours.

Examines and applies the methodology of social science research to urban and regional policy issues. Focuses on identifying and framing research questions; formulating hypotheses; and following through on the design, development, and implementation of policy-relevant research.

PPUA 6207. Research Toolkit for Urban and Regional Policy: Survey Techniques. 2 Hours.

Develops and applies survey research techniques to urban and regional policy issues.

PPUA 6209. Research Toolkit for Urban and Regional Policy: Working with Datasets. 2 Hours.

Develops and applies techniques of accessing and using available datasets to address urban and regional policy issues.

PPUA 6210. Research Toolkit for Urban and Regional Policy: Cost/Benefit Analysis. 2 Hours.

Develops and applies techniques of cost/benefit analysis and related techniques such as cost-effectiveness, economic impact, and social return on investment to urban and regional policy issues.

PPUA 6212. Research Toolkit for Urban and Regional Policy: Project Management. 2 Hours.

Introduces students to concepts of and tools used in project management as applied to urban and regional policy issues.

PPUA 6213. Research Toolkit for Urban and Regional Policy: Data Visualization. 2 Hours.

Focuses on how to interpret data visualization and assess the classic and emerging data visualization techniques and their strengths and weaknesses. Covers classic lessons learned from Edward Tufte to contemporary data visualization leaders such as Nicholas Felton and Jer Thorp. Offers students an opportunity to review and critique examples such as Hubway Data Challenge Visualizations to warm up for their own data visualization assignments.

PPUA 6216. Research Toolkit for Urban and Regional Policy: Grant Writing. 2 Hours.

Seeks to prepare students to pursue grant-based funding from a variety of funding agencies and foundations. Offers students an opportunity to develop practical skills in proposal writing and budget development. Examines all aspects of the proposal-writing process, from identifying high-potential funding opportunities to writing and submitting proposals. Assignments offer students an opportunity to apply their learning to real-world interests.

PPUA 6218. Real Estate Finance Toolkit. 2 Hours.

Introduces the basic skills in real estate finance and investment. Focuses specifically on the basics of the real estate pro forma. Begins with an overview of the real estate development process and then covers basic concepts in real estate finance, including interest, project revenues and costs, net cash flow, and the internal rate of return. Employs a case-based approach to offer students hands-on experience in constructing and interpreting pro formas for both a residential and commercial development. Finally, covers approaches to financing affordable housing. Assigns students problem sets over the course of the class that focus on learning the fundamentals of the pro forma.

PPUA 6407. Internship in Public Policy and Urban Affairs. 4 Hours.

Seeks to provide relevant professional experience, to include planning, research, policy development, or implementation of policy, of at least fifteen hours per week with a public, private, or nonprofit institution that focuses on urban and regional policy. May be repeated once.

PPUA 6408. Internship Continuation. 0 Hours.

Offers a continued internship supervised by the faculty internship instructor.

PPUA 6410. Urban Informatics Portfolio. 1 Hour.

Guides urban informatics students through the process of developing a portfolio of professional-quality work. Requires students to submit a three-project portfolio developed from projects completed within courses taken as part of fulfilling the degree requirements. The projects must be presented in high-quality and concise visualizations and text.

PPUA 6500. Principles of Public Administration. 4 Hours.

Introduces students to concepts and approaches to analyzing significant factors and relationships in government agencies and public-oriented nongovernmental organizations as they function in their environments. Examines the legal and constitutional foundations of public administration, bureaucratic structure and administrative power, managerial accountability and ethics, human resource management, economics of organization, decision making, budgeting, implementation and “street-level” bureaucrats, and more recent developments in public administration, such as performance management and public management networks.

PPUA 6502. Economic Institutions and Analysis. 4 Hours.

Introduces the fundamentals of macroeconomics and microeconomics as well as the role of key economic institutions, such as the Federal Reserve. Includes analysis of government’s role in a market economy and introduces methods of economic analysis.

PPUA 6503. Public Personnel Administration. 4 Hours.

Introduces students to the public personnel function from a managerial standpoint. Addresses methods of constructive leadership of government personnel, leadership that encourages a more competent, motivated, and representative public administrative work force. Employs case studies and films, along with assigned readings.

PPUA 6504. Organizational Theory and Management. 4 Hours.

Examines the general principles underlying organizational structures and processes. Topics include models and ideal types, open systems theories, organizational technologies, decision making, and organizational development and change.

PPUA 6505. Public Budgeting and Financial Management. 4 Hours.

Surveys governmental budgeting at the federal, state, and local levels. Surveys major revenue sources and expenditure responsibilities. Discusses budgetary processes and politics, as well as resulting policies. Considers both proposed and implemented reforms. Also introduces financial management practices including cash management, fund accounting, debt financing, endowment spending and control, cost allocation procedures, and tax expenditures.

PPUA 6506. Techniques of Policy Analysis. 4 Hours.

Provides a systematic approach to understanding the origins, formulation, implementation, and impact of government outputs. Reviews key analytical concepts and competing theoretical perspectives. Considers both the political dimensions of public policymaking and the technical aspects of program design within the natural history of the policymaking process. Draws on case materials from a spectrum of policy areas.

PPUA 6507. Institutional Leadership and the Public Manager. 4 Hours.

Examines the problems and techniques relevant to effective management of a public agency in a complicated and often turbulent political environment. Topics include legislative relations, media relations, role of the courts, unions and advocacy groups, policy implementation and evaluation, and setting and working with high standards of integrity.

PPUA 6509. Techniques of Program Evaluation. 4 Hours.

Reviews methodologies for assessing the impact of public policy. Includes experimental and quasi-experimental research design, the value and limits of case studies, political and organizational barriers to evaluation research, report writing, and procedures for instituting change.

PPUA 6510. Functions and Techniques of Public Management. 4 Hours.

Examines the problems and techniques relevant to management of a public agency, with an emphasis on internal issues that face public managers. Topics include planning and agenda setting; organizational design; agency budgeting; employee recruitment, selection, and development; and reporting, monitoring, and evaluation.

PPUA 6522. Administrative Ethics and Public Management. 4 Hours.

Analyzes ethical problems in American public administration including discussion of ethical dilemmas frequently faced by public managers.

PPUA 6523. Accountability, Performance Measurement, and Contracting in the Public Sector. 4 Hours.

Examines three important topics in public policy and administration: accountability, performance measurement, and contracting. These three topics are interrelated, and issues related to them often arise in contemporary public administration. Offers students an opportunity to explore these topics through assigned readings, cases, lectures, and class discussions.

PPUA 6525. Institutions and Public Policy. 4 Hours.

Blends theoretical literature and case studies to examine problems of policymaking and governance in contemporary political systems, emphasizing the policy impacts of political institutions. Studies systematic variations across types of political institutions and regimes in developed and developing nations and extends beyond the nation-state to address policy dynamics (e.g., harmonization, multilevel governance) in supranational and international systems. Establishes the broader political system contexts within which policy formation and implementation reside. Offers students an opportunity to learn to analyze, synthesize, and apply a range of theoretical literatures relevant to policy design and impact. POLS 6525 and PPUA 6525 are cross-listed.

PPUA 6530. State and Local Public Finance. 4 Hours.

Analyzes the fiscal dimensions of state and local governments in the United States. Examines the types and ranges of tax and nontax revenues available to local and state governments and factors shaping the types of revenue sources utilized. Also assesses local and state government spending trends, use of public funds for economic development and other goals, impacts of federal mandates on local and state budgets, distinctions between operating and capital budgets, and the overall legal and political factors shaping public finance.

PPUA 6551. Nonprofit Organizations and Social Change. 4 Hours.

Offers an overview of fundamental principles and practice in the nonprofit sector as they relate to social change. Topics include systems change and stakeholder identification, design thinking and human-centered design, theory of change and logic models, program design and evaluation, strategic and business planning, organizational structure and capacity building, governance, and communications and social media.

PPUA 6552. The Nonprofit Sector in Civil Society and Public Affairs. 4 Hours.

Examines the challenges facing the nonprofit sector, particularly as it relates to civil society and public policy concerns. Emphasizes current controversies in which the nonprofit sector is involved, such as the impact of changes in government spending and tax policy, the nature and legitimacy of nonprofit advocacy, the role of faith-based organizations in providing public services, accountability and oversight of nonprofit organizations, the growth of social entrepreneurship, and the work of nonprofits in fostering social capital and supporting civic engagement.

PPUA 6553. Nonprofit Financial Resource Development. 4 Hours.

Offers a comprehensive overview of resource development and financial management in nonprofit organizations. Topics include fund-raising and development planning, nonprofit budgeting and financial reporting, investments and earned income for nonprofits, and government contracting and grants.

PPUA 6554. International NGOs and Transnational Activism. 4 Hours.

Explores the theoretical, practical, and ethical elements of the nonprofit sector, which continues to play a critical role in responding to crisis, social and economic inequality, and propelling the human rights agendas forward in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape. Both nationally and abroad, nonprofit organizations are addressing society's most pressing issues. These organizations are compelled to help meet basic human needs during natural and manmade disasters and fill gaps left by government and industry. However, their involvement isn't without implications, both on the local and international level. Encourages students to consider the complex and sometimes contradictory work being performed by international nongovernmental organizations with an eye to sound program design and leadership.

PPUA 6861. Internship. 0 Hours.

Offers students an approved public- or nonprofit-sector internship that fulfills academic degree requirements. Students must complete minimum internship work hours as defined by academic program. Supervising faculty assign a final integrative or reflective project. May be repeated up to two times.

PPUA 6862. Internship with Research. 4 Hours.

Offers students who wish to pursue additional directed reading and independent research related to the internship placement an approved public- or nonprofit-sector internship. Students must complete minimum internship work hours as defined by academic program. Research project is determined in consultation with faculty. Supervising faculty assign a final integrative or reflective project. May be repeated once for up to 6 total credits.

PPUA 6962. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

PPUA 6964. Co-op Work Experience. 0 Hours.

Provides eligible students with an opportunity for work experience. May be repeated without limit.

PPUA 6966. Practicum. 1-4 Hours.

Provides eligible students with an opportunity for practical experience. May be repeated without limit.

PPUA 6983. Topics. 4 Hours.

Covers special topics in public policy and urban affairs. Topics are selected by the instructor and vary from semester to semester. May be repeated up to three times for up to 12 total credits.

PPUA 7225. The Open Classroom: Public Debates on Public Policy. 4 Hours.

Offers special topics built around a series of public debates on selected issues of public policy. May be repeated without limit. LAW 7627 and PPUA 7225 are cross-listed.

PPUA 7226. Open Classroom Recitation. 0 Hours.

Provides a small-group discussion format to cover material in the corequisite lecture course. May be repeated without limit. LAW 7628 and PPUA 7226 are cross-listed.

PPUA 7230. Housing Policy. 4 Hours.

Examines the economic, social, and legal underpinnings of housing policy in the United States across a variety of topics, including housing finance and production, public and affordable housing, home ownership, and fair housing. Housing is both an essential human need and a critical sector of the U.S. economy. Presents the complicated and evolving roles of all of those involved in housing policy, including federal, state, and local government, and the private and profit sectors. Guest speakers provide real-world insights into current housing policy challenges.

PPUA 7231. Transportation Policy. 4 Hours.

Examines the physical, technological, economic, social, cultural, and political underpinnings of transportation policy in the United States. Topics include intra- and interstate transportation, the comparative economics of different modes of transportation, the impacts of federal and state policies on transportation options, and the long-term effects of those choices on metropolitan development, housing, land use, energy, and the environment. Also involves comparisons with transportation systems in other countries.

PPUA 7232. Immigration and Urban America. 4 Hours.

Examines the policy impacts of legal and illegal immigration in the United States, emphasizing the ways immigration shapes urban America. Discusses trends in immigration; elements of U.S. immigration policy; impacts of immigration on labor markets, economic development, housing, education, healthcare, criminal justice, race relations, and social policy (e.g., welfare); and effects on broader mass culture. Also considers the range of policy tools available in addressing these impacts.

PPUA 7233. Contemporary Community Development. 4 Hours.

Explores the political and social dynamics of community development in urban America, with particular focus on the local politics of housing, economic development, jobs, healthcare, access to services, and community safety. Uses Boston and its region as a laboratory to examine the role of grassroots community groups in shaping their neighborhoods, set within the broader institutional contexts that affect their representation and impacts.

PPUA 7234. Land Use and Urban Growth Policy. 4 Hours.

Explores the evolution of land use and urban form in the United States and surveys different types of land-use and urban-growth management tools used by local, regional, and state governments. Examines the environmental, economic, spatial, and social impacts of different patterns of urban growth, including "sprawl" and "smart growth," and the different philosophies and legal and policy approaches employed to manage those impacts. Also explores how land-use and urban-growth policy interacts with related priorities, including housing, infrastructure, and fiscal policy. Focuses on current and emerging issues and debates in land-use and urban-growth management, such as New Urbanism, livable communities, and transit-oriented development.

PPUA 7236. Introduction to Real Estate Development for Urban Policy Makers. 4 Hours.

Introduces the basic skills and knowledge of real estate development used within public-private partnerships to address policy and planning issues. Through a series of problem sets, offers students an opportunity to learn basic real estate finance and computation, including the fundamentals of pro forma modeling. Covers the entire real estate development process, from preliminary market and financial analysis through to construction management and property management using case studies and guest lecturers. Explores how public-private partnerships shape the outcomes of urban redevelopment within specific topics that may include affordable housing provision, brownfield redevelopment, transit-oriented development, sustainable urban development, and others.

PPUA 7237. Advanced Spatial Analysis of Urban Systems. 4 Hours.

Builds on skills covered in PPUA 5263. Offers students an opportunity to obtain greater depth in the analysis of urban spatial data focused on several urban systems (including social, built, and natural systems). Focuses on understanding the spatial relationships between various new and large urban datasets relevant to current policy challenges within cities. This is a project-based class.

PPUA 7239. Problems in Metropolitan Policymaking. 4 Hours.

Examines the broad challenges that confront metropolitan areas-defined as including the center city, its immediate suburbs, and the broader periphery-including economic development, land use, transportation, housing, and the provision of basic services. Considers the array of tools available to policymakers, including planning, tax policy, pooling of services, and zoning.

PPUA 7240. Health Policy and Politics. 4 Hours.

Examines contemporary healthcare policies, programs, and politics. Discusses the structure of the healthcare system and its costs, efforts to develop universal health coverage, the spread of managed care, and related topics.

PPUA 7243. International Development Administration and Planning. 4 Hours.

Takes a "manager's eye view" of the formulation, implementation, evaluation, and improvement of development projects in less developed countries. Also focuses on the planning dynamics of host-government, bilateral, and multilateral organizations as they analyze and tackle such problem areas as agriculture, education, health, population, and land reform. Employs simulations and case studies.

PPUA 7244. Comparative Public Policy and Administration. 4 Hours.

Considers explanations of variation between states and solutions to administrative problems by examining such issues as culture, organization, budgeting, recruitment, accountability, reform, and the politics of bureaucracy and public policy, among others, in a cross-national, cross-cultural, and international context. Uses examples from Africa, Asia, and Latin America, as well as from the United States and Europe.

PPUA 7245. Education Policy in the United States. 4 Hours.

Examines the major policies and political dynamics that shape the delivery of educational services in the United States. Reviews the historical role of public education in American society and examines the legal context and intergovernmental relationships that provide the political framework for public education. Explores school finance, accountability and assessment strategies, issues of race and poverty, as well as major reform initiatives. Focuses on elementary and secondary education.

PPUA 7247. Seminar in U.S. Health Policy and Management. 4 Hours.

Introduces issues surrounding U.S. health policy and management. Focuses on aspects of the Affordable Care Act and more recent reform efforts and analyzes the history, causes, and consequences of U.S. health system change over the past several decades. Emphasizes learning about the organization, financing, and delivery aspects of the present system including quality, health innovation, patient engagement, value-based reimbursement, and health workforce evolution. Introduces students to organizational, economic, and sociological theories for studying the healthcare system. Offers students an opportunity to apply course learning in practical ways. Designed to be of particular interest to doctoral students and advanced master's degree students wanting to study and work in healthcare. Requires permission of department.

PPUA 7249. Urban Coastal Sustainability. 4 Hours.

Focuses on the challenges facing coastal cities and the ecosystems on which they depend by exploring both threats such as climate change as well as adaptation measures that promote resilience. Aimed at students interested in the interface of science and public policy and those who wish to gain a deeper understanding of how coupled human-natural ecosystems operate.

PPUA 7336. Social Capital and Resilience. 4 Hours.

Examines the role of social capital as in trust, governance, and economics. Focuses on networks and connections in disasters and resilience around the world. POLS 7336 and PPUA 7336 are cross-listed.

PPUA 7346. Resilient Cities. 4 Hours.

Examines the characteristics of resilient cities, especially those located in coastal regions. Investigates the capacity of cities to respond to major disruptions to their social and ecological systems. Includes extensive use of case studies, such as the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and Hurricane Katrina in 2005, as well as readings on cities and social systems. Offers students an opportunity to analyze an urban area and provide recommendations for improving its resilience. POLS 7346 and PPUA 7346 are cross-listed.

PPUA 7673. Capstone in Public Policy and Urban Affairs. 4 Hours.

Offers an opportunity for student teams, in partnership with a local, state, or federal agency or nonprofit institution, to assess an urban or regional problem, produce a thorough policy analysis, and present it and recommended solutions to the agency or institution. Course readings focus on materials needed to assess the problem and provide solutions. This is a faculty-guided team project for students completing course work in urban and regional policy studies. May be repeated without limit.

PPUA 7962. Elective. 1-4 Hours.

Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

PPUA 7976. Directed Study. 1-4 Hours.

Offers independent work under the direction of members of the department on a chosen topic. Course content depends on instructor. May be repeated without limit.

PPUA 7990. Thesis. 1-6 Hours.

Offers thesis supervision by members of the department. May be repeated without limit.

PPUA 9980. Experiential PhD Research Residency. 0 Hours.

Comprises a research residency experience in an organization whose mission and activities are aligned within the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs. The research residency is designed to help develop dissertation ideas or research papers or to obtain access to resources helpful to dissertation development or research. A faculty member serves as an advisor for the residency experience, but individuals within the organization in which the student is working are asked to serve as formal mentors for the student residency experience.