

# Public Policy, PhD

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

CSSH Graduate Programs General Regulations (<http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/social-sciences-humanities/general-regulations/>)

The PhD in Public Policy is an interdisciplinary program that combines social science and legal theoretical perspectives with quantitative and qualitative research methodologies. The faculty in the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs support students' research and dissertations in three broad areas of inquiry—urban policy and regional policy, sustainability and resilience, and health management and policy. Students work with faculty advisors to formulate a plan of study within their field of concentration by choosing from graduate programs offered in the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, the College of Social Sciences and Humanities, and in other colleges and schools at Northeastern. Students study a common body of knowledge in core courses in policy theory, research methods, and statistics, followed by courses in each student's respective concentration. The school's research centers and faculty research projects provide opportunities for students to develop insight, experience, and synergies to help with their own research goals. The college and school offer a high level of support allowing all students to be devoted full-time to their studies and research. The program is full time and in residence only.

## Doctoral Degree Candidacy

Complete all required coursework with a minimum 3.500 grade-point average (GPA), pass the comprehensive examinations, and defend a dissertation proposal. Students entering without a JD or master's degree must complete 55 semester hours. Students entering with a JD or master's degree must complete 47 semester hours.

## Program Requirements

Complete all courses and requirements listed below unless otherwise indicated.

## Milestones

Comprehensive examination  
Seminars  
Annual review  
PhD candidacy  
Dissertation committee  
Dissertation proposal  
Dissertation defense

## Core Requirements

A grade of B+ or higher is required in each course.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Seminar</b>		
POLS 7204	Seminar in Public Policy	4
PPUA 7976	Directed Study	1-4
<b>Research and Statistical Methods</b>		
INSH 6300	Research Methods in the Social Sciences	4
INSH 6302	Qualitative Methods	4
INSH 7400	Quantitative Analysis	4
<b>Advanced Methods</b>		

Complete one of the following. An additional concentration elective may be taken in lieu of the advanced methods elective:

INSH 7500	Advanced Quantitative Analysis
or INSH 7600	Advanced Methodological and Quantitative Techniques

## Experiential Research Residency

A PhD research residency or waiver is required.

Code	Title	Hours
PPUA 9980	Experiential PhD Research Residency	0

## Concentrations

Complete one of the following concentrations:

- Sustainability and Resilience (p. 1)
- Health Policy and Management (p. 1)
- Urban and Regional Policy (p. 2)

## SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Seminar</b>		
PPUA 7511	Sustainability and Resilience Research Seminar	2
<b>Law Requirement</b>		
LW 7329	Environmental Law	3
<b>Electives</b>		
Complete 24 semester hours from the following:		24
CIVE 7110	Critical Infrastructure Resilience	
LPSC 7312	Cities, Sustainability, and Climate Change	
POLS 7333	Science, Technology, and Public Policy	
POLS 7341	Security and Resilience Policy	
POLS 7704	Critical Infrastructure Resilience	
PPUA 7237	Advanced Spatial Analysis of Urban Systems	
PPUA 7346	Resilient Cities	
PPUA 7976	Directed Study	
SOCL 7267	Environment, Health, and Society	

## HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Seminar</b>		
PPUA 6220	How Healthcare Works: Business and Policy Innovations	4
<b>Health Organization</b>		
HRMG 6220	Health Organization Management	3
<b>Business Elective</b>		
Complete 3 semester hours from the following:		3
FINA 6220	Healthcare Finance	
SCHM 6223	Managing Healthcare Supply Chain Operations	

STRT 6220	Strategic Management for Healthcare Organizations	
<b>Law Requirement</b>		
LW 7335	Health Law	3
<b>Electives</b>		
Complete a minimum of 18 semester hours from the following:		18
ECON 7200	Topics in Applied Economics	
PPUA 5240	Health Policy and Politics	
PPUA 6509	Techniques of Program Evaluation	
PPUA 7243	International Development Administration and Planning	
SOCL 7267	Environment, Health, and Society	
SOCL 7287	Social Movements in Health	
PHTH 6000–9999 (public health elective, by advisement)		

**URBAN AND REGIONAL POLICY**

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Seminar</b>		
PPUA 7521	Seminar in Urban Theory	4
<b>Law Requirement</b>		
Consult an advisor when selecting courses.		3
LW 6000–9999		
<b>Electives</b>		
Complete 24 semester hours from the following:		24
ARCH 5210	Environmental Systems	
CRIM 6270	Crime and Community Context	
CRIM 7316	Advanced Topics in Methods	
ECON 7240	Workshop in Applied Econometrics	
ECON 7250	International Economic Development	
ECON 7260	Urban Economic Systems	
ECON 7261	Urban Economic Development	
ECON 7262	Regional Economic Theory	
ECON 7266	Economics of Government	
ECON 7270	Economics of Law and Regulation	
ECON 7740	Applied Econometrics 2	
ECON 7763	Labor Market Analysis	
POLS 7325	Contemporary Issues in Third World Development	
POLS 7334	Social Networks	
PPUA 6201	The 21st-Century City: Urban Opportunities and Challenges in a Global Context	
PPUA 6509	Techniques of Program Evaluation	
PPUA 6525	Institutions and Public Policy	
PPUA 7237	Advanced Spatial Analysis of Urban Systems	
PPUA 7976	Directed Study	
SOCL 7221	Globalization, Development, and Social Justice	
SOCL 7227	Race and Ethnic Relations	
SOCL 7268	Globalization and the City	

**Exam and Dissertation**

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Exam Prep</b>		
Only needed for PhD students who have completed all coursework but have not yet passed the comprehensive exam/proposal defense. Repeatable.		
PPUA 8960	Exam Preparation—Doctoral	0
PPUA 9984	Research	1-4
<b>Dissertation</b>		
PPUA 9990	Dissertation Term 1	
PPUA 9991	Dissertation Term 2	
<b>Dissertation Continuation</b>		
Following completion of two semesters of dissertation (PPUA 9990 and PPUA 9991), registration in the following class is required in each semester (including summer if the dissertation is submitted in summer) until the dissertation is completed:		
PPUA 9996	Dissertation Continuation	

**Program Credit/GPA Requirements**

55 total semester hours required  
Minimum 3.500 GPA required

**Advanced Entry PhD Program Requirements**

Complete all courses and requirements listed below unless otherwise indicated.

**Milestones**

Comprehensive examination  
Seminars  
Annual review  
PhD candidacy  
Dissertation committee  
Dissertation proposal  
Dissertation defense

**Core Requirements**

A grade of B+ or higher is required in each course.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Seminar</b>		
POLS 7204	Seminar in Public Policy	4
PPUA 7976	Directed Study	1-4
<b>Research and Statistical Methods</b>		
INSH 6300	Research Methods in the Social Sciences	4
INSH 6302	Qualitative Methods	4
INSH 7400	Quantitative Analysis	4
<b>Advanced Methods</b>		
Complete one of the following. An additional concentration elective may be taken in lieu of the advanced methods elective:		4
INSH 7500	Advanced Quantitative Analysis	
or INSH 7600	Advanced Methodological and Quantitative Techniques	

**Experiential Research Residency**

A PhD research residency or waiver is required.

Code	Title	Hours
PPUA 9980	Experiential PhD Research Residency	0

## Concentrations

Complete one of the following concentrations:

- Sustainability and Resilience (p. 1)
- Health Policy and Management (p. 1)
- Urban and Regional Policy (p. 2)

## SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Seminar</b>		
PPUA 7511	Sustainability and Resilience Research Seminar	2
<b>Law Requirement</b>		
LW 7329	Environmental Law	
<b>Electives</b>		
Complete 16 semester hours from the following:		16
CIVE 7110	Critical Infrastructure Resilience	
LPSC 7312	Cities, Sustainability, and Climate Change	
POLS 7333	Science, Technology, and Public Policy	
POLS 7341	Security and Resilience Policy	
POLS 7704	Critical Infrastructure Resilience	
PPUA 7237	Advanced Spatial Analysis of Urban Systems	
PPUA 7346	Resilient Cities	
PPUA 7976	Directed Study	
SOCL 7267	Environment, Health, and Society	

## HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Seminar</b>		
PPUA 6220	How Healthcare Works: Business and Policy Innovations	4
<b>Health Organization</b>		
HRMG 6220	Health Organization Management	3
<b>Business Elective</b>		
Complete 3 semester hours from the following:		3
FINA 6220	Healthcare Finance	
SCHM 6223	Managing Healthcare Supply Chain Operations	
STRT 6220	Strategic Management for Healthcare Organizations	
<b>Law Requirement</b>		
LW 7335	Health Law	3
<b>Electives</b>		
Complete a minimum of 10 semester hours from the following:		10
ECON 7200	Topics in Applied Economics	
PPUA 5240	Health Policy and Politics	
PPUA 6509	Techniques of Program Evaluation	
PPUA 7243	International Development Administration and Planning	
SOCL 7267	Environment, Health, and Society	
SOCL 7287	Social Movements in Health	

PHTH 6000 to PHTH 9999 (public health elective, by advisement)

## URBAN AND REGIONAL POLICY

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Seminar</b>		
PPUA 7521	Seminar in Urban Theory	4
<b>Law Requirement</b>		
Consult an advisor when selecting courses.		3
LW 6000 to LW 9999		
<b>Electives</b>		
Complete 16 semester hours from the following:		16
ARCH 5210	Environmental Systems	
CRIM 6270	Crime and Community Context	
CRIM 7316	Advanced Topics in Methods	
ECON 7240	Workshop in Applied Econometrics	
ECON 7250	International Economic Development	
ECON 7260	Urban Economic Systems	
ECON 7261	Urban Economic Development	
ECON 7262	Regional Economic Theory	
ECON 7266	Economics of Government	
ECON 7270	Economics of Law and Regulation	
ECON 7740	Applied Econometrics 2	
ECON 7763	Labor Market Analysis	
POLS 7325	Contemporary Issues in Third World Development	
POLS 7334	Social Networks <small>javascript:void(0)</small>	
PPUA 6201	The 21st-Century City: Urban Opportunities and Challenges in a Global Context	
PPUA 6509	Techniques of Program Evaluation	
PPUA 7237	Advanced Spatial Analysis of Urban Systems	
PPUA 7976	Directed Study	
SOCL 7221	Globalization, Development, and Social Justice	
SOCL 7227	Race and Ethnic Relations	
SOCL 7268	Globalization and the City	

## Exam and Dissertation

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Exam Prep</b>		
Only required for students who have completed PhD coursework but have yet to complete the comprehensive exam/proposal defense. Repeatable.		
PPUA 8960	Exam Preparation—Doctoral	0
PPUA 9984	Research	1-4
<b>Dissertation</b>		
PPUA 9990	Dissertation Term 1	
PPUA 9991	Dissertation Term 2	

## Dissertation Continuation

Following completion of PPUA 9990 and PPUA 9991, registration in the following class is required in each semester (including summer if the dissertation is submitted in summer) until the dissertation is completed:

PPUA 9996	Dissertation Continuation
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**Program Credit/GPA Requirements**

47 total semester hours required

Minimum 3.500 GPA required