

Public Policy Major

The Public Policy program at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies is committed to the development of tomorrow's policy leaders through an innovative core curriculum that emphasizes analytical, evidenced, and expertise-based solutions to contemporary policy issues. The Public Policy major, offered by the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, gives students the opportunity to identify, analyze, and solve challenging policy issues at local, state, national, and global levels of governance.

Curriculum Overview: Candidates must complete 44 credit hours.

Major Requirements:

1. Required Core Courses – 24 Credits

- PPOL 1910 – Intro to Public Policy
- PPOL 2000 – The Politics of American Policymaking
- PPOL 2701 Topics in Public Policy (Public Policy Analysis and Presentation)
- PPOL 2701 Topics in Public Policy (Professional Skills for Public Policy)
- PPOL 3115 Economics for Public Policy I: Aggregates and Production
- PPOL 3300 Ethics in Public Policy

2. Electives – 8 Credits

3. Specializations – 12 Credits

PPOL students are required to have a specialization. This allows students the opportunity to add depth to their studies and to begin to develop an area of focus within the field. The PPOL major requires three classes within the specialization area.

Economic Policy

- Aimed at students that are particularly interested in the analysis of economic issues such as economic growth, employment, labor protection, inequality, etc. Students will learn economic principles and how such principles apply to the practice of economic policy through regulation, incentives, and other means.

Social Policy

- This specialization is aimed at students that are particularly interested in the analysis of social issues, such health care, education, housing, family, etc. Students will learn how public policy can influence the well-being of individuals and communities. They will learn about the trade-offs surrounding such well-being-oriented policy choices.

Environmental Policy

- Aimed at students that are particularly interested in the analysis of environmental issues such as pollution, energy, natural disasters, sustainability, climate change, etc. Students will learn how public policy influences the management and the protection of the environment. They will learn about the trade-offs, costs and benefits of environment-oriented public policy.

Development Policy

- Aimed at students that are particularly interested in the analysis of international development issues like governance, government capacity building, economic aid, human rights protection, international cooperation, etc. Students will learn about the challenges that developing countries face in their economic and social development and how international cooperation shape their policy environment.

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