

**MASTER'S DEGREE IN PUBLIC POLIC (MPP)
ADVISING GUIDE
2008-2010**

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MASTERS DEGREE IN PUBLIC POLICY (MPP)

ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND POLICY SCIENCES (EPPS) ADVISING GUIDE

Welcome to the Masters program in Public Policy (henceforth MPP) in the School of Economic, Political and Political Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas. Please read this Advising Guide and other documents to which it refers. The guide suggests steps for proceeding carefully through the program and it summarizes important policies and procedures that graduate students are expected to know. If you have any questions, then please contact the Program Director, Dr. Marie Chevrier, or the Graduate Program Administrative Assistant Ms. Judy Robertson.

Public Policy and Political Economy

The Program in Public Policy and Political Economy offers interdisciplinary education and policy research through activities in undergraduate and graduate education, scholarly and applied inquiry, and professional service. We prepare students for careers in research, teaching, and practice in a variety of both academic and non-academic public policy and political economy settings.

The degrees and certificates sponsored by the Program emphasize the integration and application of theory to practice and they prepare individuals for careers in government, nonprofit organizations, consulting firms, and businesses affected by public policy.

We offer five interdisciplinary degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts in International Political Economy (BA)
- Bachelor of Science in International Political Economy (BS)
- Master of Science in International Political Economy (MS)
- Master in Public Policy (MPP)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy and Political Economy (Ph.D.)

History of the program

Since 1984 and before the program name change in 2003, 109 Ph.D.s were granted in Political Economy (POEC). In 2003, the program changed its name to Public Policy and Political Economy (PPPE). Through 2007, an additional 21 Ph.D.s were awarded.

In 2007, the program expanded to offer two new masters programs: Master in Public Policy and Master of Science in International Political Economy) and two new undergraduate programs; BA and BS in International Political Economy.

The MPP Program Director

The MPP Program Director is a faculty member of the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences who works with the program faculty and School and University administration to administer the program. The Program Director in conjunction with the MPP Program Committee and the program faculty is responsible for course scheduling, graduate program development and administration, advising and professional development. Students should address questions about the program and their progress in it to the Program Director.

Message from Dr. Chevrier

Welcome to the Masters in Public Policy program. Like the issues that face public and non-profit sector decision makers, public policy is complex and interdisciplinary. The MPP degree is a professional degree widely recognized and valued throughout state, local, and federal governments in the US and around the world. The MPP degree offers you a rigorous education in political, economic and statistical topics that are essential to understanding and analyzing proposed and existing policies. In addition to core analysis and evaluation skills we offer students concentrations in four critical substantive policy topics. Students may also design an individual substantive concentration. More than half a million employees will leave government service in the next five years, private firms interact with government agencies and require employees that understand the policy process and non-profit organizations need professionally trained staff. The MPP degree offers internships, critical analysis and communication skills that will help you succeed in the world around you. We look forward to helping you meet your goals.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Master of Science in Public Policy is to offer students an interdisciplinary graduate education designed to develop skills for careers in which a solid understanding of the public policy process and the analysis and evaluation of public policies are essential. Students will be prepared for analytical and administrative positions and responsibilities in a wide array of professional settings in the public, non-profit, and private sectors as well as advanced study for careers in research. Specific skills include knowledge of the policy process and related ethical concerns, rigorous research skills that provide students with an essential grounding in statistical and data analysis and research design, and effective communication skills.

Objectives

- Students will understand and analyze the principal policy making institutions and the ways in which they formulate, debate and implement public policies at the national, sub-national and local levels.
- Students will examine legislative, executive, and non-governmental roles in policy formation at different levels of government. They will analyze the ways in which the various institutions interact and set policy priorities. They will study policy

implementation and the interrelated functions of levels of governments, non-profit and corporate entities in policy implementation.

- Students will learn and apply quantitative skills and economic theories to measure and evaluate public policies. They will learn when to apply appropriate techniques to complex policies. They will demonstrate an understanding of techniques to examine the preferred outcomes of policy alternatives to advise senior officials. Students will acquire skills in applying statistical measures of projected policy outcomes. Students will learn economic theories and acquire skills in applying those theories appropriately to establish policy objectives and outcomes.
- Students will learn and understand the unique role of ethical theories and behavior as it applies to the public and non-profit sectors. Students will understand the ethical obligation of elected and appointed governmental officials to the body politic. Students will understand the functions of internal and public oversight of the formation and implementation of public policies.
- Students will develop expertise in a substantive area of public policy and learn how to effectively communicate new findings and innovative policies to senior decision makers and the general public. Students will study one of four major public policy disciplines—criminology, social policy, health policy, legal studies or design their own area of concentration. Students will understand the theories and principles that support these substantive policy areas and the ways in which those theories are tested. Students will understand how these policy areas contribute to the well-being of citizens to enhance the quality of life.

Qualified students are encouraged to consider the Ph.D. in Public Policy and Political Economy (PPPE). Such students should meet with Program Director of PPPE as soon as possible to discussion options.

MPP Degree Requirements

Students seeking a Masters in Public Policy must complete at least 36 semester credit hours of graduate coursework in the program. The program has three components:

1. Twenty-one semester hours of required coursework
2. Nine semester hours of prescribed electives in a single concentration
3. Six hours of free electives

Students must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average to graduate.

All students should complete the required courses as soon as possible.

Required Core Courses

1. Policymaking and Institutions (Six hours)
 - a. POEC 5303 Public Policymaking and Institutions
 - b. POEC 5308 Ethics, Culture, and Public Responsibility
2. Methodology [Statistics, Research Design, and related – nine hours]
 - a. POEC 5313 Descriptive and Inferential Statistics
 - b. POEC 5316 Advanced Regression Analysis
OR POEC 5302 Law and the Policy Process (Legal Studies only)

- c. One of the following:
 - POEC 5310 Research Design I
 - POEC 6352 Evaluation Research
 - PSCI 6303 Legal Research and Writing
4. Economics (Three hours)
 - POEC/PA 5307 Economics for Public Policy
5. Policy Workshop, Internship or Approved Prescribed Elective (Three hours)
 - Select one of the following:
 - POEC 7V47 Policy Research Workshop in Health Care Policy
 - POEC 7V62 Policy Research Workshop in Social Policy
 - Other Workshop course, internship or approved elective

Prescribed Electives

Students complete 9 hours of Prescribed Electives in one of the following areas:

Criminology

1. Domestic Social Policy
2. Health Policy
3. Legal Studies
4. Student designed area on concentration

Courses in the area concentrations must have the approval of the Program Director.

Elective Courses

Students also select, in consultation with the Program Director, an additional six hours of coursework. Students may select courses from those courses not selected under Required Courses.

Master of Public Policy

Prospective students should contact the Public Policy Program Director, Dr. Marie Chevrier for an appointment. Email: chevrier@utdallas.edu

For General Information or Extra Assistance

International Political Economy Program Assistant

Judy Robertson

Email: judy@utdallas.edu

Telephone: (972) 883-6406

Degree Plan Masters in Public Policy

Name:

UTD ID:

	Number	Title	Sem Taken
Required Courses			
21 hours	POEC 5303	Public Policymaking and Institutions	
	POEC 5307	Economics for Public Policy	
	POEC 5308	Ethics, Culture and Public Responsibility	
	POEC 5313	Descriptive and Inferential Statistics	
Not required for Legal Studies Concentration	POEC 5316	Advanced Regression*	
Legal Studies Concentration Only	or POEC5302	Law and the Policy Process	
	POEC 5310	Research Design I	
	or POEC 6352	Evaluation Research	
Required for Legal Studies Concentration	or PSCI 6303	Legal Research and Writing	
	POEC 7Vxx	Appropriate Policy Workshop	

Prescribed Electives in a single Concentration
9 hours

Free electives
6 hours

Color Codes

Required for all	
One of two courses	
One of three courses	
To be completed by student	

Appendix A: MPP Core Faculty

Professors

Amin Gutiérrez De Piñeres, Sheila. Ph.D., Economics, Duke University.

Berry, J. L. Brian, Ph.D., Political Economy, University of Washington. The Lloyd Viel Berkner Regental Professor. Dean, School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences.

Beron, Kurt, Ph.D., Economics, University of North Carolina.

Chevrier, Marie, Ph.D., Public Policy, Harvard University. Director, MPP program.

Dumas, Lloyd J., Ph.D., Economics, Columbia University.

Elliott, Euel, Ph.D., Political Science, Duke University. Senior Associate Dean.

Jargowsky, Paul, Ph.D., Public Policy, Harvard University.

Leaf, Murray J., Ph.D., Social Anthropology, University of Chicago.

Scotch, Richard K., Ph.D., Sociology, Harvard University.

Tracy, Paul, Ph.D., Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

Associate Professors

Alexander, Bobby, Ph.D., Religious Studies, Columbia University.

Fass, Simon, Ph.D., Urban Planning, University of California, Los Angeles.

Holmes, Jennifer Smith, Ph.D., Political Science, University of Minnesota. Program Director for International Political Economy.

McElroy, Susan, Ph.D., Economics, Stanford University.

Skaggs, Sheryl, Ph.D. Sociology, North Carolina State

Assistant Professors

Peinhardt, Clint. Ph.D., Political Sciences, University of Michigan.

Clinical Professors

Dholakia-Lehenbauer, Kruti. Ph.D., Public Policy and Political Economy, University of Texas at Dallas.

Appendix B: Course Descriptions

Please see the on-line catalog for course descriptions.

<http://www.utdallas.edu/dept/graddean/CAT2008/contents.htm>

Sample Courses for Concentrations

Concentrations

Criminology	CRIM 6305	Law and Social Control
	CRIM 6307	Extent of Crime and Criminals
	CRIM 6308	Victimology
	CRIM 6309	Communities and Crime
	CRIM 6310	Delinquency and Juvenile Justice
	CRIM 6311	Crime and Justice Policy
	CRIM 6317	Courts
	CRIM 6322	Crime Prevention
	CRIM 6324	Correlates of Crime and Justice
Domestic Social Policy	POEC 6350	Social Stratification
	POEC 7340	Domestic Social Policy
	POEC 6341	Urban Development
	POEC 7344	Gender and Policy
	SOC 6355	Race, Ethnicity and Community
	POEC 6368	Population and Development
Health Policy	POEC 7340	Domestic Social Policy
	POEC 7341	Health Policy
	POEC 7368	Spatial Epidemiology
	POEC 6368	Population and Development
	SOC 6356	Health and Illness
International Conflict and Security	POEC 6361	Political Violence and Terrorism
	POEC 6367	Topical Issues in Conflict and Conflict Resolution
	POEC 6363	Conflict and Development
	POEC 6369	National and International Security Strategies and Policies
	PSCI 5301	Democratization, Globalization, and International Relations
	PSCI 7320	International Negotiations
	PSCI 6306	Human Rights and International Law
Legal Studies	PSCI 6301	Constitutional Law

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PSCI 6304	Policy Processes, Implementation and Evaluation
PSCI 6339	Election Law and Electoral Systems
PSCI 6306	Human Rights and International Law
PA 5319	Administrative Law
CRIM 6317	Courts
CRIM 6305	Law and Social Control
CRIM 6311	Crime and Justice Policy

Appendix C: Application Requirements

Master of Public Policy (MPP)

The Master in Public Policy program seeks applications from students with a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university or college. A 3.0 undergraduate grade point average (on a 4.0 scale), and a combined verbal and quantitative score of at least 1200 on the GRE is desirable. Students may also wish to consider submitting their score from the writing component of the GRE test as additional evidence of their writing skills. Standardized test scores are only one of the factors taken into account in determining admission. Students should also submit all transcripts, three letters of recommendation, and a one-page essay outlining the applicant's background, education, and professional objectives.

General Application Requirements for Graduate Study

For further information see <http://www.utdallas.edu/enroll/apply/mappprocess.php>

Application as a Degree-Seeking Student

1. Complete the Texas Common Application found on the University of Texas at Dallas website UTDallas.edu.
2. A narrative or essay outlining academic interests, current or long-range interests in research, teaching or other professional objectives; describing publications or other scholarly endeavors; listing of academic and professional organizations and fellowships, scholarships, or other honors received.
3. Submit official university transcripts from all colleges or universities you have attended with degree conferral from a regionally accredited college or university in the U.S. or its equivalent from a university outside of the U.S. A grade average of B or better is expected on upper-division (junior and senior level) work as well as graduate work already taken in the student's major field and related fields. Students not in academic good standing at a previously attended university will not be admitted. An applicant who has earned a baccalaureate degree under the "academic fresh start statute" (Texas Education Code, Section 51.931) will be evaluated only on the grade point average of the course work completed for that baccalaureate degree and the other criteria stated in this catalog.
4. Three letters of recommendation from individuals able to judge the applicants probable success in graduate school.
5. Satisfactory current and official scores on the Graduate Record Examinations General Test (GRE). Each degree program sets its own criteria for what constitutes a satisfactory score and students are advised to confer with the graduate advisor in the degree program to determine test score requirements. Scores must not be more than five years old.

Applicants are also advised that GRE scores are not the sole criterion for making an admission decision or terminating consideration of an application. Each applicant's test scores are compared with those of other applicants. Only official reports from the appropriate testing agency are acceptable.

Application as a Non-Degree Seeking Student

A student wishing to take graduate level coursework without becoming a candidate for a graduate degree may apply for admission to U.T. Dallas as a non-degree-seeking graduate student. The applicant must satisfy the general admission requirements as noted above, but is not required to submit GRE scores or letters of recommendation. Students admitted as non-degree seeking or to take only undergraduate level courses may not be eligible for financial aid. Applicants should consult the UTD Financial Aid office prior to submission of their application for admission.

A non-degree seeking graduate student in good academic standing who wishes to apply for admission to a degree program must submit a new application. No more than 15 semester credit hours taken as a non-degree-seeking student at U.T. Dallas may be transferred to satisfy the coursework requirements of a graduate degree program. Students not officially enrolled in a degree program require the consent of the Degree Program Office to enroll in graduate classes offered by that degree program.

1. Complete the Texas Common Application found on the University of Texas at Dallas website UTDallas.edu.
2. Submit official university transcripts from all colleges or universities you have attended with degree conferral from a regionally accredited college or university in the U.S. or its equivalent from a university outside of the U.S. A grade average of B or better is expected on upper-division (junior and senior level) work as well as graduate work already taken in the student's major field and related fields. Students not in academic good standing at a previously attended university will not be admitted. An applicant who has earned a baccalaureate degree under the "academic fresh start statute" (Texas Education Code, Section 51.931) will be evaluated only on the grade point average of the course work completed for that baccalaureate degree and the other criteria stated in this catalog.

Application as an International Student

1. Complete the Texas Common Application found on the University of Texas at Dallas website UTDallas.edu. NOTE: Students in the United States on an F1 or J1 Visa may only be admitted to a degree program and are not eligible for Non-Degree-Seeking Student status.
2. A narrative or essay outlining academic interests, current or long-range interests in research, teaching or other professional objectives; describing publications or other scholarly endeavors; listing of academic and professional organizations and fellowships, scholarships, or other honors received.

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3. Submit official university transcripts from all colleges or universities you have attended with degree conferral from a regionally accredited college or university in the U.S. or its equivalent from a university outside of the U.S. A grade average of B or better is expected on upper-division (junior and senior level) work as well as graduate work already taken in the student's major field and related fields. Students not in academic good standing at a previously attended university will not be admitted. An applicant who has earned a baccalaureate degree under the "academic fresh start statute" (Texas Education Code, Section 51.931) will be evaluated only on the grade point average of the course work completed for that baccalaureate degree and the other criteria stated in this catalog.
4. Three letters of recommendation from individuals able to judge the applicants probable success in graduate school.
5. Satisfactory current and official scores on the Graduate Record Examinations General Test (GRE). Each degree program sets its own criteria for what constitutes a satisfactory score and students are advised to confer with the graduate advisor in the degree program to determine test score requirements. Scores must not be more than five years old. Applicants are also advised that GRE scores are not the sole criterion for making an admission decision or terminating consideration of an application. Each applicant's test scores are compared with those of other applicants. Only official reports from the appropriate testing agency are acceptable.
6. The ability to read, write, speak and understand English is essential for success in graduate studies at U.T. Dallas. An applicant whose native language is not English and who has been educated outside of the United States must submit an acceptable Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination score. TOEFL is administered by the Educational Testing Services, ETS (<http://www.toefl.org>). At the time the student enrolls the test score must be less than two (2) years old. A minimum score of 80 (TOEFL IBT), 213 (TOEFLC) or 550(TOEFL) is required for unconditional, regular admission as a graduate student.
7. Financial affidavit and original bank statement

International applicants are strongly urged to submit the application and supporting materials at least six months ahead of the intended date of enrollment. Evidence of financial support (financial affidavit and original bank statement) while studying in the United States must be provided to the University before an international student can receive the I-20 or other required documents needed for visa application.

International students on F and J non-immigrant visa status are required to maintain health insurance while enrolled at the University and must show proof of insurance coverage at the time of each registration. The coverage must be equal to or better than the coverage provided by The University of Texas at Dallas Student Health Insurance Plan. Where there is no evidence of

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insurance coverage shown by an international student, the student will be required to purchase the U.T. Dallas insurance plan at the time of registration.

International students are required to have a tuberculin skin test, administered and read by the UTD Student Health Center, during Orientation for the first semester they attend U.T. Dallas.

*Please see the University of Texas at Dallas website
for more complete and up-to-date information.*

The estimated cost of attendance

http://www.utdallas.edu/student/finaid/Estimated_Costs.htm

Application Deadlines: U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents

Semester	Priority	Late
Fall	July 1	August 1
Spring	November 1	December 1
Summer	April 1	May 1

- Application Deadlines: International Students

Semester	Priority	Late
Fall	May 1	June 1
Spring	September 1	October 1
Summer	March 1	April 1

5) Getting the Results

To check on the status of your application, application fee payment, or an admissions hold, see the Application status page. www.utdallas.edu/status

Transfer Credit

Students who have taken graduate courses in another program may transfer these courses after they have attained nine credit hours in the program. Courses which received a grade of "B" or better may be transferred. Also, students may transfer up to one-half of the required hours for a masters degree from another university. This may consist of up to 15 semester hours.

All students who are interested in transferring courses must meet with the Program Director and they must complete a "Request for Transfer Credit" form. The form is available in the Graduate Program Office. The completed form, transcript and syllabus are forwarded for the approval of the Dean of Graduate Studies. If approved, then the courses appear as transfer credits on the student's record.

Grading Policy

Students are expected to maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average in the program. Students who do not must raise their grade point average to at least 3.0 during the next two semesters of registration. Failure to do so results in immediate dismissal, although students may reapply. Students must consult with the Associate Dean when they consider the possibility of retaking a course. In many cases, retaking courses is not allowed. The student must complete the "Duplicate Course" form for the latter grade to take the place of the earlier grade.

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Students should avoid an "X" (Incomplete). An Incomplete is granted when the student has finished close to 70% of the course requirements and can document legitimate reasons, such as illness, which prevent completion of the remaining requirements before the end of the semester. Professors may have other requirements for granting an Incomplete. A "Request for Incomplete" form is available in the Graduate Program Office. All remaining requirements must be finished and the professor must submit the "Change of Grade" form by the deadline of eight weeks from the end of the following "long" semester (fall or spring).

Student Ethics and Conduct

Student behavior is expected to conform to the highest academic and professional standards. Students should remember that few people are able to earn masters degrees. Those who do so must conduct themselves in an ethical and professional manner. In particular, fraudulent behavior, including cheating and plagiarism, is not tolerated.

Student Registration

Students are expected to maintain continuous registration (excluding Summer) of at least three semester credit hours in the MPP program. Such registration includes, but is not limited to, the semester of graduation. A student who does not maintain registration and has not requested and received permission for a leave of absence, must apply for readmission. All requests for leave of absence must be sent to the Program Director, who will forward the request to the Dean of Graduate Studies. The student is subject to the Graduate Catalog in effect at the time of readmission. Since the Catalog is revised biennially, students taking leaves may be required to satisfy different degree requirements than were in effect prior to their leave. And thus may need additional time to complete the program.

The standard (and minimum) course load for a full-time graduate student during the Fall or Spring semester is 9 hours. The maximum is 15 hours, although it is rare for students to be able to successfully manage this workload. Students who have work, family, or other nonacademic obligations should consult with the Program Director on strategies for fulfilling program requirements.

Courses in the MPP program are currently listed with the course prefix POEC in the university's course schedule (available on-line in Course Lookup). When selecting courses, MPP students are encouraged to consider appropriate graduate courses from CRIM, ECO, GIS, PA, PSCI and SOC as well as those with POEC prefixes.

The University of Texas at Dallas is an equal opportunity/affirmation action university.