Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs

A bachelor's degree in public affairs provides students with the skills and knowledge to serve society through a variety of careers in public service. The program is designed to develop skills in leadership and decision-making, create a foundation for understanding American governmental and public institutions, acquire knowledge of the structure and operations associated with the nonprofit sector, and become familiar with the broad and complex economic, financial and legal environments within which public institutions function.

Careers in Public Affairs
The BS in Public Affairs is structured to prepare students for careers in government (federal, state and local), nonprofit organizations, Foreign Service, educational institutions, consulting firms and businesses significantly affected by public policies.

Careers in public administration include emergency management, economic development, criminal justice, public health, national security, labor management relations, mediation, education administration and environmental policy.

The skills acquired in the program will assist in understanding how governments and nonprofits function, managing people and resources, evaluating programs, creating and balancing budgets, overseeing expenditures, analyzing policy, as well as developing knowledge of the laws and policies that govern these sectors. The training provided is applicable to any level of government or nonprofits.

Public Affairs at UT Dallas
Public Affairs is an interdisciplinary program that integrates the traditions of public and nonprofit management with the challenges of maintaining and building institutions of governance in a complex society. Students in public affairs have the opportunity to engage in intellectual discussions of ethical questions related to public service and examine the values that motivate the development of public policy. Through a curriculum of core and topic-specific courses, students will refine skills in writing, research and critical thinking. The UT Dallas program offers students the opportunity to learn from and interact with some of the nation's leading academic and public sector experts.

The general BS degree requires 120 semester credit hours to graduate: 42 semester credit hours from the University's core curriculum, 48 semester credit hours from the major and 30 semester credit hours of electives.
Every new generation inherits a world more complex than that of its predecessors, which prompts a need for new thinking about public policies that impact people’s daily lives. In the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences (EPPS), we examine the implications of innovation and change for individuals and communities.

As an undergraduate in EPPS, you will have the chance to work with professors who are probing issues that will affect your future. You will develop the vital skills you need to thrive in a rapidly evolving, highly competitive job market. EPPS will prepare you for careers in government, non-profits and the private sector that enable you to make a real difference in the world of today and tomorrow.

EPPS is at the forefront of leadership, ethics and innovation in the public and nonprofit sectors. Our students and faculty look forward to new opportunities to study and address the complex and evolving issues of the future.

Degrees Offered

**Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts**: Criminology, economics, geospatial information sciences, international political economy, political science, public affairs, sociology  
**Master of Science**: Criminology, economics, geospatial information sciences, international political economy, justice administration and leadership  
**Master of Arts**: Political science, political science-constitutional law, political science-legislative studies  
**Master of Public Affairs**: Public affairs  
**Master of Public Policy**: Public policy  
**Doctor of Philosophy**: Criminology, economics, geospatial information sciences, political science, public affairs, public policy and political economy

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