



The University of Texas at Austin
Bridging Disciplines Programs
 School of Undergraduate Studies

Public Policy

Bridging Disciplines Programs allow you to earn an interdisciplinary certificate that integrates area requirements, electives, courses for your major, internships, and research experiences.

This BDP focuses on how change happens: how did a journalist's inquiry into the effects of agricultural chemicals give rise to the environmental movement; how did a black woman's refusal to yield her bus seat to a white man galvanize the civil rights movement; how did a diplomat's cable about Russian history give rise to the policy of containment? Students will learn about the policy-making process, beginning with the point at which someone senses a problem or an opportunity and begins to press the matter. We will then walk through the processes by which that sense of a problem is turned into a public policy issue through research, mobilization, the engagement of political leaders, and in some instances, the passage and implementation of new policy.

The Public Policy BDP will be beneficial to students who aspire to positions in policy-relevant institutions such as government agencies, legislative offices, think tanks, and advocacy groups. The program also will help students who plan to pursue careers in business, where success often depends on understanding how government works.

Upon completion of **19 credit hours** from the options listed to the right, you will earn a certificate in Public Policy.

The Public Policy BDP is overseen by a panel of faculty members from across campus. Members include Michael Lind (Public Affairs), Joel Cobb (Business, Government and Society), Edwin Dorn (Public Affairs), Derek Epp (Government), Leigh Linden (Economics and Public Affairs), Eric McDaniel (Government), Talia Stroud (Communication Studies), Angela Valenzuela (Center for Mexican American Studies), and Ruth Wasem (Public Affairs).

The Bridging Disciplines Programs offer interdisciplinary certificates in the following areas:

Children & Society
 Conflict Resolution & Peace Studies
 Design Strategies
 Digital Arts & Media
 Environment & Sustainability
 Ethics & Leadership in Business
 Ethics & Leadership in Health Care
 Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government

Human Rights & Social Justice
 Innovation, Creativity & Entrepreneurship
 Museum Studies
 Patients, Practitioners & Cultures of Care
 Public Policy
 Smart Cities
 Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits
 Social Inequality, Health & Policy

For more information about the Bridging Disciplines Programs, go to www.ugs.utexas.edu/bdp or email us at bdp@austin.utexas.edu.
 Follow us on instagram: @ut_bdp

Foundation Courses (4 Credit Hours)

Foundation courses introduce key methodologies and issues related to Public Policy. **Choose one course from each of the following categories:**

I. Forum Seminar

BDP 101: Intro to Public Policy

II. Public Policy Foundation Course

P A 325: Shaping Public Policy

P A 325: Introduction to Public Policy

Connecting Experiences (6 Credit Hours)

Your BDP advisor can help you find internships and research opportunities that connect Public Policy to your major. We call these opportunities "Connecting Experiences" because they play such an important role in integrating your studies. Each Connecting Experience counts for 3 credit hours. **You will need to complete two Connecting Experiences.**

For more information and for examples of past connecting experiences, visit www.utexas.edu/ugs/bdp and consult your BDP advisor.

Strand Courses (9 Credit Hours)

In addition to your Foundation Courses and Connecting Experiences, you must complete 9 credit hours of strand courses drawn from two or more of the following concentrations. At least 6 credit hours of strand courses should be drawn from courses designated as "Policy-Emphasis" courses; the remaining 3 credit hours may be designated as either a "Policy-Emphasis" or "Contexts for Public Policy" course. You should work with your BDP advisor to choose strand courses that will focus your BDP on your specific interests, and that will provide you with an interdisciplinary perspective on your BDP topic. In order to create an interdisciplinary experience, you must choose courses from a variety of disciplines. Individual course listings for these concentrations are located on the opposite side of this page.

Communication Policy
Community and Urban Policy
Economic Policy
Education Policy
Foreign Policy and Global Development

Health Policy
Political Institutions, Structures, and Processes
Race, Immigration, and Citizenship
Science and Technology Policy

Integration Essay

In order to complete your BDP certificate, write a 3-4 page integration essay in which you reflect on what you learned and accomplished through your BDP experience. This essay is your opportunity to draw connections among your interdisciplinary BDP coursework, your Connecting Experiences, and your major. For additional guidelines, please consult your BDP advisor.

Complete 9 credit hours of strand courses drawn from two or more of the following concentrations. At least 6 credit hours of strand courses should be drawn from courses designated as "Policy-Emphasis" courses; the remaining 3 credit hours may be designated as either a "Policy-Emphasis" or "Contexts for Public Policy" course. Please speak with your BDP advisor about your plan for fulfilling your strand course requirements.

Note that only one of your strand courses may come from your major department(s), or from courses cross-listed with your major department(s).

Communication Policy

Policy-Emphasis

CMS 345G: Communicating To Government
CMS 345P: Communication & Public Opinion
CMS 356C: Collective Action
J 321F: Reporting On City/County Govmt
J 322F: Navigating State Government
J 349T: News Media & Politics
J 350F: Media Law
RTF 365C: Media, Comm Law, And Ethics

Contexts for Public Policy

CMS 340K: Communication And Social Change
J 301F: Fundamental Issues In Journalism
RTF 365D: Med Literacy/Civic Engagement

Community and Urban Policy

Policy-Emphasis

ARC 327R: Urban Trans Policy Planning
P A 325: Quant Foundatn For Publ Policy
S W 323K: Social Welfare Prog, Pol, and Issues
SOC 325L: Sociology Of Criminal Justice

Contexts for Public Policy

ARC 350R: Global Housing Challenge
GRG 337: The Modern American City
SOC 369K: Population And Society
URB 301: Introduction To Urban Studies
URB 350: Urban Politics

Economic Policy

Policy-Emphasis

BGS 375: Busn Pol Age of Inequality
ECO 304L: Introduction to Macroeconomics
ECO 326L: Economics and Education

Economic Policy (Continued)

Policy-Emphasis (Continued)
BGS 375: Busn Pol Age of Inequality
ECO 304L: Introductio to Macroeconomics
ECO 326L: Economics and Education
GOV 360N: Business & Society
P A 383C: The American Welfare State
(Instructor Permission Required, Seniors Only)
PHL 325L: Business, Ethics and Public Policy

Contexts for Public Policy

BGS 371: Corporate Politcal Strategy
ECO 301: Introduction to Economics
ECO 304K: Introduction to Microeconomics
ECO 321: Public Economics

Education Policy

Policy-Emphasis

GOV 370: The Politics of Title IX
HDF 362: Children & Public Policy
LAH 350: Inqlty in the US Edu Sys**

Contexts for Public Policy

ALD 327: Sociocul Influences on Learn
CLD 340: Comm for Civic Engagement
HIS 365G: History of Amer Higher Ed
SOC 307J: Education and Society
SOC 321L: Sociology of Education

Foreign Policy and Global Development

Policy-Emphasis

PA 325: Defense Policy
PA 325: Intel and National Security

Contexts for Public Policy

GOV 360F: Global Governance

Health Policy

Policy-Emphasis

GOV 370V: The Politics of Health Care
HS 330: Health Care Policy In U.S.
S W 360K: Women's Health Policy

Health Policy (Continued)

Contexts for Public Policy

LAH 350: Soc Ineq & Health In U.S.**
PBH 338: Environmental Health
PHL 325M: Medicine, Ethics, and Society

Political Institutions, Structures, and Processes

Only one of your strand courses may come from this category.

Policy-Emphasis

CMS 373D: Advocacy and Politics-DC*
GOV 312L: Issues & Policies in Amer Gov (must be taken in residence)
GOV 357C: Constitutionl Interpretation
GOV 357E: Supreme Court and Public Policy
GOV 357M: Constitutional Struct of Power
GOV 358: Introduction to Public Policy
GOV 370C: Election Campaign
GOV 370E: Congressinal Elections
GOV 370L: Amer Pub Pol in Retrospect
GOV 370P: Policy Making Process-DC*
GOV 371I: The United States Congress

Contexts for Public Policy

GOV 330K: The American President
GOV 357L: Judicial Process and Behavior
GOV 370G: Congress and the Presidency
GOV 370L: Public Opinion/Representation
LAH 350: Money in Amer Polictics**

*Archer Program

**Restricted to Liberal Arts Honors students

Race, Immigration, and Citizenship

Policy-Emphasis

AAS 325N: Asian American Jurisprudence
AAS 335: Migration Crisis
AFR 335: Migration Crisis
GOV 314: Latino Pol/Voter Id/Health/Edu
GOV 371L: Latino Politics
GOV 371G: African American Politics
GOV 371D: Race Policing Incarceration
LAH 350: Race & Gen In Pub Policy**
MAS 308: Intro To Mex Amer Policy Stds
MAS 362: Mexican Amer Policy Stds Smnr
SOC 335R: Reproductive Justice & Race
SOC 323D: Border Control/Deaths
SOC 336C: American Dilemmas

Contexts for Public Policy

AFR 301: African American Culture
AFR 303: Intro To Black Studies
AFR 350: Measuring Racial Inequality
AFR 372C: Black Middle Class
AFR 372F: No Matter What: Policing/US
AFR 374E: Racism & Inequality Lat Am
AMS 370: Politics Of Black Life
ANS 372: South Asian Migration To US
GOV 371M: Afr Amer Women Pol Activity
HIS 314K: History Of Mexican Amers In US
HIS 317L: Intro To Asian American Hist
HIS 317L: The Black Power Movement
HIS 340S: Chinese In The United States
HIS 356P: The US In The Civil Rights Era
HIS 363K: Cul Citiznshp Us & Latin Am
SOC 322U: US Immigration
SOC 336D: Race, Class, And Health

Science and Technology Policy

Policy-Emphasis

C S 349: Contemp Issues in Computer Sci

Contexts for Public Policy

ADV 323: Public Comm Of Sci Tech-WB
ADV 324: Communicating Sustainability
GRG 333K: Climate Change
GRG 404E: Envir Sci: A Changing World
HIS 350R: Envir History Of North America
M E 363M: Energy, Technology & Policy
MIS 302F: Intro To Info Tech Mgmt (Nonmajors)
MNS 308: Humans And A Changing Ocean
PBH 338: Environmental Health

Important Notes on Fulfilling Your BDP Requirements

- **PREREQUISITES:** Some courses may have prerequisites. Please consult your BDP advisor to determine your eligibility for enrolling in specific courses.
- **CROSS-LISTINGS:** Note that many courses on this list may be cross-listed with other departments. You may take these courses under any of the cross-listed numbers. Please consult the course schedule or your BDP advisor for cross-listing information.
- **GRADES AND GPA REQUIREMENTS:** In courses taken for a letter grade, you must obtain a grade of C- or better to meet BDP requirements. The cumulative GPA of all courses counting toward your BDP certificate must be at least 2.0.
- **PASS/FAIL:** Only one BDP course, including connecting experience courses, may be taken pass/fail. Any exceptions will be considered by the faculty panel on an individual basis.
- **SIGNATURE COURSES:** Many of the First-Year Signature Courses (UGS 302 and UGS 303) that include significant content related to Public Policy may also count toward your certificate; please consult your BDP advisor for more information.
- **PETITIONS:** You may be able to count courses toward your BDP certificate that do not appear on this curriculum sheet, if enough of the course content relates to your BDP topic. Please consult your BDP advisor if you would like to petition for a course to count toward your BDP.