Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government

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

In the interest of educating thoughtful and responsible leaders, the Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government BDP brings together resources from across campus to allow students to explore law, politics and government through the lens of leadership ethics. Topics may include leadership, civic participation, public policy, and social change. Through the Connecting Experiences component of the BDP, you may work with community and professional organizations or bring your interdisciplinary expertise to faculty research.

The Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government BDP is overseen by a panel of faculty members from across campus. Members include Minette Drumwright (Advertising), Joe Cutbirth (Communication Studies), Rasha Diab (Rhetoric and Writing), John Dziemkowski (Law), Michael Findley (Government), Diane Ginsburg (Pharmacy), Linda Golden (Marketing), John Luk (Medical Education), Robert Prentice (Information, Risk, and Operations Management), Lawrence (Larry) Schooler (Communication Studies), Scott Stroud (Communication Studies), Sean Theriault (Government), Randolph Wilt (Management), and Paul Woodruff (Philosophy).

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

Upon completion of 19 credit hours from the options listed to the right, you will earn a certificate in Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government.

Foundation Courses (4-7 Credit Hours)

Foundation courses introduce key methodologies and concepts related to Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government. Choose ONE course from the “Forum Seminar” category, and ONE or TWO courses from the “Other Foundation Courses” category. If you choose to complete two courses from the “Other Foundation Courses” category, you will complete only 6 credit hours each of strand courses and Connecting Experiences.

I. Forum Seminar
BDP 101: Intro to Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies
BDP 101: Professional Ethics: Law, Business, and Medicine
BDP 101: Narrative Leadership

II. Other Foundation Courses
CLD 301: Intro to Comm And Leadership-L
CLD 320: Facilitative Leadership-L
CLD 320: Comm Leadership in Higher Ed-L
CLD 321: Seminar Comm/Leadership-L
CMS 322E: Communication Ethics-E
GOV 314: Competing Visns of Good Life-E
HDO 365: Bias-L
PHL 304: Contemporary Moral Problems-E
PHL 318: Introduction to Ethics-E
PHL 322K: History of Ethics
PHL 325K: Ethical Theories-E
R S 306C: Comparative Religious Ethics-E

Connecting Experiences (6-9 Credit Hours)

Your BDP advisor can help you find internships and research opportunities that connect Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government 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 at least 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 (6-9 Credit Hours)

In addition to your Foundation Courses and Connecting Experiences, you must complete 6-9 credit hours of strand courses, to bring your total credit hours toward the BDP certificate to 19 hours. 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 categories are located on the opposite side of this page.

Students in this certificate program must complete at least one strand course designated as focusing on social justice issues.

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.

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
REQUIRED ETHICS AND LEADERSHIP COURSES:

SIGNATURE COURSES:

PASS/FAIL:

PREREQUISITES:

GRADES AND GPA REQUIREMENTS:

PETITIONS:

CROSS-LISTINGS:

Social Justice Courses:

SOC 336C: American Dilemmas-E
SOC 352: Social Movements-L

Social Justice Courses (Continued):

SOC 336P: Social Psychology and The Law

Other Courses for This Strand:

AAS 335: Asian American Jurisprudence
AMS 315: Street Justice: Morals/The Wire
CLD 340: Comm for Civic Engagement
CMS 334F: Fake News
CMS 338L: Leadership and Public Memory
CMS 342K: Political Communication
CMS 345G: Communicating to Government
CMS 345N: Political Narratives
CMS 345P: Communication & Public Opinion
CMS 372D: Politics of National Memory-DC*
E 3605s: Literature of Islamophobia
ECO 321: Public Economics
F A 345: Leadership Urban Engagement-L
GOV 330K: The American President
GOV 351D: Theor Foundtns Modern Politics
GOV 351L: Morality and Politics
GOV 357M: Structure of Indiv Liberties
GOV 357M: Constitutnl Struct of Power
GOV 357M: Law of Politics
GOV 370E: Congressional Elections
GOV 370P: Policy Making Process*
GOV 371L: Latino Politics-L
GOV 371G: African American Politics-L
GOV 371C: Problems in US Politics
HIS 357C: African Amer History to 1860
I 303: Ethical Foundations for Informatics
I 310: Accuracy in Age of Deception
J 308D: Data, Privacy, and You-E
J 348N: Leadership in News Orgs
MAN 337: Leading for Impact-L
MAS 362: Mexican Amer Policy Stds Smnr
NSC 324: Intellectual Property Law for Tech
P A 325: Intro to Public Policy: Race/Im/Citizen
PHL 347: Philosophy of Law-E
RHE 330D: Arguing with Liberals
RHE 330E: 9-Rheoric and The Law
SOC 325L: Sociology of Criminal Justice

Other Courses for This Strand (Continued):

SOC 336P: Social Psychology and The Law

Note:

SOC 325L: Sociology of Criminal Justice
RHE 330E: 9-Rheoric and The Law

Important Notes on Fulfilling Your BDP Requirements

- REQUIRED ETHICS AND LEADERSHIP COURSES: All students in the Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government BDP must, in the process of completing their certificate requirements, take at least one course designated as including a substantial focus on Ethics (E) and at least one course designated as including a substantial focus on Leadership (L).

- 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 Ethics & Leadership in Law, Politics & Government 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.

(Updated: January 2022)