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.

The Public Policy BDP is overseen by a panel of faculty members from across campus. Members include Edwin Dorn (LBJ), Kevin Bacon (LBJ), Norma Cantu (Education), James Galbraith (LBJ), Madeline Hsu (History and Asian American Studies), Bryan Jones (Government), Eric McDaniel (Government), Susan Nold (Communication Studies), Talia Stroud (Communication Studies), Jeremi Suri (LBJ and History), Angela Valenzuela (Mexican American Studies), and Ruth Wasem (Public Affairs).

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

- Communication Policy
- 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
- Ethics & Leadership in Technology & the Media
- Human Rights & Social Justice
- Innovation, Creativity & Entrepreneurship
- Museum Studies
- Public Policy
- Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits
- Social Inequality, Health & Policy
- Race, Immigration, and Citizenship
- Science and Technology Policy
- Other Public Policy
- Social Inequality, Health & Policy
- Other Public Policy

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.

**Foundation Courses (4 Credit Hours)**

Choose one course from each of the following categories:

I. Forum Seminar
   - BDP 101: Intro to Public Policy

II. Public Policy Foundation Course
   - PA 325: Introduction to Public Policy
   - PA 325: Strategy

**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
- Race, Immigration, and Citizenship
- Science and Technology Policy
- Other Public Policy

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.

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

For more information about the Bridging Disciplines Programs, visit FAC 338, go to www.utexas.edu/ugs/bdp, or call (512) 232-7564.
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

J 321F: Reporting On City/County Govmt

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

INF 350G: Trust and Transparency

J 301F: Fundamental Issues in Journalism

J 346F: Reporting on the Environment

J 351F: Journalism, Society, & Citizen Journalist

RTF 365D: Med Literacy/Civic Engagem

RTF 365: Media Industries and Entrepreneurs

**Community and Urban Policy**

**Policy-Emphasis**

P A 310C: Quant Foundtn for Publ Policy

SOC 325L: Sociology of Criminal Justice

**Contexts for Public Policy**

ARC 350R: Global Housing Challenge

ARC 350R: Urban Design Practice

GRG 337: The Modern American City

GRG 356T: Urban Publics

S W 323K: Social Welfare Prog, Pol, and Issues

SOC 307E: Contemp US Social Problems

SOC 369K: Population and Society

URB 301: Introduction to Urban Studies

URB 350: Urban Politics

**Economic Policy**

**Policy-Emphasis**

ECO 304L: Introduction to Macroeconomics

ECO 326L: Economics and Education

P A 383C: The American Welfare State (Instructor Permission Required, Seniors Only)

**Contexts for Public Policy**

ECO 301: Introduction to Economics

ECO 304K: Introduction to Microeconomics

ECO 321: Public Economics

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**Education Policy**

**Policy-Emphasis**

HDF 362: Children and Public Policy

LAH 350: Ingity In the Us Educ Sys

**Contexts for Public Policy**

ALD 327: Sociocul Influences on Learn

SOC 307J: Education and Society

SOC 321L: Sociology of Education

**Race, Immigration, and Citizenship**

**Policy-Emphasis**

GOV 314: Latino Pol:Voter Id/Health/Edu

GOV 365N: Immigration and Comparative Politics

GOV 370K: African American Politics

GOV 370K: Latino Politics

MAS 308: Intro to Mex Amer Policy Stds

MAS 362: Mexican Amer Policy Stds Smnr

P A 325: Race, Immigration, and Citizenship

SOC 323D: Border Control/Deaths

**Contexts for Public Policy**

AFR 301: African American Culture

AFR 303: Intro to Black Studies

AFR 372C: Black Middle Class

AFR 372F: Measuring Racial Inequality

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

HIS 314K: History of Mexican Amers in US

HIS 317L: Intro to Asian American Hist

HIS 317L: The Black Power Movement

HIS 350L: The Chinese in Diaspora

HIS 356P: The US in the Civil Rights Era

HIS 365K: Cul Citizenship US & Latin Am

SOC 321K: US Immigration

SOC 336D: Race, Class, and Health

**Science and Technology Policy**

**Policy-Emphasis**

CS 349: Contemp Issues in Computer Sci

H S 330: Health Care Policy in U.S.

**Contexts for Public Policy**

ADV 378: Communicating Sustainability

GRG 333K: Climate Change

HIS 350R: Envir History of North America

M E 379M: Energy, Technology & Policy

MIS 302F: Intro to Info Tech Mgmt - Nonmaj

MNS 308K: Humans and a Changing Ocean

PBH 338: Environmental Health

PHL 325M: Medicine, Ethics, and Society

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**Other Public Policy**

**Policy-Emphasis**

CMS 373D: Advocacy and Politics-DC

GOV 312L: Issues & Policies in Amer Gov (must be taken in residence)

**Other Public Policy, continued**

**Policy-Emphasis**

GOV 357M: Constitutional Interpretation

GOV 358: Introduction to Public Policy

GOV 370L: Amer Pub Pol in Retrospect

GOV 370L: Campaigns and Elections

GOV 370L: The Politics of Health Care

GOV 370L: The United States Congress

GOV 370P: Policy Making Process

GOV 379S: Complex Emergen Human Act

P A 325: Defense Policy

PHL 325L: Business, Ethics, and Public Policy

SOC 336C: American Dilemmas

**Contexts for Public Policy**

BGS 371: Corporate Political Strategy

CMS 369V: Political Research

CMS 373D: Advocacy in Appld Settings-DC

(Archer Program)

GOV 330K: The American President

GOV 342N: Public Choice

GOV 357L: Judicial Process and Behavior

GOV 357M: Constitutnl Struct of Power

GOV 370L: Congress and the Presidency

GOV 370L: Public Opinion/Representation

P A 325: Adv Smnr in Ethical Leadership

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**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.