DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY

Contact Information

Department of Public Policy
Visit Program Website (http://publicpolicy.unc.edu)
114 Abernethy Hall, CB# 3435
(919) 962-1600

Daniel Gitterman, Chair
danielg@email.unc.edu

Patricia Sullivan, Director of Undergraduate Studies
tsulli@email.unc.edu

Ellen Jackson, Student Services Officer
efj@email.unc.edu

Introduction

Public policy is an interdisciplinary social science major designed to provide students with the theoretical perspective, analytical skill, and substantive knowledge needed to respond to major domestic and global policy problems.

Public policy researchers seek to understand the development and causes of public problems, explain the political processes influencing which problems are addressed and how, design solutions to these problems, and evaluate these solutions. Faculty in the department have expertise in a wide range of global and domestic policy issues including education and labor markets, environment and human welfare, innovation and entrepreneurship, science and technology policy, social policy and inequality, health policy, bioethics, and human rights, international development policy, global conflict and cooperation, and other policy areas.

The undergraduate curriculum emphasizes research and experiential learning and includes exposure to multiple disciplinary fields including policy analysis, economics, history, political science, philosophy, and statistics.

Advising

All majors and minors have a primary academic advisor in Steele Building. Students are strongly encouraged to meet regularly with their advisor and review their Tar Heel Tracker each semester. Public Policy’s director of undergraduate studies and student services officer work with current and prospective students by appointment (see contact information above). For additional information on courses and undergraduate opportunities, see UNC Public Policy’s Web site (http://publicpolicy.unc.edu/academics/undergraduate-program).

Graduate School and Career Opportunities

The undergraduate major in public policy provides students with conceptual and analytical skills that prepare them for employment and graduate school. The integration of a liberal arts education, writing and analytical abilities, and knowledge in a domestic or global policy field prepares students for many career paths, including business, education, law, public administration, public health, public policy, non-profit sector, international affairs, and social work. Public policy majors go on to earn graduate degrees in a range of social science and professional disciplines and pursue careers in academic settings, think tanks, nonprofit organizations, private corporations, and government agencies.

Knowledge

Think and learn across academic disciplines with a diverse faculty with degrees in economics, history, law, sociology, philosophy, political science, and public policy.

Skills

Gain an ability to think critically and independently; to write, reason, and communicate clearly; and to conduct research.

Experience

Apply knowledge and skills in real world environments beyond the classroom. Students in our clinic, internship, and capstone courses address contemporary policy challenges by providing innovative analysis to nonprofit organizations and government agencies.

Major

• Public Policy Major, B.A. (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/public-policy-major-ba)

Minor

• Public Policy Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/public-policy-minor)

Graduate Programs

• M.A. in Public Policy (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/public-policy)
• Ph.D. in Public Policy (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/public-policy)

Professors

Maryann P. Feldman, Daniel P. Gitterman, Sudhanshu (Ashu) Handa.

Associate Professors


Assistant Professors

Carmen Gutierrez, Steven W. Hemelt, Rebecca Kreitzer, Douglas MacKay, Candis W. Smith, Brigitte Zimmerman.

Research Assistant Professors

Cassandra R. Davis, Sarah Crittenden Fuller, Christen Holly.

Professor of the Practice

Melissa Carrier.

Teaching Assistant Professor

Anna Krome-Lukens.

Professors Emeriti

Richard N.L. Andrews, David D. Dill, Michael A. Stegman.
Professor of the Practice Emeritus
W. Hodding Carter III.

PLCY–Public Policy

Undergraduate-level Courses

PLCY 51. First-Year Seminar: The Global Environment in the 21st Century. 3 Credits.
This seminar explores linkages among nations, global environmental institutions, and the environmental problems they cause and seek to rectify. The course will examine how global environmental policy is made, with specific attention to the roles of institutions, nations, commercial and nonprofit entities.
Gen Ed: GL.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 54. First-Year Seminar: U.S. Immigration. 3 Credits.
This seminar provides students with an opportunity to discuss current topics in United States immigration. Students will explore theories of migration, acculturation and assimilation, and the ways in which policies influence the well-being of immigrants.
Gen Ed: SS, US.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 55. First-Year Seminar: Higher Education, the College Experience, and Public Policy. 3 Credits.
This first-year seminar provides an introduction to contemporary policy issues in higher education. Students will discuss challenges to current models of higher education, including accessibility, academic freedom, safety and security, and athletics.
Gen Ed: SS.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 60. First-Year Seminar: Understanding Poverty. 3 Credits.
Despite major improvements in living standards across the globe, nearly a fifth of the world’s population still lives in extreme poverty. This course will examine the key determinants of human material well-being from an interdisciplinary perspective, discuss interventions and policies that can affect poverty including an assessment of market mechanisms, and interpret quantitative data to understand the causes and consequences of human development failures.
Gen Ed: SS, BN.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 61. First-Year Seminar: Policy Entrepreneurship and Public/Private-Non-Profit Partnerships. 3 Credits.
This seminar will define a policy entrepreneur and examine strategies used by policy entrepreneurs to achieve policy change or innovation in the policy making process. We will also explore models of innovative public-private-non-profit partnerships in the delivery of public goods.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 61H. First-Year Seminar: Policy Entrepreneurship and Public/Private-Non-Profit Partnerships. 3 Credits.
This seminar will define a policy entrepreneur and examine strategies used by policy entrepreneurs to achieve policy change or innovation in the policy making process. We will also explore models of innovative public-private-non-profit partnerships in the delivery of public goods.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 66. First-Year Seminar: Energy Poverty. 3 Credits.
Access to affordable and clean energy, a key factor for sustainable development and poverty eradication, is one of the greatest challenges the world faces now and in the future. This interdisciplinary seminar will explore the scope and complexity of the problem, strategies used by governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to mitigate energy poverty, and how to develop and support environmentally sustainable solutions.
Gen Ed: GL.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 71. First-Year Seminar: Justice and Inequality. 3 Credits.
This seminar investigates the value of equality, and asks which forms of inequality are unjust and ought to be addressed by governments. Topics include income inequality, political inequality, marriage inequality, racial inequality, and global inequality.
Gen Ed: PH.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 75. First-Year Seminar: Debates in Public Policy and Racial Inequality. 3 Credits.
Is inequality a policy choice? Students in this course will examine and participate in debates around whether and which policies have the capacity to create, sustain, exacerbate, and/or ameliorate inequalities in the United States.
Gen Ed: SS, CI.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 76. First-Year Seminar: Global Health Policy. 3 Credits.
This course provides students with a variety of opportunities to understand the epidemiologic trends in world health, the institutions of global health governance, and the effects of globalization on global and national health policy.
Gen Ed: GL.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 80. First-Year Seminar: Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Growth. 3 Credits.
This seminar provides an introduction to entrepreneurship and innovation and considers their relationship to economic growth.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 80H. First-Year Seminar: Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Growth. 3 Credits.
This seminar provides an introduction to entrepreneurship and innovation and considers their relationship to economic growth.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 85. First-Year Seminar: Reforming America’s Schools. 3 Credits.
Examines the role of schools and other institutions play in determining life chances, which educational interventions work well for economically and academically disadvantaged students, and what to do when institutions cease to work well. Students will learn how to analyze complex educational public policy problems.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 85H. First-Year Seminar: Reforming America's Schools. 3 Credits.
Examines the role of schools and other institutions in determining life chances, which educational interventions work well for economically and academically disadvantaged students, and what to do when institutions cease to work well. Students will learn how to analyze complex educational public policy problems.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 89. First-Year Seminar: Special Topics. 3 Credits.
Special topics course. Content will vary each semester.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit; may be repeated in the same term for different topics; 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 101. Making Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Overview of the policymaking process and of major public policy issues. Study of policy and political challenges in areas such as economic and tax policy, the social safety net, income support and the minimum wage, health care, education, environment and energy, foreign policy and national security, and homeland security.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 101.

PLCY 101H. Making Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Overview of the policymaking process and of major public policy issues. Study of policy and political challenges in areas such as economic and tax policy, the social safety net, income support and the minimum wage, health care, education, environment and energy, foreign policy and national security, and homeland security.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 101H.

PLCY 110. Global Policy Issues. 3 Credits.
Global issues are challenges whose sources, impacts, and solutions extend beyond the borders of any one country. This course introduces students to some of the most pressing issues facing populations around the globe and to possible policy responses.
Gen Ed: SS, GL.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 110, GLBL 110.

PLCY 110H. Global Policy Issues. 3 Credits.
Global issues are challenges whose sources, impacts, and solutions extend beyond the borders of any one country. This course introduces students to some of the most pressing issues facing populations around the globe and to possible policy responses.
Gen Ed: SS, GL.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 110H, GLBL 110H.

PLCY 130. Getting It Done: Social Innovation. 1 Credit.
Workshop open only to students who have received the APPLES Bryan Fellowship. Each fellowship team develops a project's underlying theory of change and the skills necessary for successful implementation. Students study the theories and implementation of one another’s projects and external case studies.
Gen Ed: EE- Service Learning.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 190. Selected Topics in Public Policy. 1-3 Credits.
Selected topics in public policy.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 195. Research in Public Policy. 1-6 Credits.
Permission of the instructor. Undergraduate research in public policy.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit. 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 196. Independent Study/Reading in Public Policy. 1-6 Credits.
Supervised study for students interested in public policy.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit. 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 210. Policy Innovation and Analysis. 3 Credits.
There is a need to define innovative solutions to public policy problems, to provide analysis of different alternatives, and to create a plan that would benefit the largest number of stakeholders. This course focuses on the process of constructing, evaluating, and deciding among alternatives based on their ability to satisfy society's goals.
Gen Ed: SS, CI.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 210H. Policy Innovation and Analysis. 3 Credits.
There is a need to define innovative solutions to public policy problems, to provide analysis of different alternatives, and to create a plan that would benefit the largest number of stakeholders. This course focuses on the process of constructing, evaluating, and deciding among alternatives based on their ability to satisfy society's goals.
Gen Ed: SS, CI.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 220.

PLCY 220. The Politics of Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Examines approaches to American politics and public policy and analyzes why government responds to problems in predictable ways.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 220.

PLCY 220H. The Politics of Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Examines approaches to American politics and public policy and analyzes why government responds to problems in predictable ways.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 220H.

PLCY 231. Why History Matters to Public Policy. 3 Credits.
This course explores the uses of history and historical perspectives for public policy. Students will learn how historical processes have shaped today's public policies and examine how the origins and development of a policy can inform current policy decisions.
Gen Ed: HS.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: HIST 230.

PLCY 235. Nonprofits and Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Course provides an examination of the nonprofit sector in the United States with a particular emphasis on the role of nonprofit organizations in addressing policy issues. Explores the impact of the nonprofit sector on government policy and the impact of government policy on nonprofit organizations.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 290. Special Topics in Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Special topics in public policy for undergraduates.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit; may be repeated in the same term for different topics; 9 total credits. 3 total completions.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 293. Internship in Public Policy. 3 Credits.
For public policy majors and minors. Permission of the instructor. Offers students the opportunity to integrate and apply academic knowledge and skills by assuming active roles in nonprofit, nongovernmental, or government organizations. Under supervision of a mentor, students gain valuable knowledge that prepares them for the labor market after graduation.
Gen Ed: EE; Academic Internship.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit. 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
Grading status: Pass/Fail.

PLCY 296. Independent Study/Reading in Public Policy. 1-6 Credits.
Permission of the instructor. Independent reading/study in public policy.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit. 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 305. Communicating in Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Students will learn and practice the use of a range of tools and techniques for communicating information about complex public policy issues to diverse audiences. Emphasis on written communication and visualization techniques to explore and explain patterns in large data sets.
Gen Ed: CI.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 310. Microeconomic Foundations of Public Policy. 3 Credits.
This course allows students to enhance their working knowledge of microeconomic theory, explore microeconomic theory as a methodology to solve policy problems, understand market failures and the role of collective action in markets, apply economic models to a variety of policy situations, and evaluate and critique economic analyses. Previously offered as PLCY 410.
Requisites: Prerequisite, ECON 101.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 326. Social Ventures. 3 Credits.
Examines students' knowledge and understanding of social entrepreneurship as an innovative approach to addressing complex social needs. Affords students the opportunity to engage in a business planning exercise designed to assist them in establishing and launching a social purpose entrepreneurial venture.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: ECON 326, PLAN 326.

PLCY 326H. Social Ventures. 3 Credits.
Examines students' knowledge and understanding of social entrepreneurship as an innovative approach to addressing complex social needs. Affords students the opportunity to engage in a business planning exercise designed to assist them in establishing and launching a social purpose entrepreneurial venture.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: ECON 326H, PLAN 326H.

PLCY 327. Introduction to Entrepreneurship. 3 Credits.
A historical overview of the role and importance of entrepreneurship in the economy and society, and a survey of the critical competencies all entrepreneurs (social, commercial, or artistic) must possess.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 330. Negotiation and Mediation: The Practice of Conflict Management. 3 Credits.
Students will learn about meeting their interests when in conflict with another individual, organization, or government, redefining the meanings of "winning" and "power," and coping with stress, discomfort, and emotions when in conflict. Students will learn new negotiation and mediation skills, build upon existing ones, and challenge assumptions regarding conflict.
Gen Ed: CI.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 330.

PLCY 340. Justice in Public Policy. 3 Credits.
This seminar explores arguments about moral issues in public policy. Students examine both the means used to implement policies and policy ends through discussions of case studies of policy choice.
Gen Ed: PH.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 340H. Justice in Public Policy. 3 Credits.
This seminar explores arguments about moral issues in public policy. Students examine both the means used to implement policies and policy ends through discussions of case studies of policy choice.
Gen Ed: PH.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 345. Buying Influence: Interest Groups and Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Students will gain an understanding of the role interest groups play in American public policy and how that role has shifted over time. The course emphasizes the role of interest groups in four policy areas: civil rights, the environment, social policy, and campaign finance.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: POLI 345.

PLCY 349. Immigration Policy in the 21st Century. 3 Credits.
The objective of this course is to enhance students' understanding of the causes and consequences of United States immigration within a social, historical, political, and economic context.
Gen Ed: SS, US.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 352H. Honors Seminar on Public Policy and Global Affairs. 3 Credits.
This is a graded seminar course that focuses on a study of domestic and international affairs within the United States policy-making process. This seminar is taught in Washington, DC. Students must apply for this program with UNC Study Abroad.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 354. The Lived Experience of Inequality and Public Policy. 3 Credits.
This course will explore the gap between public policy and the lived experiences of an reactions to it. Students will explore this gap by studying the work of social scientists who create public policy and the work of artists who have lived through and creatively responded to policy making outcomes.
Gen Ed: SS, US.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: ENGL 354.

PLCY 360. State and Local Politics. 3 Credits.
A range of public policy topics at the state and local level.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 361. Health Policy and Politics. 3 Credits.
An analysis of the evolution of American medical care with special emphasis on current health care policy issues and debates about future directions. Compares other national models to those of the United States.
*Gen Ed:* SS, NA.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

PLCY 364. Ethics and Economics. 3 Credits.
Recommended preparation, at least one course in ethics (PHIL 160, 163, or 170) or one course in economics. Issues at the intersection of ethics and economics, including value; the relation between values and preferences; rationality; the relevance to economics of rights, justice, and the value of human life.
*Gen Ed:* PH.
*Grading status:* Letter grade
*Same as:* PHIL 364.

PLCY 365. Sexuality, Gender, and Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Public policies affect men and women differently, and they participate differently in the policy-making process. This course examines several key areas of public policy, some expressly related to gender or sexuality and others that have significantly gendered impacts, organized around four themes: family, labor, body, and the world.
*Gen Ed:* SS, US.
*Grading status:* Letter grade
*Same as:* WGST 365.

PLCY 371. Energy Policy. 3 Credits.
This course will provide an overview of some of the most challenging energy issues of the 21st century and will cover the tools and perspectives necessary to analyze those problems.
*Gen Ed:* SS.
*Grading status:* Letter grade
*Same as:* ENEC 371.

PLCY 372. Global Environment: Policy Analysis and Solutions. 3 Credits.
Explores linkages among nations, global environmental institutions, and the environmental problems they cause and seek to rectify. Introduces pressing challenges of the global environment such as China and India’s energy and climate policies, the environmental impacts of coal, nuclear energy, shale gas and fracking, and marine pollution. Discusses perspectives of nations, the role of financial markets and NGOs, and the international community involved in crafting policy solutions.
*Gen Ed:* SS.
*Grading status:* Letter grade
*Same as:* ENEC 371.

PLCY 375. Law and Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Law is one of the main technologies of action of individuals and of the American state. This seminar offers useful ways of thinking about the relationship between law and public policy.
*Gen Ed:* SS.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

PLCY 390. Special Topics in Public Policy (Undergraduate). 3 Credits.
Special topics in public policy for undergraduate students.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

PLCY 393. Public Policy Clinic. 3 Credits.
Permission of the instructor. The clinic offers students the opportunity to apply their academic knowledge by collaborating with local nonprofits and governmental agencies. Under faculty guidance, students identify, explore, and recommend solutions for real-world public policy problems while developing skills in team building and professional leadership.
*Gen Ed:* EE- Service Learning.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

PLCY 394. The Intersector. 3 Credits.
Permission of the instructor. This course aims to empower undergraduates to explore ways that local public, private, and non-profit sectors collaborate to address problems that cannot be solved by one sector alone. Students will utilize the Intersector toolkit to gain an understanding of how to diagnose, design, implement, and assess successful cross sector collaborations.
*Gen Ed:* EE- Service Learning.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

PLCY 395. Research in Public Policy. 1-6 Credits.
Permission of the instructor. Research in public policy for undergraduates.
*Repeat rules:* May be repeated for credit. 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

PLCY 395H. Research in Public Policy. 1-6 Credits.
By special arrangement and permission of the instructor. Research in public policy for undergraduates.
*Repeat rules:* May be repeated for credit. 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

PLCY 396. Independent Study/Reading in Public Policy. 1-6 Credits.
By special arrangement and permission of the instructor. Independent reading in public policy.
*Repeat rules:* May be repeated for credit. 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

Advanced Undergraduate and Graduate-level Courses

PLCY 425. Risks, Shocks, and the Safety Net. 3 Credits.
Many risks and shocks can make individuals and families vulnerable to economic hardship. This course examines America’s social policy regime through a wide-ranging investigation of the origins, development, and future of critical features of our social safety net. We pay particular attention to challenges emerging in the era of globalization.
*Gen Ed:* US.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.

PLCY 430. Analysis of National Security Policy. 3 Credits.
Course explores contemporary threats to national security, approaches to national security strategy, policy instruments, the role of military force, and the policy-making process.
*Gen Ed:* SS, GL.
*Grading status:* Letter grade
*Same as:* PWAD 430, POLI 430.

PLCY 435. Designing for Impact: Social Enterprise Lab. 3 Credits.
Focuses on the entrepreneurial process to solve social or environmental issues. Using modern methods and tools, students engage in experiments to test hypotheses around problem definition, opportunity recognition and solutions. Experience gained in this course enable students to launch their own social enterprise or join social enterprises in progress.
*Gen Ed:* SS, EE- Field Work.
*Grading status:* Letter grade.
PLCY 440. Justice and Inequality. 3 Credits.
Growing economic inequality has been identified as a pressing public policy problem in a number of countries. In this course, we explore the justice of economic inequality. Is economic inequality ever morally permissible? If so, for what reasons?
Gen Ed: PH.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 455. 9/11 and Its Aftermath. 3 Credits.
Examines the nature of Islamic fundamentalist terrorism and strategies for addressing it, including analysis of post-9/11 changes to United States national security strategy, law enforcement and intelligence, and homeland security.
Gen Ed: GL.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PWAD 455.
PLCY 460. Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy. 4 Credits.
Application of statistical techniques, including regression analysis, in public policy program evaluation, research design, and data collection and management.
Gen Ed: QI.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 460H. Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy. 4 Credits.
Application of statistical techniques, including regression analysis, in public policy program evaluation, research design, and data collection and management.
Gen Ed: QI.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 470. Business, Competition, and Public Policy. 3 Credits.
This course focuses on competition policy in the United States using relevant Supreme Court decisions as well as economic and policy-related motivation for specific business behavior.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 475. The Political Economy of Food. 3 Credits.
This course examines the political and economic dimensions of the food we eat, how it is produced, who eats what, and related social and environmental issues, both domestic and international, affecting the production, pricing, trade, distribution, and consumption of food.
Gen Ed: SS, GL.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: ENEC 475.
PLCY 475H. The Political Economy of Food. 3 Credits.
This course examines the political and economic dimensions of the food we eat, how it is produced, who eats what, and related social and environmental issues, both domestic and international, affecting the production, pricing, trade, distribution, and consumption of food.
Gen Ed: SS, GL.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: ENEC 475H.
PLCY 480. Environmental Decision Making. 3 Credits.
Introduces factors shaping environmental decision making by individuals, businesses, governments, advocacy groups, and international institutions. Explores public policy incentives and action strategies for influencing them.
Gen Ed: SS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: ENEC 480.
PLCY 485. Poverty, Health, and Human Development in Low Income Countries. 3 Credits.
This course provides an understanding of how poverty is defined, the consequences of poverty, and policies to reduce poverty. It explores the determinants of human development outcomes from an interdisciplinary perspective (with a heavy economics focus).
Requisites: Prerequisite, ECON 101.
Gen Ed: SS.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 490. Special Topics in Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Special topics in public policy for undergraduate and graduate students.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit; may be repeated in the same term for different topics; 9 total credits. 3 total completions.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 496. Independent Study/Reading in Public Policy. 1-6 Credits.
By special arrangement and permission of the instructor. Independent reading in public policy.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit. 6 total credits. 2 total completions.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 520. Environment and Development. 3 Credits.
Reviews environmental problems in developing countries. Analyzes proposed solutions, such as legal remedies, market instruments, corporate voluntary approaches, international agreements, and development policies. Discusses the link between trade and environment, environmental cases from the World Trade Organization, and sustainable development.
Gen Ed: SS, GL.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: ENEC 520.
PLCY 527. Applied Public Finance. 3 Credits.
This course provides a foundation in public finance theory and applications. Students learn to analyze taxation policies and expenditures on income redistribution, programs for the poor (e.g., TANF), and social insurance programs (e.g., Social Security).
Requisites: Prerequisite, ECON 310 or 410, or PLCY 410 or 788.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 527H. Applied Public Finance. 3 Credits.
This course provides a foundation in public finance theory and applications. Students learn to analyze taxation policies and expenditures on income redistribution, programs for the poor (e.g., TANF), and social insurance programs (e.g., Social Security).
Requisites: Prerequisite, ECON 310 or 410, or PLCY 410 or 788.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 530. Educational Problems and Policy Solutions. 3 Credits.
Reviews current debates and policy solutions in education. Topics analyzed through three of the most commonly used evaluative criteria: equity, efficiency, and effectiveness. Topics: equality of educational opportunity, racial segregation, the black-white test score gap, school choice, and the use of incentives to promote increased performance. Lecture, case studies, discussion.
Gen Ed: SS, US.
Grading status: Letter grade.
PLCY 530H. Educational Problems and Policy Solutions. 3 Credits.
Reviews current debates and policy solutions in education. Topics analyzed through three of the most commonly used evaluative criteria: equity, efficiency, and effectiveness. Topics: equality of educational opportunity, racial segregation, the black-white test score gap, school choice, and the use of incentives to promote increased performance. Lecture, case studies, discussion.
Gen Ed: SS, US.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 556. Global Health Policy. 3 Credits.
Coursework will focus on public policy approaches to global health, employing interdisciplinary methodologies to understand selected public health policies, programs, and interventions. For students who have a basic understanding of public health.
Gen Ed: PH, GL.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: PLCY 556.

PLCY 565. Global Health Policy. 3 Credits.
Coursework will focus on public policy approaches to global health, employing interdisciplinary methodologies to understand selected public health policies, programs, and interventions. For students who have a basic understanding of public health.
Gen Ed: PH, GL.
Grading status: Letter grade

PLCY 570. Health and Human Rights. 3 Credits.
Course focuses on rights-based approaches to health, applying a human rights perspective to selected public health policies, programs, and interventions. Students will apply a formalistic human rights framework to critical public health issues, exploring human rights as both a safeguard against harm and a catalyst for health promotion.
Gen Ed: PH, GL.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: HPM 571.

PLCY 575. Innovation, Science, and Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Introduction to analysis of science policy. Course explores how events transformed science's role in American life and how science relates to industry and economic development. Topics include the mechanisms of allocating scientific resources, the commercialization of academic discoveries, regulating emerging technology, and achieving consensus on controversial scientific issues.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 581. Research Design for Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Students will explore the scientific method as applied to policy research. They will formulate testable policy research questions, become familiar with methods for conducting policy research, and learn to think critically about causal inference.
Requisites: Pre- or corequisite, PLCY 460.
Grading status: Letter grade.

PLCY 585. American Environmental Policy. 3 Credits.
Intensive introduction to environmental management and policy, including environmental and health risks; policy institutions, processes, and instruments; policy analysis; and major elements of American environmental policy. Lectures and case studies. Three lecture hours per week.
Gen Ed: HS, NA.
Grading status: Letter grade
Same as: ENVR 585, ENEC 585, PLAN 585.

PLCY 590. Special Topics in Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Special topics for undergraduate and graduate students.
Repeat rules: May be repeated for credit; may be repeated in the same term for different topics; 9 total credits. 3 total completions.
Grading status: Letter grade.