PPL—Public Policy

Department of Political Science
College of Social Science

801 Quantitative Methods in Public Policy
Fall. 3(3-0) RB: Mathematics through pre-calculus; statistics. R: Approval of department.
Logic and practice of public policy analysis. Basic research, measurement, design, and data collection issues. Specific skills and techniques for analyzing univariate data. Techniques for examining relationships among variables.

802 Quantitative Methods in Public Policy II
Spring. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 801 R: Approval of department.
Intermediate understanding of the logic and practice of public policy analysis. Basic research, measurement, design, and data collection issues. Specific skills and techniques for analyzing multivariate data.

803 Quantitative Methods in Public Policy III
Fall. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 802 R: Approval of department.
Advanced understanding of the logic and practice of public policy analysis. Continuation of PPL 802.

805 Microeconomic Theory
Fall. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 801 or concurrently R: Approval of department.
Decision-making by consumers, firms, and governments, and the effect of these decisions on the allocation of market failure and possible government responses.

806 Policy Evaluation
Fall. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 805 R: Approval of department.
Theoretical foundations for evaluation research and the practical aspects of conducting evaluations.

807 Public Policy
Fall. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 801 or concurrently R: Approval of department.
Introduction to public policy and the policy-making process.

808 Policy Development and Administration
Spring. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 807 RB: PPL 801 and PPL 802 and PPL 803 and PPL 805 R: Approval of department.

809 Cost-Benefit Analysis in Public Policy
Spring. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 803 and PPL 805 R: Approval of department.
The conceptual foundations of cost-benefit analysis for setting policies to maximize economic efficiency.

810 Incentives and Public Policy
Spring. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 805 R: Approval of department.
The evaluation of performance in modern organizations, particularly large bureaucracies, by means of “principal-agent” theory and “incentive-compatibility” analysis.

813 Public Finance
Fall. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 805 R: Approval of department
Economics of the public sector: how governments tax and spend revenues and the effects of these decisions on the economy.

890 Policy Workshop
Spring. 3(3-0) P:M: PPL 806 or PPL 810 or PPL 813 RB: 3 semesters in PPL program R: Approval of department.
Application of substantive and analytic skills to a concrete issue. Students act as a consulting firm to review some specific public policy and produce a summary report capable of informing future policy design.

891 Issues in Public Policy
Fall, Spring. 1 to 3 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 10 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: 3 semesters in PPL program R: Approval of department.
Practices and methods in diverse policy settings examined under the tutelage of policy professionals.

894 Field Experience Practicum
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3(3-0) RB: 2 semesters in PPL program R: Approval of department.
Experience in administrative settings in the student’s field of application. Opportunities to evaluate theories of public policy and administration by engaging in participant observation of the management of public policy.