

PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS & PROGRAM EVALUATION CERTIFICATION

Description

The program trains students to analyze systematically and coherently public policies, negotiate multiple and competing interests, and develop in-depth knowledge and application in substantive policy issues.

College Admission

The entrance requirements for the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), including any of the majors or minors offered through the college, are the same as the University of Nebraska–Lincoln General Admission Requirements. In addition to these requirements, the College of Arts and Sciences strongly recommends a third and fourth year of one foreign language in high school. Four years of high school coursework in the same language will fulfill the College of Arts and Sciences' language requirement. It will also allow students to continue language study at a more advanced level at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and provide more opportunity to study abroad.

Academic and Career Advising

Academic and Career Advising Center

Not sure where to go or who to ask? The Advising Center team in 107 Oldfather Hall can help. The Academic and Career Advising Center is the undergraduate hub for CAS students in all majors. Centrally located and easily accessed, students encounter friendly, knowledgeable people who are eager to help or connect students to partner resources. Students also visit the Advising Center in 107 Oldfather Hall to:

- Choose or change their major, minor, or degree program.
- Check on policies, procedures, and deadlines.
- Get a college approval signature from the Dean's representatives.

CAS Career Coaches are available by appointment (in-person or zoom) and located in the CAS Academic and Career Advising Center, 107 Oldfather Hall. They help students explore majors and minors, gain experience, and develop a plan for life after graduation.

Assigned Academic Advisors

Academic advisors are critical resources dedicated to students' academic, personal, and professional success. Every CAS student is assigned an academic advisor based on their primary major. Since most CAS students have more than just a single major, it is important to get to know the advisor for any minors or additional majors. Academic advisors work closely with the faculty to provide the best overall support and the discipline specific expertise. They are available for appointments (in-person or zoom) and through weekly virtual drop-ins. Assigned advisors are listed in MyRED (<https://its.unl.edu/myunl/>) and their offices may be located in or near the department of the major for which they advise.

Students who have declared a pre-health or pre-law area of interest will also work with advisors in the Exploratory and Pre-Professional Advising Center (Explore Center) in 127 Love South, who are specially trained to guide students preparing to enter a professional school.

For complete and current information on advisors for majors, minors, or pre-professional areas, visit <https://cas.unl.edu/major-advisors> (<https://cas.unl.edu/major-advisors/>), or connect with the Arts and Sciences Academic and Career Advising Center, 107 Oldfather Hall, 402-472-4190, casadvising@unl.edu.

Career Coaching

The College believes that **Academics + Experience = Opportunities** and encourages students to complement their academic preparation with real-world experience, including internships, research, education abroad, service, and leadership. Arts and sciences students have access to a powerful network of faculty, staff, and advisors dedicated to providing information and support for their goals of meaningful employment or advanced education. Arts and sciences graduates have unlimited career possibilities and carry with them important career competencies—communication, critical thinking, creativity, context, and collaboration. They have the skills and adaptability that employers universally value. Graduates are prepared to effectively contribute professionally and personally with a solid foundation to excel in an increasingly global, technological, and interdisciplinary world.

Students should contact the career coaches in the Arts and Sciences Academic and Career Advising Center in 107 Oldfather Hall, or their assigned advisor, for more information. The CAS career coaches help students explore career options, identify ways to build experience and prepare to apply for internships, jobs, or graduate school, including help with resumes, applications, and interviewing.

ACE Requirements

Students must complete one course for each of the ACE Student Learning Outcomes below. Certified course choices are published in the degree audit, or visit the ACE website (<http://ace.unl.edu>) for the most current list of certified courses.

ACE Student Learning Outcomes

ACE 1: Write texts, in various forms, with an identified purpose, that respond to specific audience needs, integrate research or existing knowledge, and use applicable documentation and appropriate conventions of format and structure.

ACE 2: Demonstrate competence in communication skills.

ACE 3: Use mathematical, computational, statistical, logical, or other formal reasoning to solve problems, draw inferences, justify conclusions, and determine reasonableness.

ACE 4: Use scientific methods and knowledge to pose questions, frame hypotheses, interpret data, and evaluate whether conclusions about the natural and physical world are reasonable.

ACE 5: Use knowledge, historical perspectives, analysis, interpretation, critical evaluation, and the standards of evidence appropriate to the humanities to address problems and issues.

ACE 6: Use knowledge, theories, and research perspectives such as statistical methods or observational accounts appropriate to the social sciences to understand and evaluate social systems or human behaviors.

ACE 7: Use knowledge, theories, or methods appropriate to the arts to understand their context and significance.

ACE 8: Use knowledge, theories, and analysis to explain ethical principles and their importance in society.

ACE 9: Exhibit global awareness or knowledge of human diversity through analysis of an issue.

ACE 10: Generate a creative or scholarly product that requires broad knowledge, appropriate technical proficiency, information collection, synthesis, interpretation, presentation, and reflection.

College Degree Requirements

College Distribution Requirements – BA and BS

The College of Arts and Sciences distribution requirements are common to both the bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees and are designed to ensure a range of courses. By engaging in study in several different areas within the College, students develop the ability to learn in a variety of ways and apply their knowledge from a variety of perspectives. All requirements are in addition to University ACE requirements, and no course can be used to fulfill both an ACE outcome and a College Distribution Requirement.

- A student may not use a single course to satisfy more than one College Distribution Requirement, with the exception of CDR Diversity. Courses used to meet CDR Diversity may also meet CDR Writing, CDR Humanities, or CDR Social Science.
- Independent study or reading courses and internships cannot be used to satisfy distribution requirements.
- Courses from interdisciplinary programs will be applied in the same area as courses from the home/cross-listed department.

College Distribution Requirements

CDR: Written Communication 3

Select from courses approved for ACE outcome 1.

CDR: Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences with Lab 4

Select from biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, geology, meteorology, mathematics, and physics. Must include one lab in the natural or physical sciences. Lab courses may be selected from biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, geology, meteorology, and physics.

Some courses from geography and anthropology may also be used to satisfy the lab requirement above.¹

CDR: Humanities 3

Select from classics, English, film studies, history, modern languages and literatures, philosophy, and religious studies.²

CDR: Social Science 3

Select from anthropology, communication studies, geography, national security studies, political science, psychology, or sociology.³

CDR: Human Diversity in U.S. Communities 0-3

Select from a set of approved courses as listed in the degree audit.

CDR: Language 0-16

Fulfilled by the completion of the 6-credit-hour second-year sequence in a single foreign language in one of the following departments: Classics and religious studies or modern languages and literatures. Instruction is currently available in Arabic, Chinese, Czech, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Latin, Russian, and Spanish.

A student who has completed the fourth-year level of one foreign language in high school is exempt from the languages requirement, but encouraged to continue on in their language study.

Credit Hours Subtotal: 13-32

¹ See Degree Audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for approved geography and anthropology courses that apply as natural science.

² Language courses numbered 220 and below do not fulfill the CDR Humanities.

³ See Degree Audit or College of Arts and Sciences advisor for list of natural/physical science courses in anthropology, geography, and psychology that do not apply as social science.

Language Requirement

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the College of Arts and Sciences place great value on academic exposure and proficiency in a second language. The University of Nebraska–Lincoln entrance requirement of two years of the same foreign language or the College's language distribution requirement (CDR: Language) will rarely be waived and only with relevant documentation. See the main College of Arts and Sciences page for more details.

Experiential Learning Requirement

All undergraduates in the College of Arts and Sciences must complete an Experiential Learning (EL) designated course. This may include 0-credit courses designed to document co-curricular activities recognized as Experiential Learning.

Scientific Base - BS Only

The bachelor of science degree requires students to complete 60 hours in mathematical, physical, and natural sciences. Approved courses for scientific-based credit come from the following College of Arts and Sciences disciplines: actuarial science, anthropology (selected courses), astronomy, biochemistry (excluding BIOC 101), biological sciences (excluding BIOS 100 or BIOS 203), chemistry (excluding CHEM 101), geography (selected courses), geology, life sciences, mathematics (excluding courses below MATH 104), meteorology, microbiology (excluding MBIOL 101), and physics (excluding PHYS 201.)

See your Degree Audit or your assigned academic advisor for a complete list, including individual classes that fall outside of the disciplines listed above. Up to 12 hours of scientific and technical courses offered by other colleges may be accepted toward this requirement with approval of the College of Arts and Sciences. See your assigned academic advisor to start the approval process.

Minimum Hours Required for Graduation

A minimum of 120 semester hours of credit is required for graduation from the College of Arts and Sciences. A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 is required.

Grade Rules

Restrictions on C- and D Grades

The College will accept no more than 15 semester hours of C- and D grades from other domestic institutions except for UNO and UNK. All courses taken at UNO and UNK impact the UNL transcript. No transfer of C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor. No University of Nebraska–Lincoln C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor. International coursework (including education abroad) with a final grade equivalent to a C- or lower

will not be validated by the College of Arts and Sciences departments to be degree applicable.

Pass/No Pass Privilege

The College of Arts and Sciences adheres to the University regulations for the Pass/No Pass (P/N) privilege with the following additional regulations:

- Pass/No Pass hours can count toward fulfillment of University ACE requirements and college distribution requirements up to the 24-hour maximum.
- Most arts and sciences departments and programs do not allow courses graded Pass/No Pass to apply to the major or minor. Students should refer to the department's or program's section of the catalog for clarification. By college rule, departments can allow up to 6 hours of Pass/No Pass in the major or minor.
- Departments may specify that certain courses of theirs can be taken only on a P/N basis.
- The college will permit no more than a total of 24 semester hours of P/N grades to be applied toward degree requirements. This total includes all Pass grades earned at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and other U.S. schools. **NOTE:** This 24-hour limit is more restrictive than the University regulation.

Grading Appeals

A student who feels that he/she has been unfairly graded must ordinarily take the following sequential steps in a timely manner, usually by initiating the appeal in the semester following the awarding of the grade:

1. Talk with the instructor concerned. Most problems are resolved at this point.
2. Talk to the instructor's department chairperson.
3. Take the case to the Grading Appeal Committee of the department concerned. The Committee should be contacted through the department chairperson.
4. Take the case to the College Grading Appeals Committee by contacting the Dean's Office, 1223 Oldfather Hall.

Course Level Requirements

Courses Numbered at the 300 or 400 Level

Thirty (30) of the 120 semester hours of credit must be in courses numbered at the 300 or 400 level. Of those 30 hours, 15 hours (1/2) must be completed in residence at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

Residency Requirement

Students must complete at least 30 of the 120 total hours for their degree at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Students must complete at least 1/2 of their major coursework, including 6 hours at the 300 or 400 level in their major and 15 of the 30 hours required at the 300 or 400 level, in residence. Credit earned during education abroad may be used toward the residency requirement only if students register through the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

Catalog to Use

Students must fulfill the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year in which they are first admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a subsequent catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must complete all degree

requirements from a single catalog year. Beginning in 1990-1991, the catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

Transfer Students: Students who have transferred from a community college may be eligible to fulfill the requirements as stated in the catalog for an academic year in which they were enrolled at the community college prior to attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. This decision should be made in consultation with academic advisors, provided the student a) was enrolled in a community college during the catalog year they are utilizing, b) maintained continuous enrollment at the previous institution for 1 academic year or more, and c) continued enrollment at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln within 1 calendar year from their last term at the previous institution. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year and within the time frame allowable for that catalog year.

Requirements for Certification Offered by Department

Eighteen (18) hours of coursework as follows.

First Level

Covers the theories, processes, models, and methods of policy analysis.		
POLS 235	Public Policy: Concepts and Processes	3
POLS 236	Public Policy Analysis: Methods and Models	3
Credit Hours Subtotal:		6

Second Level

Examines the interpersonal, interagency and inter-group negotiation processes within which policy making occurs.		
Select one of the following:		3
COMM 311 /	Intercultural and Intergroup	
ETHN 311	Communication	
COMM 371	Communication in Negotiation and Conflict Resolution	
COMM 375	Theories of Persuasion	
POLS 261 /	Conflict and Conflict Resolution	
SOCI 261		
Credit Hours Subtotal:		3

Third Level ¹

Applies models, methods, and the understanding of the policy process in substantive policy areas.		
Select two courses within one policy area. Other courses may be approved by the advisor.		6

Community (Urban & Rural) Policy

AECN 376	Rural Community Economics	
CRPL 300	The Community and the Future	
CRPL 460	Planning and Design in the Built Environment	
GEOG 361	Urban Geography	
HIST 344	American Urban and Social History II	

Comparative/International Policy

CRIM 475	International Criminology and Criminal Justice	
CRPL 481	Planning In Developing Countries	

ECON 423	Economics of the Less Developed Countries	TEAC 331	School and Society
GEOG 372	European Landscapes and Cultures	GERO 410	Educational Gerontology
POLS 361	The United Nations and World Politics	SOCI 460	Education and Society
POLS 363	United States Foreign Policy	<i>Environmental Policy</i>	
<i>Criminal Justice Policy</i>		AECN 357 / NREE 357	Natural Resource and Environmental Law
CRIM 331	Criminal Law	AECN 445 / NREE 445	Agricultural and Natural Resource Policy Analysis
CRIM 335	Criminology	AECN 456 / NREE 456	Environmental Law
CRIM 337	Juvenile Delinquency	AECN 457 / NREE 457 / WATS 457	Water Law
CRIM 338	Race, Ethnicity and Criminal Justice	AECN 465 / NREE 465 / WATS 465	Resource and Environmental Economics II
CRIM 339	Women, Crime and Justice	PLAS 450 / GEOG 450 / METR 450 / NRES 452	Climate and Society
CRIM 403	Organization and Administration	PLAS 475 / CIVE 475 / NRES 475 / SOIL 475 / WATS 475	Water Quality Strategy
CRIM 413	Sociology of Deviant Behavior	CRPL 470	Environmental Planning and Policy
CRIM 222	Community-Based Corrections	CRPL 471	Environmental Impact Assessment
CRIM 450	Drugs and Crime	ENVR 319	Environmental Engagement and the Community
CRIM 475	International Criminology and Criminal Justice	NRES 323	Natural Resources Policy
PSYC 430	Psychology of Family Violence	NRES 484 / GEOG 484 / GEOL 484 / PLAS 484 / WATS 484	Water Resources Seminar
SOCI 311	Sociology of Juvenile Delinquency	<i>Family Policy</i>	
SOCI 474	Deviance and Social Control	CYAF 488	Child and Family Policy
<i>Culture/Ethnic Policy</i>		PSYC 430	Psychology of Family Violence
CRIM 338	Race, Ethnicity and Criminal Justice	SOCI 444	Population Dynamics
GERO 469	Working with Minority Elderly	<i>Gender Policy</i>	
HIST 333 / JUDS 333 / RELG 333	Jews in the Modern World	POLS 338 / WMNS 338	Women and Politics
HIST 464 / ETHN 464	Native American History: Selected Topics	PSYC 421 / WMNS 421	Psychology of Gender
POLS 476 / JUDS 476	Ethnic Conflict and Identity	PSYC 471 / CYAF 471 / EDPS 471 / SOCI 471	Human Sexuality and Society
PSYC 425 / ETHN 425	Psychology of Racism	SOCI 486 / WMNS 486	Sociology of Gender
SOCI 481 / ETHN 481	Minority Groups	<i>Gerontology Policy</i>	
TEAC 330 / ETHN 330	Multicultural Education	GERO 410	Educational Gerontology
<i>Drug Policy</i>		GERO 435	Issues in Aging
CRIM 450	Drugs and Crime	GERO 447	Mental Health and Aging
CYAF 446	Addictions and Families	GERO 450	Legal Aspects of Aging
SOCI 309	Drugs and Society	GERO 451	Long-term Care Administration
<i>Economic Policy</i>			
AECN 357 / NREE 357	Natural Resource and Environmental Law		
ECON 321	Introduction to International Economics		
ECON 423	Economics of the Less Developed Countries		
ECON 471	Public Finance		
ECON 481	Economics of the Labor Market		
POLS 459	International Political Economy		
<i>Education Policy</i>			
ALEC 424	Foundation of Career and Technical Education		
TEAC 330 / ETHN 330	Multicultural Education		

GERO 455	Health Aspects of Aging	
GERO 467	Programs and Services for Older Adults	
GERO 469	Working with Minority Elderly	
<i>Health Policy</i>		
COMM 354	Health Communication	
GERO 447	Mental Health and Aging	
GERO 455	Health Aspects of Aging	
NUTR 356	Nutrition Education in the Community	
NUTR 401	Health Behavior	
PSYC 428	Health Psychology	
SOCI 353	Sociology of Health Care and Health Professions	
<i>Immigration Policy</i>		
CRIM 338	Race, Ethnicity and Criminal Justice	
ETHN 481 / SOCI 481	Minority Groups	
POLS 333 / ETHN 333	Immigration and Politics	
PSYC 310 / ETHN 310	Psychology of Immigration	
PSYC 330	Psychology of Diversity	
<i>Social Policy</i>		
PSYC 310 / ETHN 310	Psychology of Immigration	
PSYC 483	Advanced Social Psychology	
PSYC 489	Child Behavior and Development	
SOCI 474	Deviance and Social Control	
SOCI 480	Social Inequality: Stratification and Life Chances	
Credit Hours Subtotal:		6
Fourth Level ²		
Internship (capstone experience). Students intern in a governmental or nonprofit agency relating to their area of interest or expertise.		3
Credit Hours Subtotal:		3
Total Credit Hours		18

¹ Other courses, including special topics and POLS 426, may be used in the Third Level choices by approval of the advisor.

² Internships must be approved by the advisor and students can register for internship credit through POLS 395 or their major department.

Grade Rules

C- and D Grades

A grade of C or above is required for all courses in the certificate.

Pass/No Pass

No course taken Pass/No Pass will be counted toward the certificate, with the exception of the internship.