



Public Policy Analytics Minor

General information and application form 4.11.16

Public policy research increasingly relies on advanced analytical tools and applied data-driven experiences, as do many other careers. The policy analytics minor would benefit students majoring in numerous fields and would enhance job prospects and preparation for graduate and professional school. This minor will enable students to:

- recognize and identify viable solutions to today's pressing problems,
- examine alternative approaches, budgets and implementation factors,
- evaluate policies using cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analysis,
- understand and work with the constraints and conflicts presented among stakeholders in the policy debate, and
- apply this knowledge within the context of a particular policy field, such as foreign policy or environmental policy.

These and related analytical skills are increasingly valued by business, think tanks, nonprofits and the public sector. For example, LinkedIn's *25 Hottest Skills for 2014*, lists at #1 *Statistical Analysis and Data Mining* and t #18 *Economics*. (<http://blog.linkedin.com/2014/12/17/the-25-hottest-skills-that-got-people-hired-in-2014/>) We know from our students and job listings that these skills are critical in landing jobs in public policy and will enhance student employability and thus the ranking of the University of Tennessee.

For example, an architect or engineer with a minor in public policy analytics would learn how cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analysis are used to evaluate the desirability of investing in public infrastructure, from parks to roads and bridges, while also showing them the importance of informing and persuading stakeholders. A political science major would complement his or her training in political institutions and processes through a deeper understanding of data analytics applied to the evaluation of public policies and increase their job potential with this understanding of data-driven decision-making. A student pursuing a degree in communication and information would learn subject matter expertise on how academicians, researchers and policymakers engage in public policy research and analysis, with improved capacity for writing persuasive speeches or critical, informed articles on policy matters. The proposed capstone experience will ensure that all students are able to take analytical tools and concepts, place them in context and apply them to address practical policymaking.

Applications Open Spring 2016

Applications open in April 2016 for admission in Fall 2016 and beyond: **Info Session on March 30, 2016, 12:30 pm.** (NOTE: Applicants should **NOT** be graduating earlier than Spring 2018.) The minor requires 18 hours and will be capped at 30 students (or 15 students per year), admitted as a cohort, to provide focused support for students. Students will only be admitted to the minor after completing 45 hours, with a minimum 3.25 GPA and these pre-requisite courses:

Pre-Requisite Courses Required for Admission

- BCPP 101 (Intro to Public Policy) **OR** POLS 240 (Intro to Public Admin.) **OR** POLS 311 (Contemporary issues in American Public Policy)



- CMST 210/217 (Public Speaking) **OR** CMST 240/247 (Business & Professional Communications)
- STATS 201/207 (Statistics - pre-requisite of Math 125, 141 or 152)
- ECON 201/207 (Economics) **OR** ECON 211 (Microeconomics)

PUBLIC POLICY ANALYTICS MINOR – Required courses

1. **ECON 311 – Intermediate Microeconomics (3)**
2. **ECON 381 – Econometrics (3)**
3. **BCPP 480 – Policy Process and Program Evaluation (3)** - team taught by economist and political science/public admin) – Offered beginning in Fall 2017
4. **BCPP 490 - Capstone (3)** (Research policy project with presentations throughout) – Offered beginning in Spring 2018

Select Two Courses from one of the following tracks:**

Environmental & Natural Resources Policy

AREC 470 – Policy Analysis for Environmental and Natural Resource Management
ECON 362 – Environmental & Natural Resources Policy
ECON 463 – Environmental Economics
ESS 462 – Environmental Climatology
INSC 490 – Environmental Information
PUBH 420 – Environmental Public Health
SOC 465 – Social Values and the Environment
EEB 306 – Ecology and Society
EEB 309 – Biology of Human Affairs

Global Security Policy

POLS 451 – Ethnic Conflict in Foreign Countries
POLS 470 – International Law
POLS 472 – Conflict Processes
POLS 473 – Negotiation, Bargaining, and Diplomacy
POLS 479 – Regional Analysis of International Politics

Fiscal and Regulatory Policy

ECON 331 – Government & Business
ECON 471 – Public Finance: Expenditure Analysis
ECON 472 – Public Finance: Taxation and Fiscal Federalism
POLS 441 – Public Budgeting
POLS 442 – Administrative Law and Regulatory Policymaking

Health and Social Justice Policy

ECON 436 – Economics of Health & HealthCare
ECON 441 – Labor Economics



PUBH 330 – Emergency Management
PUBH 401 – Global Public Health
PUBH 420 – Environmental Public Health
SOCI 341 – Social Inequalities
SOCI 442 – Comparative Poverty and Development
SOCI 446 – The Modern World System
SOCI 449 – Juvenile Delinquency and Social Policy
SOCI 451 – Criminal Justice
SOCI 452 – Race, Ethnicity, Crime, and Justice
SOCI 465 – Social Values and the Environment
SOWK 416 – Social Welfare Policies and Issues

Foreign Policy*

ECON 421 – International Economics
GEOG 451 – The Global Economy
PHIL 441 – Global Justice and Human Rights
POLS 336 – United States Foreign Policy Process
POLS 350 – Political Change in Developing Areas
POLS 370 – Contemporary International Problems

POLS 461 – Comparative Public Policy
POLS 471 – International Political Economy
POLS 473 – Negotiation, Bargaining, and Diplomacy
POLS 479 – Regional Analysis of International Politics
SOCI 442 – Comparative Poverty and Development
SOCI 446 – The Modern World System
WOST 370 – Gender and Globalization

***Can only take one of the following to satisfy requirement:**

POLS 452 – The Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa
POLS 453 – Western European Politics
POLS 454 – Government and Politics of China and Japan
POLS 455 – South Asian Government and Politics
POLS 456 – Latin American Government and Politics
POLS 459 – Government and Politics of Post-Communist Countries
POLS 463 – Contemporary Middle East Politics

**Students can petition to customize a two-course track that better fits their career aspirations.

Rationale: The minor was developed with input from faculty from law, economics, political science and university honors following an internal review of other programs at the University of Tennessee and universities elsewhere. Students will be exposed to the foundations of public policy and the policymaking process, analytical tools from economics and political science, quantitative methods and program evaluation techniques, subject matter from a student's selected public policy field and a capstone experience that requires hands-on applications in conducting public policy research.



Policy Analytics Minor Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Legal name in full _____ Gender: M ___ F ___ Date of Birth: _____

Age: ____ (Check one) I am a: ___US Citizen OR ___ International student from _____ (Country)

Permanent Address: _____ Campus Address: _____

Phone number: (____) _____ E-mail address: _____
(Mobile # Preferred)

Undergraduate major(s): _____ Undergraduate minor(s): _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ Expected date to receive degree: _____

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Please answer the following question (NO more than one page-250 words).

What would you like to get out of the Policy Analytics Minor? What will you offer in return?

2. Attach your resume and a copy of academic history to your application.

Return this application to: **Nissa Dahlin-Brown, Baker Center, 1640 Cumberland Ave. CAMPUS 3340** or email to nissa@utk.edu

Applications are open until full. Interviews will take place in the fall and spring semesters.