

PUBLIC POLICY, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Harrisburg

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Public Policy, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	15
Requirements for the Major	66

6 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 6 credits of GS courses.

Requirements for the Major

At least 15 credits must be at the 400 level.

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
ECON 102	Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy	3
ECON 104	Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy	3
PLSC 1	American Politics: Principles, Processes and Powers	3
PLSC 309	Quantitative Political Analysis	3
PUBPL 304W	Public Policy Analysis	3
Additional Courses		
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
PLSC 300-499		
PUBPL 200-499		
Select 6 credits from the following:		6
PLSC 419	The Bureaucratic State	
PLSC 425	Government and Politics of the American States	
PLSC 444	Government and the Economy	
PLSC 488	Comparative Public Policy	
PLSC 489	Public Administration	
PUBPL 300-499		
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
PUBPL 481	Seminar in Environmental Policy	
PUBPL 482	Seminar in Health Policy	
PUBPL 483	Seminar in National Security Policy	
PUBPL 490	Seminar in Public Policy	
Supporting Courses and Related Areas		

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

ACCTG 200-499
AFRAS 300-499
AMST 300-499
BESC 300-499
COMM 300-499
CRIMJ 300-499
CMPSC 300-499
ECON 300-499
ENGL 300-499
FIN 300-499
HDFS 300-499
HIST 300-499
HLS 300-499
HPA 300-499
IST 300-499
MGMT 300-499
MIS 300-499
MKTG 300-499
PADM 500-899
PSYCH 300-499
SOC 300-499
SRA 300-499
WMNST 300-499

Select 21 credits in consultation with an academic adviser and in support of the student's interests 21

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.