DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC POLICY AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The PhD in public policy and public administration is a 72-credit program offered through GW’s Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration (TSPPPA), which is situated in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences. The curriculum emphasizes interdisciplinary, applied research in public policy and public administration and related subfields as it prepares students for traditional faculty or public-policy and public administration research positions. The program is designed to develop a range of competencies needed to undertake sophisticated research in public policy and public administration. Core courses cover multiple academic disciplines, including politics, economics, and quantitative and qualitative methods in policy research.

Built upon the diversity and strengths of academic departments and faculty distributed throughout TSPPPA and the university community, the program offers an exceptional education across these disciplines. Program graduates pursue careers in teaching and research related to public policy and public administration and as policy researchers and analysts in government, the nonprofit sector, and the private sector. Some hold administrative positions in these sectors, and many are closely involved in the development and evaluation of public policies and programs.

Trachtenberg School classes are held on GW’s Foggy Bottom Campus. Most classes are in the evenings, allowing full- and part-time students to pursue their degree while working.

Visit the program website (https://tspppa.gwu.edu/phd-public-policy-administration/) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines: Fall – January 15

Standardized test scores: GRE general test required (institutional code 5246). Waived for applicants who hold a JD, MD, or PhD.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the program are:

Academic IELTS: an overall score of 8.0 with no individual band score below 7.0;

OR

TOEFL: 637 on the paper-based or 110 on the Internet-based.

Recommendations required:

Prior academic records: Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

Statement of purpose: In an essay of no more than 750 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in the field. Indicate which of the concentrations you are applying for:

- Education Policy
- Health Policy
- Program Evaluation
- Public Administration and Management
- Public Budgeting and Finance
- Science and Technology Policy
- Social Policy with Specialization in - Gender and Social Policy, Race Ethnicity and Social Policy, Urban Policy, Poverty and Inequality

The essay should describe your specific research interests within that field and your career plans. You may also discuss your related qualifications, including academic, professional, and community activities, and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on your application, or resumé/curriculum vita.

International applicants only: Please review International Applicant Information (https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants) carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 from GW, and English language requirements.

For additional information on the admissions process visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (https://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate-admissions-faq/) page.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences - Graduate Admissions Office
The George Washington University
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 215
REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationstext).

The requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Program (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#doctoraltext).

Completion of 72 credits beyond the baccalaureate or a minimum of 45 credits beyond the master’s degree. Students who have completed graduate coursework judged to satisfy program requirements may be granted advanced standing of up to 24 credits toward the overall 72 credits required for the PhD.

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationstext).

The requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Program (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#doctoraltext).

Completion of 72 credits. Students with a master’s degree in a related field may receive up to 24 transfer credits toward the PhD.

Students must maintain a minimum grade-point average of 3.3 to remain in the program.

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td><strong>Required</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Core Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PPPA 6014</td>
<td>Microeconomics for Public Policy II *</td>
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<td>PPPA 8100</td>
<td>Seminar: Literature of Public Administration *</td>
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<td>PPPA 8101</td>
<td>Research Methods *</td>
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<td>PPPA 8105</td>
<td>Public Finance and Human Capital</td>
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<td>PPPA 8174</td>
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Doctor of Philosophy in the Field of Public Policy and Public Administration
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<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>PPPA 8999</td>
<td>Dissertation Research (taken for 6 to 12 credits)</td>
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*Course is covered by the core comprehensive examination.

**The social policy field has four subfields, each with specific requirements: gender and social policy, poverty and inequality, ethnicity and public policy, and urban policy.