

PUBLIC POLICY MAJOR, B.A.

Contact Information

Department of Public Policy

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The core curriculum in public policy includes courses on policy innovation and analysis, political science, ethics and social justice, economics, statistics, and research design. Our experiential education (EE) courses develop students' teamwork, leadership, and communication skills as they produce actionable, client-centered public policy research. The department offers multiple courses on both global and domestic policy issues including courses on labor, the environment, health policy, international security, food systems, human rights, and economic development. Courses on issues in education, social policy, economic inequality, immigration, race, and gender fulfill general education requirements for coursework in U.S. diversity (see course description for approved Gen Ed attributes).

Department Programs

Major

- Public Policy Major, B.A. (p. 1)

Minor

- Public Policy Minor (<http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/public-policy-minor>)

Graduate Programs

- M.A. in Public Policy (<http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/public-policy>)
- Ph.D. in Public Policy (<http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/public-policy>)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the public policy program, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical, economic, and political perspectives for defining the public interest and evaluating policy choices
- Demonstrate appropriate written, oral, and analytical skills in evaluating public policy alternatives
- Demonstrate knowledge of a particular policy field and apply it in an experience in policy analysis in that field

- Demonstrate skills in developing approaches to solving current public policy problems as a result of participation in experiential education opportunities
- Work effectively in teams

Requirements

In addition to the program requirements, students must

- attain a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.0
- complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC-Chapel Hill courses
- take at least half of their major course requirements (courses and credit hours) at UNC-Chapel Hill
- earn a minimum of 18 hours of C or better in the major core requirements (some majors require 21 hours).

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (<http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/general-education-curriculum-degree-requirements/#degreerequirementstext>).

First-year and sophomore students considering a major in public policy are encouraged to complete PLCY 101 or PLCY 110.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements		
PLCY 210	Policy Innovation and Analysis ^H	3
PLCY 220	The Politics of Public Policy ^H	3
PLCY 340	Justice in Public Policy ^H	3
One of the following:		3
ECON 310	Microeconomics: Theory and Applications	
ECON 410	Intermediate Theory: Price and Distribution ^H	
PLCY 310	Course PLCY 310 Not Found (formerly PLCY 410)	
PLCY 460	Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy ^{2, H}	4
PLCY 581	Research Design for Public Policy ²	3
PLCY 698	Senior Capstone in Public Policy ²	3
	or PLCY 692H Honors in Public Policy	
At least six credit hours of approved public policy electives. ¹		6
Policy Field/Concentration (optional), see list below		
Additional Requirements		
ECON 101	Introduction to Economics ^{2, H}	3
Total Hours		31

^H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

¹ Three credit hours may be for a 100- or 200-level PLCY course. The remaining three credit hours must be for an elective course at the 300 level or above. PLCY 130, PLCY 293 (formerly 320), PLCY 393 (formerly 325), and **PLCY 394** may not count as electives for the public policy major.

² ECON 101 is a prerequisite for PLCY 410. PLCY 460 is a prerequisite for PLCY 698 and PLCY 691H and a pre- or corequisite for PLCY 581. PLCY 581 is a pre- or co-requisite for PLCY 691H and PLCY 698.

Policy Field Concentration (Optional)

Students who complete three approved electives in a specific policy field may elect to graduate with a concentration. Six of these credit hours must be for field courses at the 300 level or above. PLCY 393 may not count as a field course. For students completing an honors thesis, PLCY 691H can count toward the policy field or concentration. **Policy field concentrations include education and labor markets; environment and human welfare; innovation and entrepreneurship/science and technology policy; social policy and inequality; health policy; bioethics and human rights; international development policy; global conflict and cooperation.**

Additionally, students may select courses across subfields and design their own field. For information on which elective courses are recommended for each policy field, please consult with the director of undergraduate studies or the student services officer. The specific policy field is not listed on students' diplomas or transcripts. UNC–Chapel Hill public policy majors are encouraged to list their policy field on their résumés.

Course List

The following courses satisfy the electives requirement and optional policy field or concentration:

Code	Title	Hours
Any PLCY course at the 100 level or above, except PLCY 130, PLCY 293, PLCY 393, or PLCY 394		
AAAD 307	21st-Century Scramble for Africa	3
AAAD 488	Human Rights and Democracy in African Diaspora Communities	3
AAAD 485	Black Atlantic Crosscurrents	3
AMST 390	Seminar in American Studies	3
AMST 486	Shalom Y'all: The Jewish Experience in the American South	3
ANTH 312	From the Equator to the Poles: Case Studies in Global Environmental Change	3
ANTH 318	Human Growth and Development	3
ANTH 319	Global Health	3
ANTH 360	Latin American Economy and Society	3
ANTH 377	European Societies	3
ANTH 380	Anthropological Perspectives on Cultural Diversity	3
ANTH 422	Anthropology and Human Rights	3
ANTH 429	Culture and Power in Southeast Asia	3
ANTH 439	Political Ecology	3
ANTH 441	The Anthropology of Gender, Health, and Illness	3
ANTH 460	Historical Ecology	3
ANTH 470	Medicine and Anthropology	3
ANTH 491	Political Anthropology	3
ANTH 502	Globalization and Transnationalism	3
ANTH 537	Gender and Performance: Constituting Identity	3
ANTH 567	Urban Anthropology	3
ANTH 585	Anthropology of Science	3
BUSI 404	The Legal and Ethical Environment of Business	1.5
BUSI 405	Leading and Managing: An Introduction to Organizational Behavior	3
BUSI 500	Entrepreneurship and Business Planning ^H	3
BUSI 503	Family Business I: Introduction to Family Enterprise	1.5
BUSI 504	Launching the Venture	1.5
BUSI 506	Venture Capital and Start-Ups	3
BUSI 512	Family Business II: Governance and Ownership	1.5
BUSI 610	Global Environment of Business	3
BUSI 611	International Development	3
COMM 312	Persuasion	3
COMM 325	Introduction to Organizational Communication ^H	3
COMM 372	The Rhetoric of Social Movements	3
COMM 375	Environmental Advocacy	3
COMM 376	The Rhetoric of War and Peace	3
COMM 470	Political Communication and the Public Sphere	3
COMM 521	Communication and Social Memory	3
COMM 524	Gender, Communication, and Culture ^H	3
COMM 525	Organizational Communication	3
COMM 571	Rhetorical Theory and Practice	3
COMM 572	Public Policy Argument ^H	3
COMM 574	War and Culture	3
COMM 575	Presidential Rhetoric	3
COMM 576	Making and Manipulating "Race" in the United States	3
COMM 624	Hate Speech	3
COMM 625	Communication and Nonprofits in the Global Context	3
COMM 652	Media and Difference	3
ECON 320	Macroeconomics: Theory and Policy	3
ECON 325	Entrepreneurship: Principles and Practice ^H	3
ECON 345	Public Policy Toward Business	3
ECON 363	International Economics from the Participant's Perspective	3
ECON 380	The Economics of Labor Relations	3
ECON 423	Financial Markets and Economic Fluctuations ^H	3
ECON 430	Economic Development of the United States	3
ECON 440	Analysis of Public Finance	3
ECON 445	Industrial Organization	3
ECON 450	Health Economics: Problems and Policy	3
ECON 454	Economics of Population	3
ECON 455	Environmental Economic Theory	3
ECON 460	International Economics	3
ECON 465	Economic Development	3
ECON 480	Labor Economics	3
ECON 511	Advanced Game Theory in Economics ^H	3
ECON 586	Economics of the Family	3
EDUC 401	Introduction to Early Childhood Development: Birth to Eight	3
EDUC 441	Education in American Society	3
EDUC 506	Politics, Policymaking, and America's Schools	3
EDUC 521	Schools, Cultures, and Communities I: Youth	3
EDUC 533	Social Justice in Education	3
EDUC 535	Teachers and Schools	3
ENGL 364	Introduction to Latina/o Studies ^H	3
ENGL 365	Migration and Globalization ^H	3

ENEC 463	Business and the Environment ^H	3	GLBL 394	Great Decisions and International Relations	2
ENEC 307	Energy and Material Flows in the Environment and Society	3	GLBL 405	Comparative Political Economics of Development	3
ENEC 308	Environmental History	3	GLBL 406	Transitions to Democracy	3
ENEC 309	Environmental Values and Valuation	3	GLBL 560	Human Rights, Ethics, and Global Issues	3
ENEC 330	Principles of Sustainability	3	HIST 365	The Worker and American Life	3
ENEC 350	Environmental Law and Policy	3	HIST 510	Human Rights in the Modern World ^H	3
ENEC 351	Coastal Law and Policy	3	HIST 564	The American Revolution, 1763-1815	3
ENEC 352	Marine Fisheries Ecology	3	HIST 566	The History of Sexuality in America	3
ENEC 370	Agriculture and the Environment ^H	3	HIST 568	Women in the South	3
ENEC 462	Ecosystem Management	3	HIST 569	African American Women's History	3
ENEC 474	Sustainable Coastal Management	3	HIST 577	United States Foreign Relations in the 20th Century	3
ENEC 586	Water Quality Policies and Planning	3	HIST 584	The Promise of Urbanization: American Cities in the 19th and 20th Centuries	3
ENEC 685	Environmental and Resource Economics	3	HIST 589	Race, Racism, and America: (United States) Law in Historical Perspective	3
ENEC 698	Capstone: Analysis and Solution of Environmental Problems	3	HIST 625	Technology and American Culture	3
ENEC/ENVR 470	Environmental Risk Assessment	3	HPM 310	Introduction to Law and Ethics in Health Management	3
ENEC/ENVR 585	American Environmental Policy	3	HPM 330	Introduction to Health Organization Leadership, Management, and Behavior	3
ENEC/ENVR/PLAN/PLCY 686	Policy Instruments for Environmental Management	3	HPM 340	Foundations of Health Care Financial Management	3
ENEC/PHIL 368	Environmental Ethics	3	HPM 350	Introduction to Health Services Systems	3
ENVR 600	Environmental Health	3	HPM 351	Policy Issues in Health Services Delivery	3
GEOG 370	Introduction to Geographic Information	3	HPM 352	Introduction to Health Services Systems II	3
GEOG 391	Quantitative Methods in Geography	3	HPM 435	Marketing for Not-for-Profit Organizations	3
GEOG 414	Climate Change	3	HPM 470	Statistical Methods for Health Policy and Management	3
GEOG 416	Applied Climatology: The Impacts of Climate and Weather on Environmental and Social Systems	3	INLS 382	Information Systems Analysis and Design	3
GEOG 423	Social Geography	3	INLS 515	Consumer Health Information	3
GEOG 428	Global Cities: Space, Power, and Identity in the Built Environment	3	MASC 310	Our Changing Planet: Science, Social Impacts, Solutions	3
GEOG 430	Global Migrations, Local Impacts: Urbanization and Migration in the United States	3	MASC 314	Earth Systems in a Changing World	3
GEOG 435	Environmental Politics	3	MEJO 340	Introduction to Media Law: Journalism Focus	3
GEOG 445	Medical Geography	3	MEJO 441	Diversity and Communication	3
GEOG 446	Geography of Health Care Delivery	3	MEJO 442	Gender, Class, Race, and Mass Media	3
GEOG 447	Gender, Space, and Place in the Middle East	3	MEJO 443	Latino Media Studies	3
GEOG 448	Transnational Geographies of Muslim Societies	3	MEJO 445	Process and Effects of Mass Communication	3
GEOG/ENEC 451	Population, Development, and the Environment	3	MEJO 446	Global Communication and Comparative Journalism	3
GEOG 457	Rural Latin America: Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources	3	MEJO 458	Southern Politics: Critical Thinking and Writing	3
GEOG 458	Urban Latin America: Politics, Economy, and Society	3	MEJO 551	Digital Media Economics and Behavior	3
GEOG 460	Geographies of Economic Change	3	MEJO 541	Economics Reporting	3
GEOG 470	Political Ecology: Geographical Perspectives	3	MEJO 560	Environmental and Science Journalism ^H	3
GEOG 480	Liberation Geographies: The Place, Politics, and Practice of Resistance	3	MNGT 345	Public Policy Toward Business	3
GEOG 481	Ethnographies of Globalization: An Upper-Level Research Design Class	3	MNGT 365	The Worker and American Life	3
GEOG 491	Introduction to GIS	3	MNGT 380	The Economics of Labor Relations	3
GEOG 541	GIS in Public Health	3	MNGT 410	Formal Organizations and Bureaucracy	3
GEOG 542	Neighborhoods and Health	3	MNGT 412	Social Stratification	3
GLBL 382	Latin American Migrant Perspectives: Ethnography and Action	3	MNGT 415	Economy and Society	3
GLBL 390	Current Topics in Global Studies	3	MNGT 427	The Labor Force	3
			PHIL 364	Ethics and Economics	3
			PHIL 370	Political Philosophy	3

PHIL 384	Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	3	PSYC 532	Quantitative Psychology ^H	3
PHIL 473	American Political Philosophy	3	PSYC 561	Social Cognition ^H	3
PHIL 480	Philosophy of Law	3	PSYC 565	Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination	3
PHIL 698	Philosophy, Politics, and Economics II: Capstone Course	3	PSYC 601	Psychology and Law	3
PLAN 330	Principles of Sustainability	3	PUBH 510	Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Global Health	3
PLAN 574	Political Economy of Poverty and Inequality	3	PWAD 350	Introduction to Peace and Security Studies	3
PLAN 585	American Environmental Policy	3	PWAD 368	War and American Society to 1903	3
PLAN 636	Urban Transportation Planning	3	PWAD 416	Constitutional Policies and the Judicial Process	3
PLAN 637	Public Transportation	3	PWAD 443	American Foreign Policy: Formulation and Conduct	3
PLAN 641	Watershed Planning	3	PWAD 444	Seminar on Terrorism	3
PLAN 651	Urban Form and the Design of Cities	3	PWAD 453	Political Geography	3
PLAN 685	Water and Sanitation Planning and Policy in Less Developed Countries	3	PWAD 455	9/11 and Its Aftermath	3
POLI 400	Executive Politics	3	PWAD 460	International Economics	3
POLI 401	Political Economy I: The Domestic System	3	PWAD 469	Conflict and Intervention in the Former Yugoslavia ^H	3
POLI 406	State Governments: Laboratories of Democracy	3	PWAD 574	War and Culture	3
POLI 411	Civil Liberties under the Constitution ^H	3	PWAD 575	Presidential Rhetoric	3
POLI 412	United States National Elections ^H	3	PWAD 577	United States Foreign Relations in the 20th Century	3
POLI 416	Constitutional Policies and the Judicial Process	3	RELI 423	Ethnicity, Race, and Religion in America	3
POLI 418	Mass Media and American Politics	3	RELI 443	Evangelicalism in Contemporary America ^H	3
POLI 419H	Race and Politics in the Contemporary United States	3	STOR 305	Decision Making Using Spreadsheet Models	3
POLI 420	Legislative Politics ^H	3	STOR 358	Sample Survey Methodology	4
POLI 431	African Politics and Societies	3	STOR 415	Introduction to Optimization	3
POLI 433	Politics of the European Union ^H	3	STOR 455	Statistical Methods I	3
POLI 434	Politics of Mexico	3	SOCI 410	Formal Organizations and Bureaucracy	3
POLI 436	Democracy and Development in Latin America (Spanish)	3	SOCI 412	Social Stratification	3
POLI 437	Political Change in Asia	3	SOCI 415	Economy and Society	3
POLI 438	Democracy and International Institutions in an Undivided Europe	3	SOCI 416	Comparative Perspectives on Contemporary International Migration and Social Membership	3-4
POLI 442	International Political Economy	3	SOCI 418	Contemporary Chinese Society	3
POLI 443	American Foreign Policy: Formulation and Conduct	3	SOCI 420	Political Sociology	3
POLI 444	Seminar on Terrorism	3	SOCI 422	Sociology of Health and Mental Illness	3
POLI 457	International Conflict Processes	3	SOCI 423	Sociology of Education, Experiential Education	3
POLI 470	Social and Political Philosophy ^H	3	SOCI 424	Law and Society	3
POLI 472	Problems of Modern Democratic Theory ^H	3	SOCI 425	Family and Society, Junior/Senior Section	3
PSYC 465	Poverty and Development	3	SOCI 426	Sociology of Education	3
PSYC 467	The Development of Black Children	3	SOCI 427	The Labor Force	3
PSYC 469	Evolution and Development of Biobehavioral Systems	3	SOCI 431	Aging	3
PSYC 471	The Study of Adolescent Issues and Development	3	SOCI 442	Conflict and Bargaining	3
PSYC 500	Developmental Psychopathology	3	SOCI 444	Race, Class, and Gender	3
PSYC 502	Psychology of Adulthood and Aging	3	SOCI 468	United States Poverty and Public Policy	3
PSYC 504	Health Psychology	3	SOCI 469	Health and Society	3
PSYC 512	Popularity, Friendship, and Peer Relations	3	SPHG 350H	Introduction to Public Health	3
PSYC 514	Mania and Depression	3	WGST 368	Women of Color in Contemporary United States Social Movements	3
PSYC 515	Psychological Approaches to Prevention Science	3	WGST 388	The International Politics of Sexual and Reproductive Health	3
PSYC 530	Design and Interpretation of Psychological Research	3	WGST 410	Comparative Queer Politics	3
PSYC 531	Tests and Measurement	3	WGST 569	African American Women's History	3
			WGST 610	Feminism, Sexuality, and Human Rights	3
			WGST 662	Gender Issues in Planning and Development	3

The following inactivated courses have been removed from the course list: AAAD 412, AMST 386, and ECON 385, effective fall 2018.

H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

Program Restrictions

A maximum of one three-credit independent study course (PLCY 395, PLCY 396, PLCY 496, PLCY 596, or PLCY 696) may be counted as an elective for the policy major. A maximum of one three-credit transfer or study abroad course or two Burch Field Research Seminar in DC courses (PLCY 352H; HNRS 352) may be counted as electives toward the public policy major. For credit toward the major, an independent study proposal form must be completed by the student, approved by the independent study instructor, submitted to the student services officer, and approved by the director of undergraduate studies before the internship begins.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans can be used as a guide to identify the courses required to complete the major and other requirements needed for degree completion within the expected eight semesters. The actual degree plan may differ depending on the course of study selected (second major, minor, etc.). Students should meet with their academic advisor to create a degree plan that is specific and unique to their interests. The sample plans represented in this catalog are intended for first-year students entering UNC–Chapel Hill in the fall term. Some courses may not be offered every term.

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
ECON 101	Introduction to Economics ^H	3
PLCY 101 or PLCY 110	Making Public Policy (Optional, elective credit) ^H or Global Policy Issues	3
Hours		6
Sophomore Year		
PLCY 210	Policy Innovation and Analysis ^H	3
PLCY 220	The Politics of Public Policy ^H	3
PLCY 340	Justice in Public Policy ^H	3
Hours		9
Junior Year		
PLCY 460	Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy ^H	4
STOR 155	Introduction to Data Models and Inference (Strongly recommended)	3
PLCY 581	Research Design for Public Policy (PLCY 460 is a co- or prerequisite)	3
ECON 310 or ECON 410	Microeconomics: Theory and Applications or Intermediate Theory: Price and Distribution	3
Hours		13
Senior Year		
PLCY 698	Senior Capstone in Public Policy ¹	3
Elective credit at 300 level or above		3
Hours		6
Total Hours		34

H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

¹ or PLCY 691H and PLCY 692H.

Special Opportunities in Public Policy Honors in Public Policy

Public policy majors who have at least a 3.3 overall grade point and a 3.5 in the core public policy courses are eligible to apply to the department's honors program in the spring of their junior year. The honors thesis offers an opportunity for motivated students to move beyond traditional coursework and apply critical thinking skills to an academic public policy thesis. This program is organized as an original, independent research project under the direction of a faculty adviser.

Completion of an honors thesis provides a total of six credit hours toward the major, including three credits toward a policy field concentration. Students who complete an honors thesis and maintain all other eligibility criteria may be recommended by their thesis advisor and the Undergraduate Affairs Committee for graduation with honors or highest honors in public policy. The department's Web site (<http://publicpolicy.unc.edu/academics/undergraduate-program/honors>) provides more information.

Undergraduate Research

Most courses in public policy include a research component. In addition, the department offers opportunities for students to work directly with a faculty member on a research project through independent study. The honors thesis process enables students to undertake a major independent policy research project. PLCY 195, PLCY 393, PLCY 395, PLCY 581, PLCY 596, PLCY 691H, PLCY 692H, PLCY 696, and PLCY 698 are designated as research-intensive courses, and PLCY 460 and PLCY 581 are designated as research methods courses by the Office for Undergraduate Research. Earning a grade of C or better in any of these courses partially fulfills the requirements for the Carolina Research Scholar designation. The Duncan MacRae Jr. Public Policy Fund provides grants on a competitive basis to public policy majors engaged in mentored research with a public policy faculty member, in policy-relevant independent research, and in honors thesis research in public policy.

Experiential Education

In keeping with Carolina's Making Connections Curriculum, the Department of Public Policy's experiential education programs offer students structured, active-learning opportunities that invite them to integrate and apply their academic knowledge and skills in a real-world policy environment. Opportunities include internships, the Honors Seminar on Public Policy and Global Affairs in Washington DC (PLCY 352H), the public policy clinic (PLCY 393), and the public policy capstone course (PLCY 698). PLCY 130, PLCY 293, PLCY 393, PLCY 691H, PLCY 692H, and PLCY 698 are all approved as experiential education courses.

For more information, see the department's Web site (<http://publicpolicy.unc.edu/academics/experiential-education>).

Capstone Course

The capstone course (PLCY 698) is the culminating experience of the public policy undergraduate major and is required for all seniors except those who complete an honors thesis. Students should register for the course in the fall or spring of their senior year. The course provides a

bridge between policy analysis as it is studied in an academic setting and policy analysis as it is practiced in the workplace. Students work in small teams to produce actionable, client-centered, public policy analysis for a government agency or nonprofit organization.

Internships

Students may receive academic credit for an approved internship if it provides an academically relevant experience in policy analysis or research. Students who wish to complete an internship with an external organization can do so through PLCY 293 (available to public policy majors and minors). PLCY 293 is a Pass/Fail course. The Duncan MacRae Jr. Public Policy Internship Grant aims to support internship opportunities for public policy majors and to defer some of the costs associated with engaging in unpaid summer internships. The Hodding Carter III Public Service Fellowship supports opportunities for UNC–Chapel Hill public policy majors to engage in public service opportunities in our communities, the American south, the nation, and around the globe.

Undergraduate Funding and Awards

Each year the Department of Public Policy holds a graduation ceremony to honor students' achievements. The Richard N.L. (Pete) Andrews Environmental Policy Fund recognizes a rising senior public policy major who has been exceptionally engaged in research and/or public service to find solutions to local, state, national, or global environmental policy challenges. The Kathy Taft Education Policy Award recognizes a rising senior majoring in public policy with an interest in and dedication to education policy. The Michael A. Stegman Award for Policy Research and Advocacy is awarded to a graduating public policy major who has demonstrated an ability to use policy research and analysis to advocate for social change and a commitment to play a future role in policy research and advocacy.

Public Policy Majors Union

The Public Policy Majors' Union (PPMU) was founded in 1988 in an effort to help govern the department's curriculum. The PPMU has since expanded its role to include representation of policy majors within the University community and sponsorship of policy-related events, including policy teas with guest speakers, lectures, skill workshops, career and internship events, and social functions. Membership is open to all public policy majors.

Honors Seminar on Public Policy and Global Affairs in DC

The Honors Seminar on Public Policy and Global Affairs offers Carolina undergraduates a unique learning, living, and internship opportunity in our nation's capital. The seminar offers students first-hand engagement with the actors and organizations that influence domestic and global affairs in Washington, D.C. It aims to expose students to a range of public policies that influence U.S. economic prosperity, national security, and its role in the broader global community. Internship placements provide opportunities for students to apply academic learning, to derive new insights and questions for seminar discussion, and to work directly with substantive policy experts.