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# Policy Studies

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## Program Faculty and Fields of Interest

The UMass Dartmouth Policy Studies Minor allows undergraduates to obtain a specialized professional minor embedded within a liberal arts curriculum. The minor consists of a sequenced set of courses that provide students with a knowledge of the policy studies discipline, theories and models of policy formation, policy implementation processes, applied policy research, and in-depth substantive knowledge of one or more policy areas. The program emphasizes the development of policy analysis and research skills with a particular focus on policy issues that concern state, regional, and municipal officials in Massachusetts and New England. The program's faculty is highly respected for its interdisciplinary skills in policy analysis, public management, and program evaluation, as well as their substantive expertise in several areas of public policy. The programs' faculty routinely serve as consultants to Federal, state and local governments, non-profit organizations, school departments, and private businesses.

Policy Studies requires all minors to take an Internship, which is designed to advance the public and private sector career opportunities of students in all disciplines. A minor in Policy Studies can be an exciting complement to the career aspirations of students majoring in any of the social sciences, business management and marketing, human resources, civil engineering, and areas of science that touch on public policy issues. A Policy Studies minor is useful to students interested in career tracks in policy analysis, program evaluation, and project management positions in government and non-profit organizations; private sector employment in government relations, public affairs, survey or policy research organizations; and provides a special distinction in graduate school or law school admission.

Through its links to the Center for Policy Analysis, the Policy Studies Minor offers students the opportunity to develop applied research and policy analysis skills by participating in funded research projects as interns or research assistants. The Center for Policy Analysis also co-sponsors an annual policy studies lecture series and awards competitive scholarships for minors in Policy Studies.

The Department also offers a graduate program in Policy Studies leading to the Masters of Public Policy degree.

**Clyde W Barrow (chairperson; director, center for policy analysis)** public policy: Massachusetts, higher education, policy formation; political economy: Massachusetts, economic impact analysis, industry analysis, regional economic development

**Toby E Huff** public policy: globalization and internet policy, science and technology policy, quantitative studies of American society; Muslim society

**Philip H Melanson** public policy: information policy, government secrecy, counter-terrorism policy

### Affiliated Faculty

**William Hogan** Economics

**Susan Krumholz** Sociology

**Robin A Robinson** Sociology

**Gail Russell** Community Nursing

**Mark Santow** History

**Susanne Scott** Management

**Luther Wallin** English

## Requirements for the Minor

The minor in Policy Studies requires the completion of at least 18 credits, plus a methods course in either Economic Statistics (ECO 332) or Business Statistics (MGT 210). All minors are required to complete:

PST 102 Introduction to Policy Studies  
PST 201 Theories of Policy Formation  
PST 350 Public Policy Problems: Process and Practitioners  
PST 390 Policy Studies Internship  
400-level Special Topics in Public Policy

### Multidisciplinary Studies

Although there is no Policy Studies major as such, students in the College of Arts and Science who are interested may design an individualized course of study through the Multidisciplinary Studies major (requirements described elsewhere in the catalogue). Students who wish to build their major around Policy Studies should contact the Director of the Policy Studies Program.

### Distribution Credit for Policy Studies Courses

Students who are not minors in Policy Studies may take individual Policy Study courses to satisfy distribution requirements. Policy Studies courses satisfy social science distribution requirements and general elective requirements. Policy Studies courses that are cross-listed with departments also satisfy requirements in the department where they are cross-listed.

### Advising

Students who minor in Policy Studies are expected to work closely with a program faculty advisor, who will be assigned to that student for the duration of his or her academic career. Minors will be required to consult with their advisor each semester to identify required courses and to insure their timely and sequential progress through the minor. The advisor will also help students identify courses in cognate departments that support and strengthen the individual student's interest in a substantive policy area (e.g., labor relations, economic development, environmental policy, education policy).

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## Policy Studies Courses

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**PST 140 (ECO 105)** three credits  
**Economic Development**

The meaning of economic development. The interaction of economics, social and cultural forces in development. Widely different time periods will be considered.

**PST 141 (ECO 103)** three credits  
**Cities, Minorities, and Poverty**

Review and analysis of major social problems faced by cities; emphasis on origin, causes and possible solutions for poverty and minority problems.

**PST 142 (ECO 111)** three credits  
**Jobs and Discrimination**

Basic analysis of problems of economic growth, job creation, and unemployment; structure of work and jobs will be explored, along with current issues surrounding the government's impact on inflation, taxation, and economic planning.

**PST 231 (ECO 231)** three credits  
**Principles of Microeconomics**

Comparisons in terms of structure and performance between different types of market economies, ranging from smaller to larger public sectors, market socialist economies, and mixed economies. The case study method is used, taking examples from the economies of the European Union, export-oriented Asian economies, and less developed African and South American economies.

**PST 232 (ECO 232)** three credits  
**Principles of Macroeconomics**

Prerequisites: None. This course may be taken before ECO 231

Survey of introductory macroeconomics with focus on economic growth, unemployment, and inflation. Topics covered include national income accounting, inflation, unemployment, fiscal policy, money, the banking system, and monetary policy are covered. Balance of payments and currency exchange rate issues are analyzed.

**PST 301** three credits  
**Theories of Policy Formation**

Theories and models of the policy-making process. The course examines how different theories view the role of political leadership, bureaucratic institutions, interest groups, social movements, academic experts, and business in the policy-making process. The course also identifies stages in the policy-making process and how different social actors affect the process at those stages. The course provides students with the analytic tools to understand variations in the policy-

making process across issues.

**PST 343 (ECO 343)** three credits  
**The Economics of Race and Sex Discrimination**

Prerequisites: ECO 231, 232; or permission of instructor

The theory of labor markets and the problem of discrimination. Current problems facing women and minorities will be examined. Existing programs and trends will be explored.

**PST 344 (ECO 344)** three credits  
**Work, Jobs, and Income**

Prerequisites: ECO 231, 232; or permission of instructor

Study of changes in the labor force, the impact of labor market processes and how they effect work motivation, job performance and income distribution. Formerly ECO 453, and may both be repeated under this new number.

**PST 346 (ECO 337)** three credits  
**Environmental Economics**

Prerequisites: ECO 231

This course will study the fascinating and growing field of environmental and natural resource economics. All the topics covered (e.g., property rights and externalities, regulation and pollution control) will be examined as part of the general focus on the problem of economic growth in the presence of limited environmental and natural resources. We will employ the tools from 'basic' microeconomic theory to study the relationship between the economy and the natural environment.

**PST 347 (ECO 362)** three credits  
**Monetary Theory and Policy**

Prerequisites: ECO 231, 232

Structure of the American monetary and banking system. Monetary theory is developed and monetary policies are considered.

**PST 350** three credits  
**Public Policy Problems: Process and Practitioners**

Prerequisites: PST 102.

A survey of selected major policy content arenas such as marine ecology, health care, regional economic development, global warming, occupational health and safety, with an emphasis on the inter-institutional and societal dynamics of the policy-making processes that are unique to each area. General concepts and the general policy-making process are also covered. The course includes guest lectures and discussions by one

or more expert practitioners in each area.

**PST 351 (PSC 315)** three credits  
**Public Policy in America**

Prerequisites: PSC 101 and upper-division standing

The policy-making roles, processes, and dynamics of U.S. political institutions, including the federal bureaucracy, media, think tanks, and universities. Major theme and dynamics examined include: governmental secrecy, covert action, the role of scientific experts, and the right to privacy.

**PST 352 (SOC 335)** three credits  
**Social Policy**

Prerequisites: SOC 101 or 203

An analysis of the relationship between social needs and societal response with an examination of the effectiveness of current policies in meeting human needs. The policies selected for analysis will be programs and provisions directed toward a specific population, e.g. elderly, women, etc. The policies to be studied will focus on a particular substantive area and may change with each semester that the course is offered.

**PST 353 (PSC 326)** three credits  
**Labor Relations: Law, Practice, & Policy**

An examination of the political and legal framework of U.S. labor relations. The course will include analysis of legislation and Supreme Court and NLRB cases which shape national labor policy and define relations among workers, employers, and the state.

**ST 355 (SOC 336)** three credits  
**Women and Social Policy**

Family policy issues in the U.S. such as childcare, family leave, job equity, and marriage and family relationships. U.S. public policy is compared with that of other countries.

**PST 369 (HST 314)** three credits  
**History of Urban America**

Examines the history of the American city—its people, its culture, and its politics. The course examines why cities look the way they do, and why cities are disproportionately poor and minority, while suburbs are not. Students consider such questions as: Are cities in crisis? Can—and should—they be saved? The course looks at why cities are the way they are, and whether they still matter in an increasingly suburban nation. The course will also consider how these larger issues apply to nearby cities, such as New Bedford, Fall River, and Providence.

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**PST 390** 1-15 Credits

**Policy Studies Internship**

Prerequisites: PST 102, PST 201, and upper-class standing.

A policy-related internship tailored to each student's career preferences or academic interests. The selection of an internship venue occurs in consultation with the student's Policy Studies advisor and with the approval of the Policy Studies Internship Coordinator. The Internship venue is selected from a pre-approved list of local, state, and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and private sector businesses. This variable credit course may be taken for 1 to 15 credits, but no more than three credits may count toward fulfilling requirements toward the minor in Policy Studies. The course is open to all students, although preference will be given to Policy Studies majors and minors.

**PST 445 (ECO 472)** three credits

**Coastal Resource Economics**

Prerequisites: ECO 231, 232; or permission of instructor

An examination of the economic, public policy and regulatory issues affecting coastal zone resources. The focus will be on specific case studies with an emphasis on examining policy and environmental issues. Students will be involved in projects on specific cases.

**PST 450** three credits

**Special Topics in Policy Studies**

Prerequisites: PST 102, PST 201, and upper class standing.

Seminar conducted on a graduate school model. The seminar requires students to do in-depth research on a specific policy area. The topics vary depending on the instructor's current research and policy consulting activities and in response to the emergence of significant public policy issues. Sample topics include freedom of information and information policy, science and technology policy, regional economic development, marine policy, and environmental policy. May be repeated with change of content.

**PST 196, 296, 396, 496** three credits

**Directed Study**

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor, Program Director, and College Dean.

Study under the supervision of a faculty member in an area covered in a regular course not currently being offered. Conditions and hours to be arranged.

**PST 495** 1 to 6 credits

**Independent Study**

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor, Program Director, and College Dean.

Study under the supervision of a faculty member in an area not otherwise part of the discipline's course offerings. Conditions and hours to be arranged.