

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

University Graduate School
2006–2007
Academic Bulletin

Public Affairs

**School of Public and Environmental Affairs
Bloomington**

Dean

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Note: Be sure to specify the program in which you are interested when sending mail.

Departmental URL

www.spea.indiana.edu/

Graduate Faculty

(An asterisk [*] denotes membership in the University Graduate School faculty with the endorsement to direct doctoral dissertations.)

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University Professor Emeritus

York Y. Willbern*

Arthur F. Bentley Professors

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James L. Perry*

Distinguished Professor

Ronald A. Hites*

Professors

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Associate Professors

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Assistant Professors

Anthony A. Blasingame, Kelly L. Brown (Kokomo), Robert A. Brown (Indianapolis), Gaylord George Candler (South Bend), Karl L. Besel (Kokomo), Melchor C. Deguzman (South Bend), Marie A. Eisenstein (Northwest), Sergio Fernandez, Beth A. Gazley, Jason Elliot Murasko (South Bend), Curt George Sobolewski (South Bend), Thomas Stucky (Indianapolis), Ellen Szarleta (Northwest)

Academic Advisor

Professor Roger B. Parks*, SPEA 441, (812) 855-2457

Degree Offered

Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Public Affairs

The Doctoral Program in Public Affairs takes advantage of the unique strengths of SPEA's interdisciplinary faculty and research programs, both of which have earned wide recognition from peer institutions, national and international agencies, and professional groups. The curriculum equips students with the necessary skills for independent research and analysis of problems, issues, and solutions in government and the nonprofit sector in the following three major fields:

1. Public finance: the theory and practice of fiscal administration, including public budgeting, revenue administration, and financial management;
2. Public management: the design and operation of governmental institutions, including strategic/operations management and interrelationships between public and private organizations; and
3. Public policy analysis: research methods and quantitative techniques for policy analysis, including the content, design, and evaluation of public programs.
4. Environmental policy: the study of and contribution to public policies that affect the environment, both domestic and international, including legal, economic, and other policy tools and approaches.

Instead of being grounded in a traditional academic discipline, each of the fields has developed from several theoretical literatures applied to real-world public affairs problems. Although research is grounded in the social sciences, the context of inquiry reverses the normal research process: instead of beginning with questions originating with discipline-based scholarship, the research process begins with public problems and issues. The research challenge, then, is to match available tools of inquiry to the research opportunities presented by problems.

Admission

Students apply to the School of Public and Environmental Affairs. Those accepted are recommended to the University Graduate School for formal admission into the Ph.D. program. **Application materials can be found at www.gradapp.indiana.edu/**. Applicants to this program must have completed at least a bachelor's degree. Prospective students are required to submit (1) a statement of purpose, which should be as specific as possible and preferably should refer to potential research mentors by name; (2) official

results of the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE); (3) official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work completed; and (4) three letters of recommendation. Applicants whose native language is not English must also submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

Advisory Committee

Early in the student's program, but in no case later than the third semester in the program, the student must form an advisory committee. The committee consists of four to five members and includes at least one faculty member from each of the student's two chosen major fields of study and also a representative of his or her minor field. The committee members act as mentors and help monitor the selection and fulfillment of program requirements. The chairperson of the committee serves as the student's principal advisor.

Degree Requirements

The Ph.D. in Public Affairs degree requires the completion of at least 90 credit hours in advanced study and research beyond the baccalaureate. Typically, one-half to two-thirds of the 90 hours are taken in formal course work and one-third in thesis credit. Students completing a Master's in Public Administration or similar degree may be allowed to transfer some of their graduate course work (30 hours maximum) if approved by their Progress Review Committees, although a prior Master's degree is not required for admission.

Core Requirements

The following three courses are required for all Public Affairs students:

SPEA-V 680 Research Design and Methods in Public Affairs (3 cr.)

SPEA-V 621 Seminar in Teaching Public and Environmental Affairs (3 cr.) This course prepares students for college teaching and their professional responsibilities toward current and future students. It is taken in a student's first year in the program.

SPEA-V 691 Workshop in Public Policy (1 cr.) Each student is required to take this one-credit-hour course for three semesters. The workshop features research presentations by faculty, visiting scholars, and advanced students. Its intent is to prepare students to critique current literature in the field, learn to prepare manuscripts for presentation and publication, and to defend their ideas and theories.

Research Tool Skills

Required research skills include a two semester quantitative analysis sequence and two additional elective courses or proficiency in a foreign language.

The two-semester quantitative analysis sequence can be fulfilled a number of different ways, including one of the sequences listed as follows:

SPEA-V 606 Statistics for Research in Public Affairs I (3 cr.) **and**
SPEA-V 607 Statistics for Research in Public Affairs II

BUS-G 651 Economic Methods in Business I (3 cr.) **and**
BUS-G 652 Economic Methods in Business II (3 cr.)

ECON-E 572 Statistical Techniques in Economics II (3 cr.) **and**
ECON-E 671 Econometrics I (3 cr.)

POLS-Y 576 Political Data Analysis II (3 cr.) **and**
POLS-Y 577 Advanced Topics in Political Science (3 cr.)

SOC-S 554 Statistical Techniques in Sociology I (3 cr.) **and**
SOC-S 650 Statistical Techniques in Sociology II (3 cr.)

In addition, students must demonstrate either (1) advanced proficiency in quantitative analysis or specialized research skills by completing two additional courses approved by the student's Progress Review Committee, or (2) proficiency in a language appropriate to his/her field of study and approved by the Progressive Review Committee. To qualify as language-proficient, a student must take a language proficiency exam from the appropriate language department at Indiana University.

Major Fields

Students select two of the four SPEA Public Affairs major fields to prepare for their qualifying examinations. For each field, the student must complete required courses and approved electives. The fields, their required courses, and principal faculty are the following:

Public Management—The design and operation of government and not-for-profit institutions, including strategic/operations management and interrelationships between public, private, and civil society organizations.

Required courses:

SPEA-V 671 Public Organization and Management I (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 672 Public Organization and Management II (3 cr.)

Public Finance—The theory and practice of fiscal administration, including public budgeting, revenue administration, and financial management.

Required courses:

SPEA-V 666 Public Revenue (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 668 Seminar in Public Budgeting (3 cr.)

Public Policy Analysis—Research methods and quantitative techniques for policy analysis, including the content, design, and evaluation of public programs.

Required courses:

SPEA-V 664 Seminar in Policy Analysis (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 673 Public Policy Analysis and Management Science/Operations Research (3 cr.)

Environmental Policy—Economic, law, politics, and implementation of environmental policies in the U.S. and abroad.

Required courses:

Economics:

SPEA-V 625 Environmental Economics (3 cr.)

Law:

SPEA-V 6445 Environmental Law (3 cr.) **or**
LAW-B 783 International Environmental Law (3 cr.)

Policy:

SPEA-V 710 Topics in Public Policy: Domestic Environmental Policy (3 cr.) **or**
SPEA-V 710 Topics in Public Policy: International Environmental Policy (3 cr.)

Minor Field

Students select a minor field according to their research interests. A three-to-four-course sequence is negotiated between the student and the Progress Review Committee, following the requirements of the department or school offering the minor. Among the minor fields chosen by students currently in the program are Economics, Finance, Political Science, Sociology, Geography, Economic Development, and Environmental Science.

Major Junctures

Progress Review Committee

Each student is assigned an advisor when s/he arrives in Bloomington. If the advisor sufficiently reflects a student's research interests, the student can request that the advisor serve as his or her chairperson of the Progress Review Committee. If the student finds that another professor is more suited to his/her research interests, the student may switch advisors.

At the end of the first year, the student develops a Progress Review Committee. The committee, in cooperation with the student, defines program objectives, supervises the selection and completion of the minor field, monitors overall progress toward completion of course work requirements, and administers the qualifying exams. Members of the Progress Review Committee should be scholars who know the student's academic record and who are recognized experts in the fields in which the student will stand examination. The committee will consist of four to five members chosen by the student in consultation with the director of the Ph.D. program. At least one member of the Progress Review Committee will be chosen from each of the student's two major fields. It is required that one member of the Progress Review Committee be a non-School professor and represent the outside minor.

Third Semester Review

During the third semester, each student holds a Third Semester Review meeting with his/her committee. The purpose of the meeting is to reach an agreement between the student and the committee about the character and status of the student's program. This meeting also serves as a formal evaluation of the student's performance and prospects and includes a presentation of a research paper prepared by the student.

In this progress review meeting, the committee members review the student's record of past and planned courses, the likely dissertation topic, and the quality of the research paper and its presentation. The committee determines whether the proposed program of courses will prepare the student for the examinations to be taken at the end of the course work as well as for the dissertation.

The principal objective of the research paper is to allow the faculty to judge whether the student has the ability to complete all requirements for this research-oriented degree in a timely fashion. Thus, of most importance will be that the paper demonstrates the student's ability to carry out reasonably independent research and write the results in a well-reasoned and coherent fashion. The paper should also demonstrate that the student has a good command of the literature in the arena and has the ability to use

appropriate research methods in carrying out the analysis. It is anticipated that the progress review paper will be a revision of a substantial research paper prepared to fulfill a requirement for a regular course. (The student can, however, submit an entirely new paper to fulfill this requirement.) It should be of a quality warranting presentation at a professional society meeting.

Qualifying Examinations

After completion of course work, students take a written exam in each of their two major fields. An oral examination may also be required by the examination committee, but it is not mandatory. If there is an exam requirement in the minor department, the student must also complete a third exam. Once the examinations are successfully completed, the student is formally admitted to candidacy.

Dissertation

After filing for candidacy status, the doctoral candidate forms a Research Committee consisting of at least four faculty members, including one representative of the candidate's major field. This committee may, but will not necessarily, be identical to the Progress Review Committee. Instead, the selection of committee members should reflect the dissertation topic and the expertise of the faculty chosen.

The candidate prepares a dissertation proposal that they then present and defend in a meeting of the Research Committee. The Committee is ultimately responsible for determining whether the dissertation is acceptable.

Placement

The Ph.D. Office, the director of the program, and individual faculty work hard to ensure that graduates of the program are placed in academic or research organizations. Although the Public Affairs program has only been operational since 1993, graduates have been very successful recently in obtaining such positions. Recent placements include: San Francisco State, University of Colorado, UNC-Wilmington, Iowa State University, U.S. Department of Labor, National Taipei University, and Yonsei.