

ACCELERATED INTEGRATED UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE PROGRAM (IUG) B.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE – MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY (MPP) DEGREE

What is the IUG?

The IUG provides an opportunity for academically strong students to complete a bachelor of arts degree in political science and a master's degree in public policy in approximately five years of study.

How does the IUG prepare students for the job market?

The IUG curriculum provides students the opportunity to integrate strong critical thinking skills, in-depth substantive knowledge in political science, and state-of-the-art public policy knowledge that will place them at a competitive advantage for jobs and additional graduate-level study.

Does the IUG increase earning potential for graduates?

Employers highly value a Master of Public Policy degree. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, MPP graduates earn an average of \$19,000 more than their counterparts with bachelor's degrees. Prodigy Finance reports that MPP grads can expect a 31% increase in salary.

What is the admissions process?

Applicants should generally have a minimum overall GPA of 3.5 at the time of application. Admission to the IUG is based on good progress in the student's undergraduate studies, faculty recommendations from the Department of Political Science, GPA, and a two-page statement of purpose. Students must also apply to, and be accepted into, the Graduate School at Penn State. Internal IUG students are **NOT** required to take the GRE.

ACCELERATED IUG POLITICAL SCIENCE B.A. MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY (MPP) DEGREE OPTION

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Government
- Think tanks
- Consulting firms
- Nonprofits
- Lobbying firms
- Private-sector organizations

PROGRAM SPECIALIZATIONS

- Criminal Justice
- Data Science/Analytics
- Education Policy
- Environmental Policy
- Gender Equity and Policy
- Health Policy
- Information Technology
- International Public Policy
- Labor and Employment Relations
- Racial Justice and Equity
- Social Policy

*Option to design a specialization
with Penn State faculty*

COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMS

The substantive knowledge and analytic abilities that students acquire as political science undergraduates will complement the more advanced understanding of policy design, implementation and evaluation, and technical analytic skills, obtained in the MPP program.

A DEGREE FOR THE JOB MARKET

Political Science undergraduates have a good understanding of the institutions, policies, and processes that govern our lives but are often unsure of all of their career options upon graduation. The MPP program will help students translate the knowledge and skills that they have into good jobs with good incomes.

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

- All major requirements for the undergrad B.A. degree in Political Science (36 credits).
- MPP coursework (43 credits).
- Four 400- or 500-level courses from your current Political Science B.A. will **ALSO COUNT** toward the MPP degree. At least two courses must be at the 500-level.

CURRICULUM

- Elective specialization of four courses.
- Political Science-MPP IUG students will take four 400- or 500-level courses during the fourth year of study that will **DOUBLE COUNT** for both the Political Science B.A. and MPP. At least two courses must be at the 500-level.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Email publicpolicy@psu.edu or visit our website, publicpolicy.psu.edu/undergraduate, to learn more about our IUG programs.

YOUR
UNDERGRAD
CREDITS WILL
COUNT
TOWARD YOUR
MPP DEGREE!

