

POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT (BS)

Brooks School of Public Policy

Program Website (<https://publicpolicy.cornell.edu/undergraduate/study/public-policy/>)

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Program Description

In March 2023, the Brooks School of Public Policy introduced the Public Policy major. All students entering the school after that date will be enrolled in the Public Policy major, instead of the Policy Analysis and Management major.

Policy Analysis and Management (PAM) major requirements (for students matriculating in August 2022 or January 2023) are outlined below. In addition to the major requirements, students must also meet general college requirements.

For more information about the Public Policy major or inquiries regarding specific requirements for existing PAM majors, please contact the Brooks School Office of Admissions, Student Services, and Career Management.

Please note that effective Fall 2023, all courses that previously had a prefix of PAM will have the prefix PUBPOL.

Policies and Procedures

In addition to these program level requirements, students are expected to meet all Brooks School and University level policies noted elsewhere in this catalog.

Academic Support Courses

1000-level academic support courses do not count towards graduation requirements but do contribute towards maintaining full time semester status and towards good academic standing requirements.

Good Academic Standing Requirements

- A student must maintain a semester and cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher.
- A student must complete at least 12 credits per semester, excluding physical education courses unless they have received an approved petition to take fewer than 12 credits (e.g. for SDS accommodation).
- Students enrolling in the Brooks School as first-years must enroll in a minimum of one 3-credit course each semester in PUBPOL during each of their first four semesters, excluding winter and summer sessions. Transfer students must take six credit hours of PUBPOL coursework in each of their first two semesters in the Brooks School.
- All students must complete their requirements for first-year writing seminars (FWS) during their first two semesters at Cornell.
- A student must be making "satisfactory progress" toward a Brooks School bachelor's degree.
- A student cannot carry more than two (2) incomplete grades simultaneously.
- Students must receive a passing grade in PUBPOL 2000 - Intermediate Microeconomics and PUBPOL 2101 - Statistics for Public Policy. Students who do not receive a passing grade in either

of these courses in the most recent semester will be placed on a warning status.

Review Process

At the end of each semester, the Brooks School committee on academic status (CAS) reviews each Bachelor of Science and Professional Master student's academic record to ensure that the minimum academic standards are met. The committee takes appropriate action for students whose academic achievement is considered unsatisfactory as defined by the criteria above. To support every student's success, the committee may take any of the following actions:

- Withdraw the student permanently from the Brooks School and Cornell University.
- Require the student to take a leave of absence for one or more semesters.
- Issue a warning to the student at one of the following levels (these imply that if the student does not show considerable improvement during the semester, the committee may withdraw the student):
 - Severe warning with danger of being withdrawn
 - Severe warning
 - Warning
- Add the student's name to a review list; students with this status are monitored by the committee throughout the semester.
- Return the student to good standing.

Any of the above actions may be accompanied by a semester credit limit or a requirement for the student to meet with an academic advisor by a date set by the committee.

Students placed on a required leave must appeal to CAS to return. This appeal occurs at the end of the required leave period. Students who have been withdrawn may appeal the decision before the committee during the pre-semester appeals meeting.

All students with an academic warning status automatically will be reviewed for specific criteria at the end of the subsequent semester. Students put on warning, severe warning, or severe warning with danger of being withdrawn status will be informed of conditions that they are expected to fulfill to return to good standing.

Students who have been previously placed on a required leave and wish to return to the Brooks School must submit a plan of study to the committee before being rejoined. The student should contact the Registrar (BrooksRegistrar@cornell.edu) in the Brooks Office of Admissions, Student Services, and Career Management to discuss the process and due dates.

Students who have been withdrawn from the Brooks School by CAS may request that they be readmitted. Such students have three years from the date they were withdrawn to make this appeal with assistance from an advisor in the Brooks Office of Admissions, Student Services, and Career Management. After three years, a former student must apply for readmission through the Brooks School admissions process. A student applying for readmission should discuss their situation with an advisor in the Brooks Office of Admissions, Student Services and Career Management. The student also should talk with others who may be able to help - faculty mentors, instructors, or a member of the university medical staff. Any information given to the committee is held in the strictest confidence.

Semester Credit Limits

Full-time matriculated students must carry a minimum of 12 credits (excluding physical education) to maintain their full-time status.

Undergraduate students enrolled in the Jeb E. Brooks School of Public Policy are typically limited to taking 18 credits per semester. However, students who have completed more than two semesters at Cornell and have maintained a GPA of at least 3.5 may petition to take up to 22 academic credits.

Students who have been at Cornell for less than two semesters or have a GPA lower than 3.5 may only petition for additional credits if they are for physical education or academic support classes (e.g., MATH 1006 - Academic Support for MATH 1106).

Eligibility to petition does not guarantee approval to exceed 18 credits. Students must also have the support of an academic advisor from the Brooks School Office of Admissions, Student Services and Career Management. Approval for additional credits will only be granted after a meeting with an advisor.

Please be aware that approvals to exceed 18 credits are granted under limited circumstances, and petitions to enroll for more than 18 credits are not accepted during the pre-enrollment period.

Special Study Courses

- A maximum of 12 credits of special study/independent study/research coursework can count towards 120 overall credits. Courses will be indicated on the class roster with a Component of either IND or RSC. In Brooks these courses are PUBPOL 4000, 4010, 4020, & 4030. Additional credits can be taken but will not be applied.
- A maximum of 3 credits of PUBPOL special studies coursework (PUBPOL 4000, 4010, and 4020) may meet the PUBPOL electives requirement. PUBPOL 4030 does not meet the PUBPOL electives requirement.
- A maximum of 3 credits of 4000-4020 (not including PUBPOL 4030) may count towards the 9 Human Ecology credits requirement if the special study is in a department outside the student's major.
- Students cannot TA (PUBPOL 4030) the same course for credit more than once or take and TA the same course simultaneously. PUBPOL 4030 does not fulfill any requirements towards the major. Registration for PUBPOL 4030 may not exceed 5 credit hours per semester.

Study Abroad Credit Limits

Students participating in full semester study abroad programs offered via the office of global learning may take no more than the equivalent of 15 credits Cornell credits abroad per semester.

Credits taken through an approved global learning program will automatically count towards the 120 credits needed to graduate.

To request to have a course count towards a major or distribution requirements, students must complete a curriculum substitution petition. Core PUBPOL courses cannot be taken abroad. If a student receives approval for multiple courses to count towards PUBPOL credits, no more than 8 credits per semester abroad may apply towards PUBPOL credits.

S-U Grade Options

- S/U grading option may NOT be used for any required course unless it is the only grade option offered for those courses.
- S/U grades MAY be used for electives and in the 9 Human Ecology credits.
- Students can apply a maximum of 12 credits of S-U grades toward the 120 credits required for graduation. Courses offered only as S-U grades do not count towards this limit.
- Students have the option to take additional S-U courses beyond the 12-credit limit, but those credits will not count toward graduation requirements.

Tracking Graduation Requirements

Undergraduate students must track their progress towards graduation by reviewing degree requirements in this catalog. It is the responsibility of students to plan their course selections carefully to ensure they meet all graduation requirements within eight semesters. Transfer students may have a different timeline based on the number of transferable credits they receive upon admission. Students who require additional semesters to fulfill graduation requirements must schedule a meeting with an advisor at the Brooks Office of Admissions, Student Services, and Career Management. During this meeting, they can request to petition for an extension.

Transfer Credit Policies

All students who matriculate fall 2025 and later are expected to follow the university transfer credit policy.

Prior to enrolling in the course, students must complete a petition to have an external course count towards a Brooks School requirement. Petitions are not required for test credit. See the curriculum requirements tab for more information about how test credit may meet degree requirements.

Students who matriculated prior to fall 2025, and who have not switched to the 2025-2026 curriculum year, are held to the policies from the year they matriculated:

- Of the 120 credits required to graduate, at least 60 credits must be earned at Cornell University.
- After matriculation, transfer students may take no more than 15 credits external to Cornell. AP and IB credits also count towards this limit.
- First-year matriculated students may apply a maximum of 15 non-Cornell credits toward the 120 credits required for graduation. These credits include AP, IB, and college credits earned elsewhere (refer to the Advanced Placement Credit section below).
- Courses taken in a high school setting or counted toward high school graduation, such as Syracuse Project Advance, are not eligible to count for credits or fulfill graduation requirements or count towards the 120 credits needed to graduate.

Program Information

- Instruction Mode: In Person
- Location: Ithaca, NY
- Minimum Credits for Degree: 120

Program Requirements

Required Courses

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 1111	Building Success at Brooks	1
PUBPOL 2030	Population and Public Policy	4-5
PUBPOL 2040	Economics of the Public Sector	4
PUBPOL 2101	Statistics for Public Policy	4
PUBPOL 2300	Introduction to Policy Analysis	4
Total Hours		17-18

PAM 3000/4000 Electives

Code	Title	Hours
3000 or 4000-level PAM courses in addition to the Core Requirements ¹		

¹ PUBPOL 4000 Directed Readings, PUBPOL 4010 Empirical Research, PUBPOL 4020 Supervised Fieldwork, PUBPOL 4030 Teaching Apprenticeship, PUBPOL 4980 Honors Seminar, and PUBPOL 4990 Honors Program may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Additional Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		
PAM Course ²		3
ECON 1120	Introductory Macroeconomics ³	3
ECON 3040	Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory	4

² PUBPOL 4000 Directed Readings, PUBPOL 4010 Empirical Research, PUBPOL 4020 Supervised Fieldwork, PUBPOL 4030 Teaching Apprenticeship, PUBPOL 4980 Honors Seminar, and PUBPOL 4990 Honors Program may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

³ must be taken at Cornell.

Introductory Economics

This fulfills the college distribution social sciences requirement.

Code	Title	Hours
ECON 1110	Introductory Microeconomics	3

Intermediate Microeconomics

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 2000	Intermediate Microeconomics	4
ECON 3030	Intermediate Microeconomic Theory	4
Total Hours		8

Introduction to Sociology

This fulfills the college distribution social sciences requirement.

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		
SOC 1101	Introduction to Sociology	3
DSOC 1101		
PUBPOL 2250	Social Problems in the United States ⁴	3

⁴ PUBPOL 2250 Social Problems in the United States cannot count for both the Introduction to Sociology requirement AND the Additional PAM Electives requirement.

Mathematics

This fulfills the college distribution quantitative and analytical courses requirement.

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		
AP Calculus BC score of 4 or 5 ⁵		
Cornell MATH course ⁶		3

⁵ while AP Calculus AB credit (with a score of 4 or 5) may be applied as elective credits, it does not fulfill this specific requirement.

⁶ except MATH 1101 Calculus Preparation and MATH 1710 Statistical Theory and Application in the Real World.

Government

Code	Title	Hours
GOVT 1111	Introduction to American Government and Politics	4

Natural Science I (3-4 Credits)

This fulfills the college distribution natural sciences requirement.

If AP isn't used to satisfy the requirement, then the **course must be taken at Cornell**.

One of the following:

Biology

Code	Title	Hours
BIOG 1140	Foundations of Biology	4
BIOG 1440	Introductory Biology: Comparative Physiology	3
or BIOG 1445	Introduction to Comparative Anatomy and Physiology, Individualized Instruction	
BIOG 1350		
BIOEE 1610	Introductory Biology: Ecology and the Environment	3-4
AP Biology score of 5		

Chemistry

Code	Title	Hours
CHEM 1560	Introduction to General Chemistry	4
or CHEM 2070	General Chemistry I	
CHEM 2080	General Chemistry II	4
AP Chemistry score of 5		

Physics

Code	Title	Hours
PHYS 1101	General Physics I	4
or PHYS 2207	Fundamentals of Physics I	
PHYS 1102	General Physics II	4
or PHYS 2208	Fundamentals of Physics II	
AP Physics score of 5		

Note: No lab is required.

Natural Science II (3-4 Credits)

Choose any 3 credit course with a PBS, BIO-AS, PHS-AS, BIOLS-AG, or BIONLS-AG Course Distribution.

No AP credit allowed, course must be taken at Cornell.

Ethics

This fulfills the college distribution humanities requirement.

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		
AEM 3205	Ethics in Business and Organizations	3
BSOC 2051	Ethical Issues in Health and Medicine	4
BSOC 2061	Ethics and the Environment	4
COMM 4300	Ethics in New Media, Technology, and Communication	3
COMM 4350	Communicating Leadership and Ethics	3
ECE 3600		3
ILRLR 3830		
ILRGL 4820	Ethics at Work	3
ILRGL 4880	The Mind of The Founders	3
ILRHR 4075		
INFO 1200	Information Ethics, Law, and Policy	3
INFO 2750	Robot Ethics	3
NTRES 2320		3
PHIL 1440	Ethics of Eating	3
PHIL 1450	Contemporary Moral Issues	3
PHIL 2410	Ethics	4
PHIL 2415	Introduction to Moral Psychology	3
PHIL 2420	Social and Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 2455	Introduction to Bioethics	4
PHIL 3410		
PHIL 3460	Modern Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 3480	Philosophy of Law	3

Additional Distribution Coursework (6 Credits)

Any course with the course distribution codes PBS, BIOLS-AG, BIONLS-AG, SBA, KCM, MQR, LA, CA, or HA may fulfill this requirement. Language courses are also eligible to count here.

University Graduation Requirements Requirements for All Students

In order to receive a Cornell degree, a student must satisfy academic and non-academic requirements.

Academic Requirements

A student's college determines degree requirements such as residency, number of credits, distribution of credits, and grade averages. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the specific major, degree, distribution, college, and graduation requirements for completing their chosen program of study. See the individual requirements listed by each college or school or contact the college registrar's office (<https://registrar.cornell.edu/service-resources/college-registrar-directory/>) for more information.

Non-academic Requirements

Conduct Matters. Students must satisfy any outstanding sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed or agreed to under the Student Code of Conduct (Code) or Policy 6.4. Where a formal complaint under the Code or Policy 6.4 is pending, the University will withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the adjudication process set forth in those procedures is complete, including the satisfaction of any sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed.

Financial Obligations. Outstanding financial obligations will not impact the awarding of a degree otherwise earned or a student's ability to access their official transcript. However, the University may withhold issuing a diploma until any outstanding financial obligations owing to the University are satisfied.

Additional Requirements for Undergraduate Students

The University has two requirements for graduation that must be fulfilled by all undergraduate students: the swim requirement, and completion of two physical education courses. For additional information about fulfilling University Graduation Requirements, see the Physical Education website (<https://scl.cornell.edu/pe/>).

Physical Education

All incoming undergraduate students are required to take two credits (two courses) of Physical Education prior to graduation. It is recommended they complete the two courses during their first year at Cornell. Credit in Physical Education may be earned by participating in courses offered by the Department of Athletics and Physical Education (https://courses.cornell.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=60&poid=30232) and Cornell Outdoor Education, by being a registered participant on a varsity athletic team, or performing in the marching band.

Students with medical concerns should contact the Office of Student Disability Services (<http://sds.cornell.edu/>).

Swim Requirement

The Faculty Advisory Committee on Athletics and Physical Education has established a basic swimming and water safety competency requirement for all undergraduate students. Normally, the requirement is taken during the Fall Orientation process at Helen Newman Hall or Teagle Hall pools. The requirement consists of the following: jump or step feet-first into the deep end of the pool, float or tread for one minute, turn around in a full circle, swim 25 yards using any stroke(s) of choice without touching the bottom or holding on to the sides (there is no time limit) and exit from the water. Students who do not complete the swim requirement during their first year, during a PE swim class or during orientation subsequent years, will have to pay a \$100 fee. Any student who cannot meet this requirement must register for PE 1100 Beginning Swimming as their physical education course before electives can be chosen.

If a student does not pass the swim requirement in their first Beginning Swimming PE class, then the student must take a second Beginning Swimming PE class (PE 1100 or PE 1101). Successful completion of two Beginning Swimming classes (based on attendance requirements) with the instructor's recommendation will fulfill the University's swim requirement.

Students unable to meet the swim requirement because of medical reasons should contact the Office of Student Disability Services (<http://sds.cornell.edu/>). When a waiver is granted by the Faculty Committee on

Physical Education, an alternate requirement is imposed. The alternate requirement substitute is set by the Director of Physical Education.