

School of Arts & Communication	School of History, Philosophy & Religion	School of Language, Culture, and Society	School of Psychological Science	School of Public Policy	School of Writing, Literature & Film	Interdisciplinary
<b>Art</b> (47/6) BA, BFA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBFA, HBS	<b>History</b> (196/50) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>Anthropology</b> (257/63) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>Psychology</b> (846/189) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>Economics</b> (271/110) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>English</b> (184/47) BA, CRED, HBA	<b>American Studies</b> (14/6) BA, BS
<b>Digital Communication Arts</b> (373/92) BA, BFA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBFA, HBS	<b>Philosophy</b> (39/9) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>Ethnic Studies</b> (11/3) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>Psychology</b> (6/N/A) PhD	<b>Political Science</b> (283/61) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>English</b> (26/10) MA	<b>International Studies</b> (67/28) BA
<b>Graphic Design</b> (173/22) BFA, CRED, HBFA	<b>Religious Studies</b> (9/3) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>French</b> (24/6) BA, CRED, HBA		<b>Sociology</b> (350/93) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>English</b> (30/20) MFA	<b>Liberal Studies</b> (240/101) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS
<b>Music</b> (134/17) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>Applied Ethics</b> (5/2) MA	<b>German</b> (55/4) BA, CRED, HBA		<b>Public Policy</b> (September 2018) BS		MAIS (45/19) MA
<b>Speech Communication</b> (204/65) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS	<b>College Student Services Administration (CSSA)</b> (37/10) MA	<b>Spanish</b> (98/13) BA, CRED, HBA		<b>Public Policy</b> (49/26) MS		
<b>Music Teacher Education Program</b> (8/6) MA	<b>History of Science</b> (3/1) MS/MA	<b>Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies</b> (49/11) BA, BS, CRED, HBA, HBS		<b>Public Policy</b> (20/2) PhD		
	<b>Environmental Arts and Humanities*</b> *New Program, enrollment data unavailable MA	<b>Applied Anthropology</b> (34/10) MA				
	<b>History of Science</b> (10/1) PhD	<b>Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies</b> (20/7) MA				
		<b>Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies</b> (8/N/A) PhD				
		<b>Applied Anthropology</b> (19/1) PhD				

**CLA and OSU Faculty Involved in the BSPP**

The proposed interdisciplinary Bachelor of Science in Public Policy degree involves faculty from many Schools and programs in CLA as well as faculty and programs from across campus. Colleges and programs expected to participate:

- College of Agricultural Sciences**
  - Agricultural Science
  - Applied Economics
  - Fish and Wildlife
  - Rural Studies
- College of Earth, Oceanography, and Atmospheric Sciences**
  - Geography
- College of Forestry**
  - Forest Ecosystems and Society
  - Natural Resources
- College of Liberal Arts**
  - Anthropology
  - Ethnic Studies
  - Philosophy
  - Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

**Key** (x/y) 3 year average (enrollments/graduates)

- School
- Undergraduate
- Program in Development
- Graduate
- Doctorate

## New Academic Program: B.S. Public Policy

### BACKGROUND

#### **Program Proposed Start Date**

Fall 2018

#### **Program Description**

Bachelor of Science in Public Policy (BSPP). The full program proposal is available at: <https://secure.oregonstate.edu/ap/cps/proposals/view/99089>.

Public policy is the study of how collective decisions about public resources are made and implemented. The discipline of public policy is closely connected to the practice of policy and the proposed program is designed for students to interact with policy-makers as well as the knowledge-producers who support policy decisions. Graduates of the BSPP will have the skills necessary for understanding the political, economic, and social constraints faced by policy makers; assessing the performance of alternative approaches to policy implementation; evaluating the effectiveness of policies; and appreciating the sharp conflicts in fundamental human values that animate critical policy debates. The BSPP will provide students with a set of research, analytical, and management skills that will be transferable across sectors and across issue areas. The undergraduate program will prepare graduates for a career not only in public service (federal, state, and local government), but also in not-for-profit and for-profit organizations, as well as admission to competitive graduate study in a wide range of programs through which they may further broaden their intellectual and practical experience and expertise.

#### **Program Context**

The School of Public Policy (SPP) currently offers master and PhD programs in Public Policy. The BSPP draws on the richness of those programs, faculty, and classes to create an exciting and interdisciplinary undergraduate program. The BSPP will be offered both on campus and online with students having access to classes across platforms. The proposed program draws on the strengths of faculty around OSU who reflect state-of-the-art thinking about public policy training and practice. The BSPP emphasizes substantive interdisciplinary knowledge about important policy issues, analytic skills, and policy practice. Students will have the opportunity to pursue their individual interests and passion in specialization areas, each of which is supported by a wealth of experience and expertise both in the SPP and across OSU. In addition, the degree requires a supervised practicum with a public, non-profit, private, or international organization. The BSPP is differentiated from the existing Health Management and Policy (HMP) program in the College of Public Health and Human Sciences at OSU. HMP offers undergraduates the opportunity to “manage health programs in a wide range of institutions, both public and private;”<sup>1</sup> the proposed BSPP does not have a health policy specialization nor does it have faculty with expertise on the topic or provide much in the way of direct management training, which are the strengths of the HMP program.

#### **Program Purpose/Relationship to University Mission and Strategic Plan**

As identified through the OSU strategic plan and supported by the proposed BSPP program,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://health.oregonstate.edu/degrees/health-management-and-policy>

OSU's Signature Areas – advancing the science of sustainable earth ecosystems, improving human health and wellness, and promoting economic growth and social progress – have been characterized as representing the university's greatest opportunity to lead in solving the complex social problems Oregon is facing while creating excellent learning opportunities for students. The proposed BSPP program is designed to address all those goals through its recruitment of the best domestic and international students to participate in a rigorous program that addresses the practical and emerging concerns of both Oregonians and citizens around the world. Specifically, the BSPP program will train the next generation of policy practitioners who will operate in a new environment of tightened budgets, doing more with less, allocating resources to meet the demands of citizens and elected officials, and working in an environment of increased public scrutiny and skepticism – all while addressing some of the most complex problems we have ever been asked to deal with including climate change, demographic and population shifts, rapid technology development, and a globalized economy. Students who complete the program will bring a strong understanding of policy theory, methods, and practice to their professional lives that will extend the capacity of the state, region, country, and world to apply scientific results to emerging 21<sup>st</sup> Century issues.

### **Need for the Program**

During the 2014-2015 academic year, we conducted three needs assessments: one looking at online programs in public policy, another with current OSU students, and a third with non-academic organizations. Each is described briefly below, but in summary, there appears to be considerable interest among organizations, prospective employers, and students for this type of degree/skill set. *Eduventures* conducted a market analysis for an online bachelor's degree in public policy. There are currently 51 U.S. institutions offering public policy undergraduate degrees, with only one offering an online program (Regent University, a Christian university in Virginia Beach, VA). During spring 2015, we administered a survey to large sections of introductory classes with a total enrollment of approximately 1800 students, most of which were *not* SPP majors (i.e., Economics, Political Science and Sociology). We received 368 surveys from students who indicated at least some interest in a BSPP program. When asked about their career aspirations, about 336 reported interest in a public-sector position and about 53% of respondents (196 students) reported that they were interested or very interested in this type of degree (the other 47% were "somewhat" interested). As indicated by the career goals, students saw the BSPP as a way to create flexibility in job options, and as a pathway to a good job and personal development. Finally, a needs survey was sent to 838 governmental organizations (local, state, and federal), nonprofit organizations, and policy advocacy groups across the state of Oregon. We received responses from 319 organizations for a 38% response rate. More than half were interested or very interested in working with BSPP students with highest priority going to students with capacity to work in social, rural, and/or environmental policy.

There are three related but not duplicate programs at Oregon universities including a Civic Leadership minor at Portland State University, an undergraduate degree in Politics, Policy, and Administration at Western Oregon University, and undergraduate degree in Planning, Policy, and Public Management at the University of Oregon. The PSU program shares some similarities with the proposed BSPP including an interdisciplinary approach and an ethic that these programs offer hands-on opportunities to put education into practice. The PSU program focuses on urban planning and policy, while our program has a special attention to rural and environmental policy. The UO program shares the interdisciplinary and practice-oriented approaches of OSU and PSU, reflecting the latest pedagogical approaches in policy education. The strengths of the UO program are urban planning and nonprofit administration, neither of which our proposed program includes. The WOU program is linked to the Political Science

program, making it slightly less interdisciplinary than the programs at OSU, PSU, and UO. Classes offered in these programs are acceptable transfer classes for the BSPP program.

**Program Financials**

The BSPP is designed to leverage existing faculty strengths and classes offered through the School of Public Policy programs. Currently, the SPP is funded through a combination of OSU support and revenue generation by SPP instructors teaching Ecampus, summer session, and INTO OSU classes. Additional costs for the BSPP will include: (1) ongoing support for a part-time advisor for the BSPP that includes a 4% increase each year; resources for that advisor have been requested from Ecampus, which currently funds our online programs; (2) a small and ongoing summer stipend (\$5,000+ OPE) for the Program Director, which will be funded out of our general and/or earned funds; and (3) a one-time cost for developing, printing, and distributing a brochure describing the new program funded out of our earned revenue. This brochure is subsidized by the Ecampus program. We recently received a grant to create a dedicated computer lab for our exclusive use; the library resources have been deemed adequate for the undergraduate program. We have a web master who will be responsible for the BSPP webpage. We also have used existing resources to create a conference room with phone conferencing capability to facilitate any hybrid classes, interactive advising, etc.

The proposed budget is summarized in the table below.

	Academic Year 2016	Academic Year 2017	Academic Year 2018	Academic Year 2019
<b>Personnel</b>				
Program Coordinator Stipend	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
BSPP Advisor (.5 FTE)	\$24,000	\$24,960	\$25,958	\$26,996
OPE	\$14,752	\$15,330	\$15,929	\$16,440
<b>Personnel Subtotal</b>	<b>\$43,752</b>	<b>\$45,290</b>	<b>\$46,887</b>	<b>\$48,536</b>
<b>Other Resources</b>				
Supplies and Services	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Other Resources Subtotal</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$46,252</b>	<b>\$45,290</b>	<b>\$46,887</b>	<b>\$48,536</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

All appropriate university committees and the OSU Faculty Senate have positively reviewed the proposed BSPP program. The Provost recommends that the Academic Strategies Committee approve the establishment of an instructional program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Public Policy effective fall 2018, pending approval of the statewide Provosts’ Council, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.