

Social Policy (SOC)

Building on the core curriculum, Social Policy Program acquaints students with the relevant history and institutions of social policy, develops their quantitative skills for program evaluation and the analysis of large data sets, and helps them grapple with the moral issues raised by inequality. Three required courses (Quantitative Analysis of Policy Issues and Foundations of Social Policy, Project Course) anchor flexible master's degree programs for pre-career and mid-career students who may select courses in health, education, poverty, criminal justice, housing, and social services management. A resident faculty with nationally-renowned expertise in various fields is complemented by a broader menu of relevant course offerings across other units of the College Park campus.

Examples of SOC Job Placements

- Inst. for Research, Education and Training in Addictions
- Assistant Director for Resource Management, Office of the CFO, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- The World Bank
- U.S. Government Accountability Office
- District of Columbia Government
- German Foundation for World Population
- U.S. Department of Education
- Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance, State of Maine.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Americans for the Arts.
- American Rights at Work
- The Enterprise Foundation
- Council on Competitiveness
- National Policy Programs, Rural Policy Research Institute
- Office of Management and Budget

Specialization Director

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Typical SOC Academic Plan

Fall Semester I	Spring Semester I
Core: PUAF 610 "Quantitative Aspects of Public Policy "	Core: PUAF 670 "Finance"
Core: PUAF 620 "Political Analysis "	Core: PUAF 711 "Public Management & Leadership"
Core: PUAF 640 "Microeconomics and Policy Analysis " OR (with permission of Professor Ruth) PUAF 698x "Microeconomic Applications of Public Policy"	SOC: PUAF 611 "Quantitative Analysis of Policy Issues " (or elective if took PUAF 611 in Fall Semester I as core)
Core: PUAF 650 "Moral Dimensions of Public Policy " OR PUAF 698x or 698x "Proseminar in Politics, Philosophy and Public Policy"	SOC: PUAF 734 "Foundations of Social Policy"
Fall Semester II	Spring Semester II
SOC: SOC elective	SOC: PUAF 790 "Project Course"
SOC: SOC elective	Three electives
Two electives	

Popular SOC Electives

- "Strategies of Equality" (*Foreman*)
- "Poverty Policy" (*Besharov*)
- "Managing Social Services" (*Short*)
- "Health Policy" (*Sprinkle*)
- "Housing Policy" (*Nelson*)
- "Urban Policy" (*Meyers*)
- "Crime Control" (*Reuter*)

Faculty and Research Interests

Name	Expertise
Besharov, Douglas <i>Professor</i>	poverty; welfare reform; child abuse/child welfare; family policy
Crocker, David <i>Senior Research Scholar, IPPP</i>	ethics, development, foreign aid; democratization, and human rights
Feinstein, Fred <i>Senior Research Scholar, Executive Programs</i>	labor issues
Foreman, Christopher <i>Professor & Director of Social Policy Program</i>	political institutions; the politics of health, safety, and the environment; African Americans and public policy; environmental justice; government reform
Fullinwider, Robert <i>Senior Research Scholar, IPPP</i>	affirmative action; multicultural education; sports and youth development; moral learning
Graham, Carol <i>Professor</i>	developing economies; poverty and inequality; market transitions; social welfare policies, novel measures of well being and happiness; economics
Levine, Peter <i>Deputy Director, CIRCLE Research Scholar, IPPP</i>	youth civic engagement (voting, volunteering, attention to news); the internet and public life; moral theory
Li, Xiarong <i>Research Scholar, IPPP</i>	civil rights; reproductive rights; international affairs (Asia); development
Lopez, Mark <i>Director of Research, CIRCLE</i>	civic engagement of youth; youth voting; bilingual education; economics of education; applied econometrics
Meyers, Edward <i>Adjunct Lecturer</i>	urban policy
Nelson, Richard <i>Senior Research Scholar</i>	housing and community development
Pintoff, Randi <i>Assistant Professor</i>	economics of crime; labor economics; public economics
Reuter, Peter <i>Professor</i>	policy towards illicit drugs (domestic and international), organized crime, money laundering control
Rogers, Jacqueline <i>Senior Research Scholar</i>	housing and community development; state and local government budgeting and finance; military family housing privatization
Short, Charles <i>Adjunct Lecturer</i>	managing social services
Wasserman, David <i>Research Scholar, IPPP</i>	biotechnology; disability policy; preservation of human environments and cultures