REQUIRED COURSES

All MPP/MPM students must take either PUAF641 or PUAF670. While some specializations specify which of these courses their students should take, SOC students are free to take either.

PUAF641 Macroeconomics and Policy Analysis Studies the behavior of the economy as a whole: the level of national income, unemployment, and inflation; the vulnerability of the U.S. economy to external influences; possible federal influence over the level of economic activity; and the consequences for prices, employment and the U.S. trade deficit. Also examines possible U.S. policy responses to widespread debt crises in developing countries. (Instructor: Helkie) FALL/SPRING

PUAF670 Finance Introduction to principles of resource allocation over time, role of debt in context of changing sources of governmental revenues, long- and short-term debt instruments, analysis of mixed public-private economic development projects, leasing, and the impact of borrowing devices. Prerequisites: PUAF 610 and 640. (Instructor: Joyce; St. Clair) FALL/SPRING

PUAF611 Quantitative Analysis of Policy Issues Study of a series of problems and the development of quantitative techniques to describe or evaluate the problem. The course reviews the organization and interpretation of complex data and its use for prediction and causal inference. Includes: the definition of objectives; trade-offs among objectives; allocation of resources to meet objectives; and the sensitivity of outcomes to changing conditions. (REQUIRED – Instructor: Dugan; Weissman) FALL/SPRING

PUAF734 Foundations of Social Policy The course provides an overview of government's role in social policy and the history of the development of federal and state policies with respect to welfare, aging, education, and housing. Analyzes current federal institutions and legislation in the same policy areas and the demographic history of the United States. Develops skills in analytic writing and presentation of descriptive data. (REQUIRED – Instructor: Reuter FALL; Haaga SPRING)

PUAF689E Program Evaluation and Cost-Benefit Analysis Provides an overview of program evaluation and emphasizes the main approaches to data collection used in: (1) designing programs and policies, (2) assessing program and policy impacts, including cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit results, and (3) monitoring the ongoing operations of existing programs and policies. (REQUIRED – Instructor: Besharov) SPRING

PUAF790 Project Course Students work at a sponsoring government agency or private firm researching problem of interest to sponsor and relevant to concentration. Emphasis on: problem definition; organizing information; and both oral and written presentation of results. (REQUIRED – Instructor: Besharov) SPRING

ADDITIONAL COURSES - FALL

PUAF798E Introduction to Policy Analysis Provides an overview of the process of policy analysis coupled with a series of related student exercises. In doing so, it adopts a broad definition of policy analysis: (1) describing the problem; (2) describing the causes of the problem; (3) identifying all realistic options for addressing the problem; (4) assessing the realistic options; (5) providing a detailed set of recommendations; (6) describing the implementation process and performance measures; (7) identifying and describing the proximal and distal impacts; and (8) developing a process that institutionalizes continual reassessment and redesign of the program. (Instructor: Besharov) FALL

PUAF735 Health Policy Analyzes the origins, history, status, and future of health care as problems in political and economic theory and as puzzles in policy formation. Considers current American reform controversies in the light of several disciplines and in comparison to foreign experiences and structures. (Instructor: Meyer) FALL
PUAF688P Health Law and Ethics The legal system helps determine the relationships prevailing among individuals, institutions and governments by setting out the rights, duties and powers of the various parties. This course examines look at some of the more important concepts the law uses within the context of health services and public health. (Instructor: Kivlighan, School of Public Health) FALL

PUAF698A Poverty Measurement and Alleviation This course examines the extent and demographics of contemporary poverty, and what government can do about it. The course begins by considering the U.S. poverty measure as well as those of other countries and international aid institutions, and their implications for public (and scholarly) views about the nature and causes of poverty (as well as for pending legislation to revise the official poverty measure). It then explores efforts to alleviate poverty over the last fifty years, focusing on both income transfers and efforts to increase human and social capital (with a special focus on children, the elderly, and minorities). (Instructor: Besharov) FALL

EDPS615 Economics of Education An introduction to the application of economic principles to the study of education policy. The course content revolves around issues of efficiency, equity, and freedom of choice. Specific attention is devoted to school finance litigation and reform, practices for raising and allocating resources, and education productivity issues. (Instructor: Rice, College of Education) FALL

PUAF698V Managing Social Services A course in applied management of human services and the practical application of human services policy that is intended for students planning careers in public service as human services program managers or in policy positions at the federal, state or local level or in the private non-profit sector. This is a “backpack” course with several classes taking place off campus, in local community programs, the laboratories of social policy. (Instructor: Short) FALL

ADDITIONAL COURSES - SPRING

PUAF732 Policy and Politics of Education Reform Examines education reform in its historical, fiscal, cultural, and legal contexts, and the changing relationship between education and economic opportunity. Focuses on institutional and normative issues, including national standards, public school choice, charter schools, vouchers and funding equity. (Instructor: White, College of Education) SPRING

PUAF770 Housing and Community Development Strategies Detailed examination of community and social policy issues relating to the construction and management of affordable housing. (Instructor: Pitchford) SPRING

PUAF798G Health Economics and Analysis This course will apply the basic principles of economics to health care. Students will learn about both the advantages and limitations of applying market forces to health care, how insurance markets work, important "market failures," and policy options for correcting them. The course will cover both "macroeconomic" issues relating health care to the overall economy, and "microeconomic" issues. It will explain the changing practice of medicine, looming challenges to public budgets posed by an aging population and the escalating costs of Medicare and Medicaid, and the importance of devoting more resources to prevention, chronic disease management, and health information technology. The course will also address both shortages of various types of health care providers such as nurses, and the rising importance of pharmaceuticals, biotech products, and medical devices and issues of cost and affordability related to such advanced medical procedures. (Instructor: Mortensen or Chen, School of Public Health) SPRING

EDPS751 Law, Equity and Diversity in Education Focuses on the role of law in the governance, operation, and reform of elementary and secondary schools. The course addresses school law, considering relevant federal and state judiciary, legislative, and executive actions. It also considers the regulatory actions of other governing bodies, including county and administrative groups. (Instructor: Croninger, College of Education) SPRING
**URSP688X Communities** Explores empirical and normative questions. The course looks at various communities, analyzing dilemmas their members confront and challenges their actions present to nonmember outsiders. Particular attention to four empirical questions: (1) How does the increasingly voluntary, partial, and contingent nature of community membership affect people’s feelings of attachment and societal cohesion? (2) How do liberalism and the market, by fostering competitive individualism, constrain community? (3) How do anxieties about differences among community members give rise to fantasies of uniformity and hinder realistic action? (4) How do differences in power give some groups advantages over others in forming, joining, and acting in communities? (Instructor: Baum, Department of Urban Studies and Planning) **SPRING**

**PUAF737 Strategies of Equality**
Concentrates on the institutional and political means by which disadvantaged segments of the United States population have sought to enhance their social, economic and political prospects. Race, gender and disability are the substantive focal points, with considerable attention given to the challenges of African American socio-political uplift. Also explores legislation, litigation, administration, agitation (i.e. protest), and constitutional reform. Students become familiar with alternative conceptions of equality and the modes of argument employed in different institutional and political contexts. (Instructor: Foreman) **SPRING**