

**POLICY STATEMENT FOR THE  
Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration  
BIDEN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION**  
**Approved 2-7-2014, Revisions 10-6-2017, Revisions 3-18-2021, Revisions 2024-25**

**Part I: Program History**

The Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration offers the Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy and Administration (PPA), which was first authorized as a Doctor of Philosophy in Urban Affairs and Public Policy as a permanent degree by the Board of Trustees in May of 1973. The Ph.D. program is administered by a Program Director and Program Committee appointed by the Dean of the Biden School of Public Policy and Administration. The Program Director and Committee work with the Biden School administration to oversee the policies and operations of the program, including the admission of students and the administration of program requirements.

The Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration is an interdisciplinary research degree that prepares students to engage in rigorous scholarship that addresses the critical policy and administrative challenges of our times. We achieve this mission through providing a core substantive curriculum in the areas of public policy and public administration and management alongside methodological research training, and research and engagement opportunities with faculty and the research and public service centers in the Biden School.

**Part II: Admissions**

**ADMISSIONS OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of the admissions criteria is to identify those applicants who can benefit from, and make a distinct contribution to, the Ph.D. program in Public Policy and Administration. Applicants are sought who show promise of constructive involvement with faculty, staff, and other students in instruction, research, and public service. Consideration is also given to the student's potential for successful completion of his or her graduate program.

Given its mission, the Program seeks students with a mix of interests, backgrounds, and areas of competence and among whose goals is to do research in public policy and administration. The admissions process employs a wide spectrum of criteria in assessing a prospective student's motivation, interest, and ability to perform successfully. No one criterion is the sole basis of an admissions decision.

**ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS**

Successful applicants should meet each of the following criteria:

1. Admission to the Ph.D. program requires completion of a bachelors degree in public policy, public administration, or a related field of study. Students without previous experience or relevant coursework in public policy and administration may be asked to complete up to one year of coursework at the Masters level in Public Policy and

Administration.

2. Grade point index of 3.25 or above in previous course work.
3. Potential for academic and professional achievement, as indicated by letters of recommendation from those qualified to evaluate the applicant's capacity to succeed in doctoral study.
4. For students whose first language is not English, demonstrated proficiency in English based on applicable University of Delaware Graduate College policy is required.
5. Other factors may be taken into account as supplementary indicators in cases where all the main criteria are not met but the candidate shows promise of success in our doctoral program. The Ph.D committee will consider student's overall pattern of academic performance at the undergraduate and graduate levels as well as match in substantive area of interest in making decisions.

Required elements of the application include:

1. A personal statement describing the applicant's background, reasons for pursuing a Ph.D. and areas of scholarly research interest.
2. Official transcripts from all previous colleges/universities attended as an undergraduate or graduate student.
3. Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume listing relevant education, employment, academic, and professional accomplishments and experience.
4. A scholarly writing sample such as a research report, publication, project report, or other work that a candidate believes demonstrates their best academic and scholarly ability.
5. Three letters of recommendation.

Applications should be submitted by December 15th for admission in the fall of the following year. Admission to the Ph.D. program is competitive. Those who meet stated requirements are not guaranteed admission, nor are those who fail to meet all of those requirements necessarily precluded from admission if they offer other appropriate strengths.

## **REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS**

Applications for the Ph.D. Program are assessed by the Program Director and the Program Committee. Recommendations concerning admissions are transmitted to the Graduate College by the Program Director.

## **ADVISORS**

After admission to the Ph.D. Program, each student will be assigned an appropriate advisor by the Program Director in the area of the student's prospective dissertation research. Students may change advisors in consultation with the Program Director. The advisor will be responsible for day-to-day monitoring and supervision of the student's program.

### **Part III: Degree Requirements**

The structure of the program includes substantive and methodological core courses, intensive study in an area of research specialization, and the completion of a dissertation demonstrating the student's capacity for independent research. The minimum total credit requirement for completion of the Ph.D. program is 47 credits. Students without a master's level background in public policy, research methods, or quantitative analysis/statistics may be required to enroll in Masters level courses during their first year of study. The work in these courses will not be part of the Ph.D. Qualifying Exam.

#### **Completion of Curriculum Requirements**

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Complete the following table each semester to ensure all course requirements are fulfilled. See Program Policy Statement for more details on required grades and course substitution and waiver policies.

<b>Required Courses</b>		<b>Semester</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Grade</b>
<b>Core</b>				
	Public Policy Theory (UAPP 822)			
	Public Administration Theory (UAPP 830)			
	Adv Public Policy and Admin (SPPA 840)			
<b>Policy and/or Administration "Substantive Area"</b>				
	Substantive Area Course 1 of 3			
	Substantive Area Course 2 of 3			
	Substantive Area Course 3 of 3			
<b>Methods</b>				
	Quantitative Research Methods (PhD level)			
	Qualitative Research Methods (PhD level)			
	Adv Qualitative or Quantitative Analysis			
<b>Research Design</b>				
	Research Design			
<b>Professional Development</b>				
	Professional Development (SPPA 861)			
<b>Independent Research</b>				
	Dissertation Proposal Workshop (SPPA 863)			
	Doctoral Dissertation (SPPA 969)			

\*See Appendix for a list of courses that can be taken to satisfy this requirement.

## **QUALIFYING EXAMS**

After completing their coursework requirements, typically between the end of Year 2 and beginning of Year 3, the student should schedule their qualifying exam.

The exam places emphasis on the interconnected nature of the content of the core courses and establishes a means to evaluate competency to proceed to the next stage of doctoral study. The qualifying exam is graded pass or fail. Students must pass the qualifying examination. The faculty examination committee may apply an interim grade of conditional pass for a student who is required to resubmit a portion of the qualifying exam, or complete other developmental activities recommended by the committee before the final grade is assigned. Students can also be awarded a “pass with distinction” if the exam is assessed to be exceptional. Exams are evaluated primarily on their written content, but in marginal cases, the faculty may also take performance through the first year of PhD coursework into account when evaluating exams. Students who fail will be allowed one retake of the exam at a time specified by the exam committee.

## **COURSE GRADES**

All students are required to attain a grade of B- or better in all courses counted towards the doctoral degree in Public Policy and Administration. Students who do not attain a B- grade in a required course must retake that course or a substitute approved by the Program Director, and must receive a grade of B- or better to continue in the program. In accordance with University policy, students must also maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0.

The student’s prospective doctoral dissertation supervisor (who will become the chair of the doctoral dissertation committee) should be identified as early as possible in the second year of study. The doctoral dissertation supervisor must hold a faculty appointment in the Biden School.

## **DISSERTATION PROPOSAL AND COMMITTEE**

The central requirement to be completed before the start of the third year of doctoral study is the development, public defense, and approval of the doctoral dissertation proposal.

The committee must be composed of at least four and no more than six members. The committee chair and at least one other member must hold faculty appointments in the Biden School of Public Policy and Administration. In close consultation with the faculty member who will be the chairperson of the committee, the student then identifies the remaining prospective members of the dissertation proposal committee. Each dissertation committee must have one individual from outside of the School, from another academic department of the university or from outside the university. The membership of the dissertation committee must be approved by the prospective chairperson and the Program Director. The student's Dissertation Committee is responsible for assisting the student in preparation of an acceptable final dissertation proposal. Dissertation proposals must be approved by the full dissertation committee. The chair of the dissertation committee will forward an approved proposal, signed by all members of the Committee, to be placed in the student's file.

Entry into official candidacy for the Ph.D. degree occurs after the dissertation proposal has been successfully defended and approved by the dissertation committee and the Program Director. The *Recommendation for Candidacy for Doctoral Degree* form must be signed by the committee members upon the successful defense of the proposal. The completed form must then be submitted to the Graduate Coordinator. Once the dissertation proposal is approved, a final grade is submitted for SPPA 863 and the student is admitted to doctoral candidacy.

### **ADMISSION TO DOCTORAL CANDIDACY**

Doctoral students who have been admitted to candidacy must enroll in 9 credits of SPPA 969 and thereafter maintain their matriculation in the degree program during each fall and spring semester by registering for sustaining (UNIV 999).

SPPA969: Doctoral Dissertation (9 credits)
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### **DEFENSE OF DISSERTATION**

A Ph.D. dissertation is a manuscript that reflects original and significant research that is written in a scholarly manner and is worthy of publication. The Dissertation Committee should be assembled by the chair when a draft of the dissertation is sufficiently complete for the committee to render a judgment regarding the reasonable time of defense and to stipulate any revisions needed prior to a defense. In accordance with University policy, a copy of the dissertation must be available for review at least two weeks prior to the defense. The student will formally defend the study at a public meeting conducted by the Dissertation Committee. At the conclusion of the dissertation defense, any necessary revisions will be communicated by the chair of the Dissertation Committee to the student. Any revisions required shall be set out in writing, and a specified time schedule for completion indicated. A copy of this schedule is sent to the Graduate Coordinator and Program Director. The doctoral dissertation is expected to reflect the result of original research written in a scholarly and competent manner and be suitable for scholarly publication. Per university policy, the Dean of the School must also review dissertations and assess if they meet the academic standards of the school.

#### **Part IV: Progress and Mentorship**

At the conclusion of each academic year, all students will be reviewed by the Program Director and Program Committee for mentorship opportunities and to determine if adequate progress has been made against established benchmarks. Students must submit their updated *Plan of Study* and *Annual Review* documents to the Program Director by July of each year. In the instance where a student is judged by the Program Committee as not making sufficient progress, the Committee may require specific steps be taken to remedy the situation. Students who fail to meet these requirements will be assessed for the potential to earn the Masters in Urban Affairs and Public Policy as described below or will be recommended for dismissal from the program.

#### **Part V: Financial Aid**

Financial aid is available to Ph.D. students in the form of graduate assistantships, teaching assistantships, research assistantships, tuition scholarships, and University assistantships and fellowships. Students also are encouraged to explore external fellowships. Assistantships and fellowships typically consist of a tuition scholarship and a stipend for the September-May academic year. Full-time doctoral students in good standing are eligible to be considered for funding through the fourth year of continuous study. Awards are competitive and merit-based.

Applications and nominations for financial aid for new students are reviewed by the Program Director in consultation with the Program Committee and transmitted to the Biden School of Public Policy and Administration. Applications and nominations for continuing graduate students for financial aid are reviewed by the Program Director and forwarded to the Biden School of Public Policy and Administration pending review of the student's status.

Funding commitments are made through consultation of the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, the Program Director, the directors of Biden School-affiliated research and public service centers, and faculty who provide graduate stipend support.

#### **Part VI: Handbook for Ph.D. Students**

Detailed information and guidelines for students at different stages of the doctoral program are located on the Biden School website.

#### **Part VII: Program Assessment**

The Ph.D. program is reviewed regularly by the Dean and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the Biden School of Public Policy and Administration, and by the Program Director and the Program Committee to assure that the program is meeting its objectives and effectively serving the students.

The Biden School Academic Curriculum Coordinating Committee (ACC), consisting of all program directors in the Biden School and the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs develops and reviews a three-year course offering plan to meet program curricular needs. The ACC also reviews all course and curricular changes.

The Biden School faculty are provided periodic updates on program recruitment and admissions, and student progress. The Biden School faculty review and approve all course and curricular changes.

At regular intervals, a full program review is completed that includes both a self-study and external review team. The last external program review was conducted in 2003. An internal review was conducted in 2019-2020 by the Program Committee, the Director of Doctoral Studies, and the Program Director, leading to the changes incorporated in this revised program policy statement. The PhD. Program was reviewed as part of the Academic Program Review of the School of Public Policy and Administration in 2014. The program also was reviewed in the summer and fall 2017 in the context of coordination with other Ph.D. programs in the School.



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

**BIDEN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION**

**PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION  
PH.D. PROGRAM PLAN OF STUDY**

Updated November 2024

The Ph.D. Program Plan of Study form must be completed by the student in consultation with the student’s academic advisor, approved by the advisor and the Program Director, and submitted to the Biden School Graduate Coordinator no later than the end of the second semester of study. This plan of study should be updated as necessary, and must be submitted by the end of each year for approval by the Program Director. Students must consult with the Program Director about possible course waivers or substitutions.

**Student Information**

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<b>Name of Student:</b>		<b>ID#</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>	<b>Check one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time student	
<b>Entry Term:</b>	<b>Expected Date of Degree:</b>	
<b>Name of Academic Advisor:</b>		

**Curriculum Overview**

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The Public Policy and Administration PhD Program curriculum consists of a substantive core of three required courses: a public policy theory course, a public administration and management theory course, and an advanced public policy and administration course; and a requirement to complete an additional three doctoral level courses in a substantive policy or public administration area. The curriculum also includes a base of research design and methods courses which includes epistemology/logics of inquiry, research design and methods, introduction to quantitative analysis, introduction to qualitative analysis, and a requirement for one additional advanced research methods course in quantitative or qualitative analysis. Students are also required to participate in the professional development seminar during their first year of the program.

## Curriculum Overview

Core Substantive Classes		Credits
Public Policy Theory	Public Policy Theory (UAPP 822)	3
Public Administration Theory	Public Administration Theory (UAPP 830)	3
Advanced Public Policy and Administration	Advanced Public Policy and Administration (SPPA 840)	3
Policy and/or Administration "Substantive Area"		
3 Courses in a Substantive Policy or Administration Area	Work with advisor to identify courses; courses must be PhD level unless have prior approval	9
Professional Development		
Professional Development	Professional Development (SPPA 861)	2
Research Design		
Epistemology	Processes of Social Inquiry (UAPP 801)	3
Research Design	Research Design	3
Research Methods		
Quantitative Analysis	Quantitative Research Methods (PhD level)	3
Qualitative Analysis	Qualitative Research Methods (PhD level)	3
Advanced Methods and Analysis	Advanced Quantitative or Qualitative Analysis	3
Independent Research		
Dissertation Proposal	Dissertation Proposal Workshop (SPPA 863)	3
Dissertation Credits	Doctoral Dissertation (SPPA 969)	9
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>47</b>

## Foundational Courses

Students are expected to have taken a graduate level course in quantitative analysis/statistics, research methods, and public policy. If the student has not taken these courses, they may be required to complete foundational courses as preparation for doctoral-level study. These courses are required to be completed prior to enrollment in the core doctoral curriculum.

- **Quantitative Analysis/Statistics:** Students are expected to have knowledge of statistics at the level of UAPP 691 – Quantitative Analysis in Public & Nonprofit Sectors.
- **Research Methods:** Students are expected to have knowledge of social science design and methods training at the level of UAPP 702 – Research Methods in Urban and Public
- **Public Policy:** Students are expected to have knowledge of public policy theory and concepts at the level of UAPP701-Public Policy.

	Required (Y/N)	Semester Completed
UAPP691- Quantitative Analysis in Public and Nonprofit Sectors		
UAPP- 702- Research Methods in Urban and Public Policy		
UAPP 701- Public Policy		

## Yearly Curriculum Overview

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The table below displays the typical four-year sequence of courses for students in the program. Students in the program typically enroll in 9-10 credits per semester.

Students take the qualifying exam at the end of the first year of the program, and are expected to defend their dissertation proposal at the end of their second year.

The primary focus of the final two years of the program is completion of the dissertation.

Semester	Required Courses				Credits	Benchmarks
<b>Fall 1</b>	Public Administration Theory (UAPP 830)	Logics of Inquiry (UAPP 801)	Research Design	Professional Development (SPPA 861)	10	
<b>Spring 1</b>	Public Policy Theory (UAPP 822)	Quantitative or Qualitative Methods (1 of 3)	Substantive Area Course (1 of 3)	Professional Development (SPPA 861)	10	
<b>Fall 2</b>	Substantive Area Course (2 of 3)	Quantitative or Qualitative Methods (2 of 3)	Quantitative or Qualitative Methods (3 of 3)		9	
<b>Spring 2</b>	Advanced Public Policy and Administration (SPPA 840)	Dissertation Development Course (SPPA 863)	Substantive Area Course (3 of 3)		9	Qualifying Exam
<b>Fall 3</b>	Pre-Candidacy (SPPA 964) or Dissertation Credits (SPPA 969)				9	Proposal Defense
<b>Spring 3</b>	Sustaining				Sustaining	
<b>Fall 4</b>	Sustaining				Sustaining	
<b>Spring 4</b>	Sustaining				Sustaining	Dissertation Defense
					<b>47</b>	

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## Completion of Curriculum Requirements

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Complete the following table each semester to ensure all course requirements are fulfilled. See Program Policy Statement for more details on required grades and course substitution and waiver policies.

Required Courses		Semester	Course	Grade
<b>Core</b>				
	Public Policy Theory (UAPP 822)			
	Public Administration Theory (UAPP 830)			
	Adv Public Policy and Admin (SPPA 840)			
<b>Policy and/or Administration "Substantive Area"</b>				
	Substantive Area Course 1 of 3			
	Substantive Area Course 2 of 3			
	Substantive Area Course 3 of 3			
<b>Methods</b>				
	Quantitative Research Methods (PhD level)			
	Qualitative Research Methods (PhD level)			
	Adv Qualitative or Quantitative Analysis			
<b>Research Design</b>				
	Research Design			
<b>Professional Development</b>				
	Professional Development (SPPA 861)			
<b>Independent Research</b>				
	Dissertation Proposal Workshop (SPPA 863)			
	Doctoral Dissertation (SPPA 969)			

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## Qualifying Exam

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The qualifying exam is administered after the first year of full-time study and the completion of the core curriculum. The exam places emphasis on the interconnected nature of the content of the core courses and establishes a means to evaluate competency to proceed to the next stage of doctoral study. The exam is typically administered in June of each year.

The qualifying exam is graded pass or fail. Students must pass the qualifying examination. The faculty examination committee may apply an interim grade of “conditional pass” for a student who is required to resubmit a portion of the qualifying exam, or complete other developmental activities recommended by the committee before the final grade is assigned. Students can also be awarded a “pass with distinction” if the exam is assessed to be exceptional.

See the *Preparing for the Public Policy and Administration Exam Guide* for more information on the content and expectations of the exam.

<b>Date of Qualifying Exam</b>	
<b>Qualifying Exam Assessment (High Pass/Distinction, Pass, Conditional Pass, Fail)</b>	
<b>Conditions (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Date for Completion of Conditions</b>	

The student’s prospective doctoral dissertation supervisor (who will become the chair of the doctoral dissertation committee) should be identified as early as possible in the second year of study. The doctoral dissertation supervisor must hold a faculty appointment in the Biden School.

## Dissertation Proposal

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The central requirement to be completed before the start of the third year of doctoral study is the development, public defense, and approval of the doctoral dissertation proposal. See the *Biden School Dissertation Proposal Guidelines* for more information on the expectations for the content and format of the dissertation proposal.

The committee must be composed of at least four and no more than six members. The committee chair and at least one other member must hold faculty appointments in the Biden School of Public Policy and Administration. In close consultation with the faculty member who will be the chairperson of the committee, the student then identifies the remaining members of the dissertation proposal committee. Each dissertation committee must have one individual from outside of the School, from another academic department of the university or from outside the university. See the *Graduate College Dissertation Committee Guidelines* for more on the specific policies related to dissertation committee composition.

<b>Date of Dissertation Proposal Defense</b>	
<b>Dissertation Chair</b>	
<b>Dissertation Committee Member</b>	
<b>Dissertation Committee Member</b>	
<b>Dissertation Committee Member</b>	

Entry into official candidacy for the Ph.D. degree occurs after the dissertation proposal has been successfully defended and approved. To accomplish this, student must complete the *Recommendation for Candidacy for Doctoral Degree* form which can be obtained from the Graduate Coordinator prior to their defense, and then obtain the signatures of committee members on this form upon the successful defense of their proposal. The completed form must then be submitted to the School's Academic Administration Office. See the *Biden School Dissertation Proposal Defense Policy* for more information on the administrative requirements and process related to the proposal defense.

Once the dissertation proposal is approved, final grades are submitted for SPPA 863.

Coursework beyond the second year are not required but may be mutually agreed upon as beneficial by the student and advisor. Courses may be selected that support the development of the dissertation proposal or enhance the research skills or knowledge needed to complete the dissertation.

Students who have defended their dissertation proposal (and are doctoral candidates) by the beginning of the fall semester should register for 9 credits of Dissertation Research (SPPA 969), and for 9 credits on sustaining status in the spring semester (UNIV 999).

Students who have completed all other course work but have not defended their proposal should register for pre-candidacy credits (SPPA 964) at the minimum required to maintain full-time status (9 credits).

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	<b>Semester Completed</b>
<b><i>Fall Semester</i></b>	
SPPA 969: Dissertation Research (9 credits) <i>OR</i> SPPA 964: Pre Candidacy (up to 9 credits)	
<b><i>Spring Semester</i></b>	
UNIV 999: Sustaining Status	

#### **Year 4**

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The fourth year of study should be devoted to completing the doctoral dissertation. Drafting the full dissertation manuscript is a formidable task and typically involves multiple revisions of chapters. Students should plan to submit a full draft of the manuscript to the dissertation committee chair for review by the end of the fall semester of the fourth year. The chair will advise the student on when the manuscript should be reviewed by other members of the committee, but in all cases, the members of the committee must have the opportunity to review and comment on a draft of the dissertation prior to the formal defense.

The formal defense should be scheduled by March of the fourth year of full-time study in order to enable the student to make any necessary revisions prior to submitting the final manuscript for graduation in May of the fourth year. See the *Biden School Dissertation Defense and Submission Guidelines* for more information on the relevant policies related to the dissertation defense.

<b>Dissertation Title</b>	
<b>Date of Dissertation Defense</b>	
<b>Dissertation Chair</b>	
<b>Dissertation Committee Member</b>	
<b>Dissertation Committee Member</b>	
<b>Dissertation Committee Member</b>	
<b>Dissertation Committee Member</b>	

## **Annual Review and Approval of Plan of Study**

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At the conclusion of each academic year, all students will be reviewed by the Program Director and Program Committee for mentorship opportunities and to determine if adequate progress has been made against established benchmarks. Students must submit their updated *Plan of Study* and *Annual Review* documents to the Program Director by July of each year. In the instance where a student is judged by the Program Committee as not making sufficient progress, the Committee may require specific steps be taken to remedy the situation. Students who fail to meet these requirements will be assessed for the potential to earn the Masters in Urban Affairs and Public Policy as described in the Program Policy Statement or will be recommended for dismissal from the program.

	<b>Advisor</b>	<b>Program Director</b>
<b><i>Year 1 Approval</i></b>		
<b><i>Year 2 Approval</i></b>		
<b><i>Year 3 Approval</i></b>		
<b><i>Year 4 Approval</i></b>		

**Appendix: List of Approved Courses for Curricular Requirements**

**Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis Requirement**

The courses listed below can be used to satisfy the foundations, introductory, and advanced quantitative and qualitative research methods and analysis requirement. Enrollment in the non-Biden School courses listed below are not guaranteed. Individual course instructors determine whether the student has the appropriate prerequisite knowledge as well as whether there is space available to allow enrollment.

<b>Foundations Quantitative Analysis</b>	<b>Introductory Quantitative Analysis</b>	<b>Introductory Qualitative Analysis</b>	<b>Advanced Quantitative or Qualitative Analysis</b>
SPPA 691	SPPA 704	SPPA 808	SPPA 718
POSC 815	<i>SOCI 614</i>	<i>SOCI 606</i>	<i>SOCI 625</i>
BHAN 856		EDUC 850	<i>SOCI 676</i>
EDUC 856			POSC 817
EDUC 874			BAMS 650
			BHAN 855
			EDUC 858
			EDUC 859
			EDUC 852*
			EDUC 826
			EDUC 867*
			EDUC 873
			EDUC 812

\*Requires advisor and doctoral director approval.

**Substantive Policy or Administration Requirement**

The courses listed below can be used to satisfy the requirement to complete three doctoral level courses in a substantive policy or public administration area (in addition to the three required core public policy and administration courses).

<b>Doctoral Level Courses</b>
UAPP 822: Technology, Environment and Society
UAPP 823: Social Policy
SPPA 866: Special Topics in Public Policy and Administration

Other University of Delaware and Biden School graduate courses (600 or 700 level) can also be approved to meet this requirement. Approval must be obtained prior to enrollment from the primary advisor and Program Director. The instructor of the course and the student must arrange for advanced content to be included for the course to satisfy the doctoral requirement.