ADVANCED POLICY ANALYSIS METHODS

**Predesigned Concentration Information**

The predesigned concentration in Advanced Policy Analysis Methods builds on the core courses in policy analysis and quantitative methods. Policy analysis is systematic, structured thinking about policy problems. It involves the production of knowledge and information in and of the policy process. Methods and tools addressed include problem structuring, monitoring, formal deductive modeling, statistical inference, forecasting, simulation and evaluation. The predesigned concentration in Advanced Policy Analysis Methods allows students to focus on mastery of additional policy analysis tools or methods or on the application of a specific policy analytic method to a subject matter area. The focus of interest could be on health, labor, education, the environment, racial and ethnic disparities, agriculture or other relevant areas.

Past experience suggests that there is a strong market for people with advanced policy analysis skills at all levels of government and in the private and non-profit sectors. Graduates with policy analysis skills and interests currently work at offices ranging from the federal Office of Management and Budget, the Government Accountability Office, and the Congressional Budget Office to policy analysis and planning units within state and local governments.

To fulfill the requirements for an Advanced Policy Analysis concentration, students must (a) complete the core courses listed below and (b) design and complete a 9-credit plan for additional coursework. Selected courses must allow for a sustained commitment to a coherent program of student development. Students must explain the logic of their self-designed concentration in a brief narrative (approximately one paragraph) submitted to and approved by their advisor.
Core Courses for MPP students (doesn’t count toward the 9 credit minimum):

PA 5032 Intermediate Regression Analysis (2 cr)
AND
PA 5033 Multivariate Techniques (2 cr)

Select courses such as those listed below (9 credits or more)*

PA 5041 Qualitative Methods for Policy Analysis 4
PA 5271 Geographic Information Systems: Applications in Planning & Policy Analysis 3
PA 5301 Population Methods and Issues for the United States and Third World 3
PA 5311 Program Evaluation 3
PA 5421 Racial Inequality and Public Policy 3
PA 5431 Public Policies on Work and Pay 3
PA 8302 Applied Policy Analysis 3
PA 8390 Research Methods in Public Policy 2

* Suggestions listed above are drawn from regularly scheduled Humphrey School courses. A wide variety of suitable courses can also found in other units of the University of Minnesota. Students are encouraged to review these offerings in consultation with their faculty and professional advisor.

** Not all courses on this list are offered every year. Some courses may have prerequisites.

Core Faculty
Maria Hanratty
Janna Johnson
Morris Kleiner
Deborah Levison
Samuel L. Myers, Jr.
Judy Temple