

MS-STEP Program Planning Worksheet (Revised 8/14/2020)

Student Name (printed) _____ Faculty Advisor (printed) _____

Student Name (signed) _____ Faculty Advisor (signed) _____

This worksheet is designed to help MS-STEP students plan their course schedules to meet all degree requirements. Students must meet thirteen requirements (I – XIII). Requirements I – VII require specific courses, whereas requirements VIII – XIII may be met through different course options selected in consultation with your advisor. Required courses from requirements I – X together total 26.5 credits. Students must also enroll in at least one “focus area” course (requirement XI), additional electives (requirement XII), and complete a final paper (Plan A or C under requirement XIII) to meet the 36-credit minimum of the degree.

	Course Options	Course Title	Cr	Term	Year
Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy Overview					
I	PA 5711	Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy	3	F	
II	PA 5715	Survey of Current Issues in Sci., Tech, and Env. Policy	1.5	S	
Sustainability Systems Science					
III	PA 5722	Econ. of Natural Resource and Environmental Policy <small>(past economics, PA 5021, or instructor permission required)</small>	3	F	
IV	PA 5741	Risk, Resilience, and Decision Making	1.5	S (2 nd half)	
V	PA 5752(*,†)	Material-Energy Flows & Sustainable Development	3	F	
Social and Policy Processes					
VI	PA 5002	Introduction to Policy Analysis	1.5	F / S (half)	
VII	PA 5012	The Politics of Public Affairs	3	F / S	
Foundational Methods					
VIII	PA 5031 -or-	Statistics for Public Affairs -or-	4	F	
	PA 5045	Statistics for Public Affairs, Accelerated	4	F	
IX	PA 5032 -or-	Applied Regression -or-	2	S (1 st half)	
	PA 5044 -or-	Applied Regression, Accelerated -or-	2	S (1 st half)	
	PA 5041	Qualitative Methods for Policy Analysis	4	F / S	
Additional Methods (Sum of Requirement VIII, IX, and X must equal 10 credits)					Sum VIII – X
X	See list of approved options on next page				
Focus Area (one course is required, students often take additional focus area courses as electives)					
XI	PA 5721 -or-	Energy Systems and Policy -or-	3	S	
	PA 5723(*) -or-	Water Policy -or-	3	S	
	PA 5724 -or-	Climate Change Policy -or-	3	F	
	PA 5731 -or-	Emerging Sciences and Tech: Policy, Ethics, & Law -or-	3	S	
	PA 5751 -or-	Local Climate and Energy Challenges <small>(tent. title)</small> -or-	3	S	
	PA 5761 -or-	Env Systems Analysis at the Food/Energy/Water Nexus -or-	3	S	
	PA 5243	Environmental Justice in Urban Planning & Public Policy	3	S	
Electives (courses in Humphrey and other colleges to be arranged with advisor)					
XII					
Final Paper (Choose Plan C or Plan A)					
Plan C: Capstone or Individual Professional Paper					
XIII <small>(opt 1)</small>	PA 8081 -or-	Capstone Workshop <small>(requires 1-cr PA 5080 in Fall)</small> -or-	(1)+3	(F)+S	
	PA 8082 -or-	Professional Paper-Writing Seminar -or-	3	S	
	PA 8921	Master’s: Professional Paper (Individual Option) <small>(ind. study)</small>	3	F/S	
Plan A: Master’s Thesis					
XIII <small>(opt 2)</small>	PA 8777	Thesis Credits: Master’s	10	F/S	
Total Credits to meet 36 credit minimum					

(†) When PA 5752 is not offered, PA 5761 (Env Systems Analysis at the Food/Energy/Water Nexus) can act as a pre-approved substitute (but cannot double count to meet requirement XI). Other substitutions to be approved by the STEP DGS.

(*) Indicates that the course may not be offered every year

Pre-Approved Additional Methods Courses (to meet Requirement X above)

- PA 5033 Multivariate Techniques (2cr) [prerequisite: PA 5032/5044]
- PA 5043 Economic and Demographic Data Analysis (2cr)
- PA 5271 GIS: Applications in Planning and Policy Analysis (3cr)
- PA 5311 Program Evaluation (3cr)
- PA 5521 Development Planning and Policy Analysis (4cr)
- PA 5928 Data Management and Visualization with R (1cr)
- PA 5929 Data Visualization: Telling Stories with Numbers (2cr)
- PA 5932 Working with Data: Finding, Managing, and Using Data (1.5cr)
- PA 5933 Survey Methods: Designing Effective Questionnaires (2cr)
- Other credits from non-PA courses with approval from faculty advisor and STEP DGS

Note: students may take both PA 5032/5044 and PA 5041 to jointly meet requirement IX and X

Example 2-Year MS-STEP Course Plan

Below is an example 2-year plan to meet all MS-STEP requirements. This course plan is only an example and is *not* a recommended sequence. Students should discuss their course plan with their advisor.

Fall Year 1

- PA 5711: Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy (3 cr)
- PA 5722: Econ. of Natural Resource and Environmental Policy (3 cr)
- PA 5002: Introduction to Policy Analysis (1.5 cr)
- PA 5045: Statistics for Public Affairs, Accelerated (4 cr)

11.5 credits total

Spring Year 1

- PA 5715: Survey of Current Issues in STEP (1.5 cr)
- PA 5761: Env. Systems Analysis at the Nexus of Food/Energy/Water (3cr) [to meet req. V]
- PA 5741: Risk, Resilience, and Decision Making (1.5 cr; 2nd half of semester)
- PA 5044: Applied Regression, Accelerated (2 cr; 1st half of semester)
- PA 5033: Multivariate Techniques (2 cr; 2nd half of semester)

10 credits total

Fall Year 2

- PA 5012: The Politics of Public Affairs (3 cr)
- PA 5929: Data Visualization: Telling Stories with Number (2 cr)
- PA 5080 Capstone Prep Workshop (1 cr)
- Elective (3 cr)
- Elective (3 cr)

12 credits total

Spring Year 2

- PA 8081 Capstone Workshop (3 cr)
- Focus Area Course (3 cr)
- Elective (3 cr)
- Elective (3 cr)

12 credits total