

Policy Studies: Bachelor of Arts Major in Policy Studies

Faculty of Humanities	
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Policy Studies	
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IMPLEMENTATION DATE	START DATE(S)
01-Sep-2011	September
ADMISSION TYPE	ENROLMENT TYPE
Selective entry	Open access
PROGRAM TYPE	CREDENTIAL GRANTED
Undergraduate	Baccalaureate Degree
OFFERED AT	FORMAT
Langley Richmond Surrey	Full-time Part-time
HOW TO APPLY	
www.kwantlen.ca/admission	

DESCRIPTION

The aim of the Bachelor of Arts Policy Studies Major is to create a degree with a strong applied and interdisciplinary focus. Policy analysis identifies goals and values and determines how best to achieve those goals within the context of existing political and economic system while taking into account the competing interests of the various stakeholders. The program draws primarily from Philosophy, Political Science, and Economics, and uses sustainability as a unifying theme. Sustainability at a policy level is understood as the ability to meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Meeting present and future needs requires that policy be environmentally, socially and economically sustainable. As economies and consumers are forced to recognize the limits of our ecosystems and the social justice issues that arise from this, there is a pressing need for effective social policy that recognizes these issues. Therefore, students will learn to evaluate policy to ensure it meets sustainability principles.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates with a Bachelor of Arts Policy Studies from Kwantlen Polytechnic University will be positioned for future employment with the three levels of government, not for profit and private sector companies and quasi-governmental agencies such as Crown Corporations. Equipped with strong communications, research and critical thinking skills, graduates of this interdisciplinary degree will be prepared for graduate studies in a number of different areas in such positions as policy researcher or sustainability program officer as well as for professional programs such as Law.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to Kwantlen's General university admission requirements, including the undergraduate-level English Proficiency Requirement, the following program admission requirements apply:

Year One Admission:

- Grade of 'B' in English 12 (or equivalent)
- Grade of 'C' in either Principles of Math 11 (or equivalent) or Applications of Math 12 (or equivalent).

Year Three Admission:

- 60 credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 (including all 1100- and 2000-level major/minor program requirements).
- Grade of 'C' in all required 1000- and 2000-level courses, including the English writing requirement (ENGL 1100 and one of either ENGL 1202 or 1204, or equivalent).
- Two Quantitative courses.
- 12 credits of breadth courses
- Grade of 'C' in either Principles of Math 11 (or equivalent) or Applications of Math 12 (or equivalent).
- Second language at the Grade 11 level or 6 credits of post-secondary language courses in the same language. Note: Students need only achieve a passing grade to fulfill this requirement. Beginner's or Introductory Language 11 courses are ineligible to meet this requirement. Students who can demonstrate competency in a second language may request an assessment to have this requirement waived.

Qualifying Year

Students who do not qualify upon initial application to Kwantlen may be eligible for entry to the Qualifying Year. Students who possess at least a 'C' in English 12 (or equivalent) and a passing grade in Principles of Math 11 (or equivalent) or Applications of Math 12 will be able to apply for entry to the BA Qualifying Year. Students will be admitted to the BA program in the second year provided they have successfully completed appropriate qualifying courses. Other applicants who do not qualify are encouraged to consult an Educational Advisor for the appropriate qualifying courses that satisfy the application criteria.

CONTINUANCE REQUIREMENTS

- 60 credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 (including all 1100- and 2000-level major/minor program requirements).
- Grade of 'C' in all required 1000- and 2000-level courses, including the English writing requirement (ENGL 1100 and one of either ENGL 1202 or 1204, or equivalent).
- Two Quantitative courses.
- 12 credits of breadth courses
- Second language at the Grade 11 level or 6 credits of post-secondary language courses in the same language. Note: Students need only achieve a passing grade to fulfill this requirement. Beginner's or Introductory Language 11 courses are ineligible to meet this requirement. Students who can demonstrate competency in a second language may request an assessment to have this requirement waived.

CONTENT

Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree must complete all requirements in the Bachelor of Arts Framework in addition to their major or minor program requirements.

Policy Studies Major

The degree is designed around several integrative or "umbrella" courses and applied seminars. Each of the interdisciplinary courses will present the elements of policy analysis from the perspective of one of the main disciplines. The applied seminars

provide real life situations to which students can apply what they have learned in the umbrella courses. The applied seminars are also designed to foster mentorship of students by professional practitioners. Students will be encouraged to discover the issues that are important to them and their community through academic studies and in the applied courses and projects. They will be given the opportunity to work with local governments and community groups to effect positive change. In addition, library modules have been incorporated into each of these six courses where students will be able to work closely with librarians to learn the research and information literacy skills essential to effective policy studies.

INTEGRATION LEARNING OUTCOMES:

These are characterized as “umbrella” courses that integrate various discipline perspectives to policy analysis. This is the core of the program and these courses may be taken over four years or in the last two years of the program.

All of:

POST 1100	Sustainability: Analysis and Ethics	3 credits
POST 3100	Economics of Sustainability Policy	3 credits
POST 3110	Applied Policy Seminar I	3 credits
POST 4110	Applied Policy Seminar II	3 credits

Two additional required courses will be listed in the near future, so please check the department web page in the fall.

GOVERNANCE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

These provide an understanding of governance, governmental jurisdictions, and the role of stakeholders.

All of:

BUSI 1215	Organizational Behaviour I	3 credits
POLI 1110	Ideology and Politics	3 credits
POLI 1120	Canadian Government and Politics	3 credits
POLI 4420	Issues in Public Policy and Administration	3 credits

Two governance electives (See below)

ECONOMIC LEARNING OUTCOMES:

These provide an understanding of economic policy instruments, principles, and links between the economy and social goals

All of:

ECON 1150	Principles of Microeconomics	3 credits
ECON 1250	Principles of Macroeconomics	3 credits
ECON 2260	Environmental Economics	3 credits

PHILOSOPHY LEARNING OUTCOMES:

These provide an ability to perform concept analysis, critical thinking, and to be competent in assessing difficult normative issues.

All of:

PHIL 1112	Environmental Philosophy	3 credits
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PHIL 2117	Social and Political Philosophy	3 credits
PHIL 3118	Ethics and Public Policy	3 credits
PHIL 4117	Topics in Social and Political Philosophy	3 credits

Two critical thinking electives (See below)

SCIENTIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES:

These provide basic numeracy, scientific and environmental literacy, and the ability to apply scientific reasoning.

All of:

ENVI 1121	Environmental Issues (Q)	3 credits
ENVI 3112	Environment and Society	3 credits
ENVI 3212	The Urban Environment	3 credits
PHIL 1155	Introduction to Scientific Reasoning	3 credits

One Statistics or Methods Courses (See below)

Two scientific literacy courses (See below)

COMMUNICATIONS LEARNING OUTCOMES:

These provide an ability to communicate clearly and to prepare and present professional reports.

All of:

CMNS 3100	Technical Report Writing	3 credits
ENGL 1100	Writing, Reading and Thinking: An Introduction	3 credits

One of the approved English 1200 Courses

Two communications electives (See below)

WORKPLACE READINESS LEARNING OUTCOMES:

These provide acquisition of practical workplace skills.

All of:

BUSI 2465	Business Negotiations	3 credits
COOP 1101	Job Search Techniques	3 credits

Electives

Electives must be selected so as to meet the general Bachelor of Arts requirements and must also include:

1. One methods or statistics courses:

(Below is a suggested list. Other significantly equivalent courses may qualify)

ACCT 1230	Business Statistics	3 credits
CRIM 2103	Quantitative Data Analysis I	3 credits
CRIM 3103	Quantitative Data Analysis II	3 credits
MATH 1115	Statistics I	3 credits
MATH 2315	Probability and Statistics	3 credits
MATH 2335	Statistics for Life Sciences	3 credits
MATH 2341	Introduction to Statistics for Business	3 credits

PSYC 2300	Applied Statistics	3 credits
PSYC 2400	Experimental Psychology: Research Methods	3 credits
PSYC 3300	Applied Statistics II	3 credits

GRADUATION

Upon successful completion of this program, students are eligible to receive a **Bachelor of Arts, Major in Policy Studies**.

2. Two courses from each of the following four categories:

Science literacy electives:

(Below is a suggested list. Other significantly equivalent courses may qualify)

BIOL 1112	Biology Today	3 credits
CHEM 1101	Chemical Sciences Investigation	3 credits
ENVI 2310	Solid Waste Management	3 credits
GEOG 1110	Atmospheric Science	3 credits
HORT 1110	Sustainable Horticulture	3 credits
HORT 1119	Landscape and Environment	3 credits

Communications and awareness electives:

(Below is a suggested list. Other significantly equivalent courses may qualify)

CMNS 1140	Communications	3 credits
CRIM 4301	Community Advocacy	3 credits
ENGL 2300	Writing and Research Skills	3 credits
ENGL 3380	Popular Writing	3 credits
JRNL 1100	Explorations in Mass Communications	3 credits
MRKT 1199	Marketing	3 credits

Critical thinking and ethics electives:

(Below is a suggested list. Other significantly equivalent courses may qualify)

ANTH 2160	Culture and Environment	3 credits
PHIL 1145	Critical Thinking	3 credits
PHIL 1150	Basic Logic	3 credits
PHIL 3109	Morals	3 credits
POLI 1110	Ideology and Politics	3 credits

Governance electives:

(Below is a suggested list. Other significantly equivalent courses may qualify)

BUSI 1215	Organizational Behaviour	3 credits
CRIM 1107	Canadian Legal Systems	3 credits
ECON 2255	Globalization	3 credits
ENTR 3110	Advanced Organizational Behavior	3 credits
ENVI 2405	Environmental Law	3 credits
POLI 1123	Municipal Politics	3 credits
POLI 2235	BC Politics	3 credits
POLI 3145	Borderlands	3 credits
POLI 3160	International Organizations	3 credits
SOCI 3345	Policy in Context	3 credits