

UMBC School of Public Policy

Policy and Disciplinary Tracks

In addition to core courses in policy analysis, political science, research methods, economics, public policy, and sociology, students in the Public Policy Program complete courses in one of these nine fields of study, or tracks.



Economics (Ph.D. only)

Students learn to apply economic analysis techniques to problems in fields such as health, public finance, human resources, and international economics. Students strengthen their analytic abilities and learn the theory

and applications of economics through courses in microeconomics, econometrics, and forecasting.



Education Policy

Education is a significant policy area and a large budget item for state and local governments. In this track, students focus on education policies made at every level of government, and learn about the multiple

disciplinary and methodological perspectives on education through courses in the economics of education, law and policy, and urban and social issues.



Environmental Policy

This track is for students who wish to understand the complex problems of the physical environment, and the nexus between the environment and public policy. The track draws on experiences in Maryland, a state that

is home to the Chesapeake Bay and other notable natural resources. Through courses in environmental politics, environmental economics, urban ecosystems, and scientific practice, students learn to formulate and analyze environmental policy.



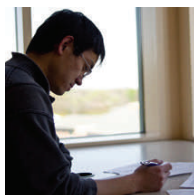
Emergency Services

(Ph.D. only)

This track is for the professional specializing in public health, disaster care, and emergency management.

There are two pathways: health, and emergency management. The health

pathway includes courses in disaster health, catastrophes, and systems design. The emergency management pathway includes courses in disaster mitigation, catastrophe preparation and response, and strategic planning.



Evaluation and Analytic Methods

Evaluation research involves everything from large-scale assessments of federal initiatives, to smaller-scale analyses of local programs. Students receive training in a variety of

analytical methods, including statistical applications in evaluation research and benefit-cost analysis, and apply these skills to public policy and management issues.



Health Policy

Students study the critical problems facing our health care system with disciplines such as sociology, political science, and economics. This track trains students to understand the development, present operation, and

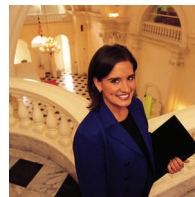
future of our health care system through courses in health care finance and service delivery, the politics of health, and health economics.



Policy History (Ph.D. only)

Historical analysis provides a context for exploring policy shifts over time, and explains how past experiences shape current discussions. This track uses an interdisciplinary approach to analyze policy development and

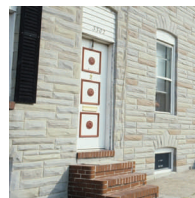
implementation, with courses that examine the history of public policy in the fields of legislation, government, business, ideology, civil rights, and science and technology.



Public Management

Public management is concerned with the skills and strategies that managers require to translate government policy into action. This track introduces students to a toolbox of management skills drawn

from the public, non-profit, and private sectors. Students take courses in managing public organizations, as well as governmental budgeting, and managerial economics.



Urban Policy

This track combines analytic training with opportunities for applied research on urban issues in neighborhoods, cities, suburbs, and metropolitan areas. Operating in the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan

area, one of the nation's most strategic urban corridors, the program exposes students to the nation's most serious urban problems through courses in urban economics, urban politics, and environmental issues.

For more information about our
Public Policy M.P.P. and Ph.D. degrees,
contact Sally Helms
(410-455-3202; helms@umbc.edu)
or visit publicpolicy.umbc.edu

THE SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC POLICY AT UMBC