

Public Service & Administration Major (BA)

Chair: Catherine E. Wilson, Ph.D.

Chair Elect: Theodoros Arapis, Ph.D. (beginning January 2024)

Office Location: 100 Gary Hall

Telephone: 610-519-3934

[Website](#)

The major in Public Service and Administration (PSA) in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) provides undergraduate students with an interdisciplinary course of study to: (1) reflect on the long tradition of public service both in the United States and abroad; (2) engage critically with the scholarly literature in the field; (3) examine historical and modern-day examples of public service leadership; and (4) equip them with the relevant competencies and skills to lead and serve as ethical, intelligent, inclusive, and creative leaders in public service organizations, from nonprofit organizations, to local, state, and federal government, to the private sector.

Program: [Public Administration](#)

Type: Bachelor of Arts

PRIMARY MAJOR (122 credits)

Required Major Courses (30 Credits)

All students majoring in PSA would be required to take the seven (7) courses listed below and at least one (1) elective PSA course.

Program Notes:

- **This major is the BA in CLAS. For the BIS see degree page entitled: 'Public Service & Administration Major (BIS)'.**
- Students would be permitted to count six (6) credits from already-approved courses in other departments towards the PSA major
- CPS students currently enrolled in the PSA major will complete the existing curriculum, but new CPS students enrolled in Fall 2022 will complete the new curriculum.
- CLAS students completing the PSA major will not be permitted to enroll in Fast Forward sections offered by CPS (unless they have been given special permission), but the CLAS students may take online PSA summer courses offered by CPS.
- Students are required to take a research methods-style course. PA 5000 meets that requirement.

Course	Title	Credits
PA 1050	Public Administration	3
PA 2000	Public Policy	3
PA 4100	Public Budgeting	3
PA 4200	Organizational Development	3
PA 5000	Special Topics	3
PA 6000	Vocation of Public Service	3
PA 6100	PSA Internship	3
	Public Service Elective	9
	Additional PSA Elective Options	0

Core Curriculum Requirements (44 credits)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)	3
	Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)	8
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Social Sciences (2 courses)	6
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Upper-Level Theology (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement (Proficiency)	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

Free Elective Requirement (48 credits)

Students with a Public Service & Administration (BA) primary major have forty-eight (48) required free elective credits.

Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 30 credits
- **Core Credits:** 44 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 48 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

Note: The above credit totals are based on the minimum number of required credits in each degree area. The minimum number of required credits in each area listed above must be met. Credits taken beyond the required minimum for one area may not be applied to another area.

SECONDARY MAJOR

Students who declare Public Service & Administration (BA) as a **secondary major** must complete the Required Major Courses to achieve this major. Students are able to count any eligible course taken in their primary major, the core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives toward these requirements.

Category Descriptions

Public Service Elective

Credits: 9

3 of these 9 credits must be taken in PSA. PA 6200 may also fulfill this requirement.

Course	Title	Credits
PA 2100	City and Suburb	3
PA 3000	Overview of Non-Profit Sector	3
PA 5100	Independent Study	3

Additional PSA Elective Options

Credits: 0

Students are permitted to count six credits from this list of already-approved courses in other departments towards the PSA Major.

Course	Title	Credits
COM 2440	Theories of Organizational Com	3
COM 3203	Communication Law & Policy	3
CRM 3001	Justice and Society	3
ECO 3112	Public Sector Economics	3
ECO 3127	Development Economics	3
ECO 3140	Urban Economics	3
EDU 3253	Educational Policy Analysis	3
ENG 2060	Desktop Publishing	3
GEV 3001	Intro to Sustainability Study	3
GEV 3308	Environmental Health	3
GEV 3570	Land Use Planning & Mgmt	3
GEV 4310	Environmental Issues Seminar	3
GEV 4330	Spec Topics in Environm Policy	3
GEV 4340	Spec Topics in Environm Issues	3
GEV 4350	Spec Topics in Environm Sci	3
GEV 4510	Special Topics in Geography	3
HS 3700	Human Service Systems	3
HUM 2900	Topics	3
MGT 2155	Organizational Behavior	3
MGT 2250	Global Corp Responsibility	3
MGT 2360	Global Leadership	3
MKT 2230	Marketing of Services	3
NS 4100	Leadership and Management	3
NS 4200	Leadership and Ethics	3
NUR 3122	Imper for Global & Pub Health	3
NUR 4114	Nursing and Health Policy	2
PA 2100	City and Suburb	3
PA 3000	Overview of Non-Profit Sector	3
PA 5000	Special Topics	3
PA 5100	Independent Study	3
PJ 2500	Education & Social Justice	3
PJ 2700	Peacemakers & Peacemaking	3
PJ 2800	Race, Class, & Gender	3
PJ 2900	Ethical Issues in P & J	3
PJ 5100	Discrimination, Justice & Law	3
PSC 2110	U.S. State & Local Government	3
PSC 2125	U.S. Presidency	3
PSC 2180	U.S. National Security Policy	3
PSC 2210	Globalization	3
PSC 2230	International Organization	3
PSC 2240	Internat'l Political Economy	3
PSC 3140	Race, Ethnicity & Pol. in U.S.	3
PSC 3210	American Foreign Policy	3
PSC 3230	Development and Aid	3
PSC 3240	East Asia Political Economy	3
PSC 3250	Genocide and Mass Killing	3
SOC 2900	Politics, Economy and Society	3
SOC 2950	Perspectives on US Poverty	3
THL 5000	THM Religion	3
VIA 3020	Creating Social Impact	3

Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)

Credits: 3

Students must take one course in either Mathematics or Statistics. Any course offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics fulfills the Core Curriculum requirement. Certain courses offered by other departments (e.g., Computer Science and Philosophy) also fulfill the requirement. These courses are designated by the Mathematics A & S Core attribute.

Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)

Credits: 8

Non-science majors meet the Core Curriculum Natural Science requirement by taking two semesters of Mendel Science Experience (MSE), thematically-based lecture/laboratory courses designed for non-science majors; or two semesters of lecture/laboratory courses designed for science majors.

Science (AST, BIO, BIOC, CHM, CBN, CSC, ENV, MAT, PHY - B.S. only, PSY - B.S. only) majors meet the science requirement through the regular program of study in their major.