Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management
Each year, 100 new students at Carleton discover new ways to improve society through public policy.

Why a career in public affairs?

PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS
Public policy affects the quality of the air we breathe and the water we drink.
It affects our access to education and medical care. It regulates the content of what we see in the media.
It determines the duties of both our police at home and our troops overseas. It influences the pace of technological change and the extent of poverty. It defines what is considered legal and illegal.
Because public policy affects our quality of life, changing and improving society involves changing and improving the policies that govern it. Changing public policy, however, is not easy. It means determining what is to be done, why and how. It means debate. It means saying yes to some and no to others. It means deciding how much is to be spent, on what and by whom.

THREE SECTORS OF SOCIETY
People working in the public, private and third sectors are all engaged in the creation and revision of public policy. The public sector includes the institutions, departments and agencies of government. The private sector comprises corporations that produce goods and provide services for profit. The third sector covers the wide range of organizations that are nongovernmental and nonprofit. These organizations might
represent particular peoples or industries. They might be educational or religious. Or they might be focused on particular policy issues such as health, poverty or development. All three sectors require people who understand how and why public policy is to be changed.

Why the Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management?

WE CAN PREPARE YOU
The Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management (BPAPM) at Carleton University is designed to prepare people to be effective in debating, deciding, implementing and evaluating public policy.

Regardless of where a career in public policy plays out—whether in the public, private or third sector, or at the local, national or international level—being effective requires strengths in three areas: **knowledge**, to understand the issues at hand and the processes by which policies are made; **power**, to be able to communicate and influence effectively; and **dedication**, to identify and live up to purposes and principles.

Carleton’s BPAPM will prepare you in all these areas by strengthening your knowledge base and your ability to communicate and by helping you to determine your own values and objectives in making policy.

The BPAPM does this through a curriculum that is interdisciplinary but structured. It combines a careful selection of courses in economics, political science, law, history and business, with a series of core courses exclusive to the degree. Together, these courses develop the conceptual skills that will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of what governments and organizations do, why they do it and how they might do it better. And they develop the technical and analytical skills that will enable you to apply that understanding in the working world.

The Carleton advantage

Carleton is well known for its teaching and research strengths in the area of public affairs. Instructors and supervisors in the Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management program come from across the Faculty of Public Affairs at Carleton, bringing depth and breadth of knowledge and experience to the classroom.

Many combine their academic expertise in public affairs with hands-on understanding, having worked as arbitrators, journalists, senior advisors or commentators on numerous national and international policy issues.

**The capital advantage**

Living in the national capital enables you to combine the study and practice of public affairs. Proximity to Parliament Hill allows students to work as House of Commons or Senate Pages or on the staff of federal politicians. The presence of many federal departments and agencies, along with the government-relations offices of private corporations, and the head offices of nongovernmental and non-profit organizations, provide a wide range of opportunities for co-op and contract work. These institutions, together with a host of foreign embassies and high commissions, enrich the academic environment, offering immediate access to information, expertise and a range of on-campus speakers.

Qualified Carleton students have the opportunity to work as Parliamentary pages. This photo features our pages from 2011-12: (left to right) Robbie Ruddock, Alycia Coulter, Imaan Sandhu, Joti Randhawa, Victoria MacArthur and Aleks Godlewski.
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Candidates for the BPAPM degree complete 20.0 academic credits and satisfy a second-language requirement, which is usually but not always French. The language requirement may be met by successfully completing an approved French language credit (FREN 1100) or equivalent; demonstrating a certain level of competency in a second language; or successfully completing French Immersion in high school or possessing a Bilingual Diploma or Certificate.

The academic credits consist of foundation courses exclusive to the degree (4.0 credits), designated courses in certain disciplines (5.5 credits), courses within a chosen area of specialization (6.5 credits), and free electives (4.0 credits).

FIRST YEAR — IDEAS AND CONTEXT
- Public Affairs and Policy Management – origins of political and economic ideas
- Political Science – Canadian or comparative politics
- Economics – micro and macro
- History – Canadian, European or the Atlantic world
- free elective

SECOND YEAR — PROCESS
- The Policy Cycle – analysis, implementation and evaluation
- Quantitative Research Methods
- Public Law – Canadian or international
- one specialization credit
- free elective

THIRD YEAR — SETTING
- Policy Research
- Organization Theory
- three specialization credits
- free elective

FOURTH YEAR — APPLICATION
- Capstone Seminar
- Honours Research Essay
- two and one-half specialization credits
- free elective

Specializations

After your first year of public affairs studies, which include an introduction to political and economic conceptions of the state and public policy and interdisciplinary understandings of public institutions and processes, you will begin to focus your studies by selecting a specialization and one of nine related policy areas. The specializations, and related policy concentration areas, accommodate a wide range of policy interests and prepare you for a number of possible career paths.

COMMUNICATION AND POLICY STUDIES
This specialization in communication policies, in collaboration with Carleton’s School of Journalism and Communication, enables you to pursue a policy concentration in Communication Technologies and Regulation or Strategic Public Opinion. Broadcasting, telecommunications, internet, information systems, publishing, the impact of digital and other technological transformations, and regulatory regimes and rights are examined in the Communication Technologies and Regulation concentration. Studies in the Strategic Public Opinion concentration enable you to make a difference by learning about effective policy advocacy and persuasion, strategic communication, polling and opinion research, political campaigns and market intelligence.

DEVELOPMENT POLICY STUDIES
Explore the policies that are designed to improve conditions in underdeveloped countries or disadvantaged communities domestically. A concentration in Rights and Human Development explores the human rights, legal and

In May 2011, BPAPM student Robyn Gibbard travelled with four other BPAPM students to Peru for an internship with the NGO Nexos Voluntarios. They spent four weeks working in the town of Urubamba, in the Andes, on projects such as drafting an anti-discrimination curriculum and providing workshops for local grade-school students. Robyn says, “It was a great opportunity to apply the tools we had learnt in BPAPM to a real world situation where we could actually make a difference in people’s lives. In addition to our work, we were able to travel to amazing places like Lake Titicaca and the lost city of Machu Picchu.”
The political aspects of development issues internationally and on a comparative national or regional level. The Global Economic Relations concentration focuses on the economic dimensions of globalization and the local impact of international trade, finance and monetary policies.

INTERNATIONAL POLICY STUDIES

In collaboration with Carleton's graduate Norman Paterson School of International Affairs program, this specialization enables you to examine the international issues and policy challenges facing states and international institutions in an increasingly connected world. A concentration in International Relations and Conflict examines international responses to, and management of, problems related to international peace and conflict. The Security and Intelligence concentration enables you to focus on policy responses to terrorism, international and national security and defence policies, intelligence operations, their legal and constitutional impact and implications for civil liberties.

PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

This specialization draws from the expertise in Carleton's graduate School of Public Policy and Administration and other units, provides comprehensive understanding of pressing public issues of concern to Canadian governments and NGOs, and develops related analytical and managerial public policy skills. The Social Policy concentration focuses on social welfare and income security, health and education policies. The Economic Policy concentration examines public operations and activities under federal, provincial and municipal jurisdictions, related fiscal and taxation issues, and relations between public and private sectors. The concentration in Environmental and Sustainable Energy Policy explores local, regional, national and international environmental and energy policies, the protection of air, water, and land-based eco-systems, the management of energy demands and sustainable alternative sources.

Collegial atmosphere

The Arthur Kroeger College of Public Affairs at Carleton University is the academic home for students in the BPAPM program. The College offers specialized academic advising, an electronic resource centre and a range of speakers and workshops. It also provides a collegial setting in which you will be joined by approximately 100 Canadian and international students who are equally interested in bettering their society by improving public policy. Established in 1999, the College was named in honour of Arthur Kroeger (1932-2008), the seventh Chancellor of the university and a public servant of singular distinction. Known as “the Dean of Deputy Ministers,” he held that post for six federal ministries from 1975 until 1992, and as such was one of the architects of Canada as we have inherited it. A wise and generous man, he was involved in all aspects of College life, sharing his expertise, advising students and setting the tone of professionalism, congeniality and high standards that characterize the College today. The example he set in his work and his life continues to inspire students and faculty in the College that bears his name.

STUDENT MENTORS

An added feature of our BPAPM program is our mentorship program. First-

“...The United Nations has always been a central focus of my studies, activism and career ambitions. Following graduation, I had the opportunity to realize part of these ambitions as an Access to Justice intern with the United Nations Development Programme in Timor-Leste. I worked in the Timorese Ministry of Justice and also participated in a research project examining domestic violence and access to justice. Living in Timor-Leste, learning the local language and working for the UNDP was one of the best experiences of my life—not only did I come to appreciate the need to prioritize local-level dynamics in peacebuilding, but I also accumulated an incredible collection of individuals’ stories, forever influencing my career and personal development.”

—Martha Chertkow, BPAPM/11
year students are matched with a volunteer third- or fourth-year student from within the College. These upper-year mentors are available to answer questions, offer advice and share experiences.

STUDENT SOCIETY
The Arthur Kroeger College Educational Student Society (AKCESS) is at the heart of the social and academic life of the College. Every year, AKCESS hosts several events that give students an opportunity to explore public policy: the MP Night featuring Members of Parliament from the major parties in a panel discussion, and the Policy Forum examining international or national policy issues. In addition to academic activities, AKCESS organizes social activities for Kroeger College students.

carleton.ca/akcess

Broader horizons

CO-OP PLACEMENTS
With an average of B+ or better after first year, you can participate in the Co-operative Education option within the BPAPM. This involves completing three four-month paid work terms with public, private or third sector organizations involved in public affairs. Although they extend the duration of your degree program, these work terms enable you to apply what you study, gain practical experience and establish professional contacts.

carleton.ca/co-op

STUDY ABROAD
Carleton has agreements with universities around the world to help you earn your degree abroad. With an average of B or better after first year, you can apply for a student exchange. This involves spending one or two terms studying public affairs in a university located in Asia, Africa, the Americas or Europe. These study terms enrich your life experience and allow you to view Canadian public policies and priorities in a comparative context.

NEXOS VOLUNTARIOS
Each summer, Kroeger College sends a complement of students to live, learn and work in the high Andes through the NGO Nexos Voluntarios. Students selected for these subsidized internships live in the Nexos compound in Urubamba and work on a number of different community development projects, from combating racism directed at the indigenous people of Peru to improving nutrition.

Future opportunities

Graduates of the BPAPM have a wide choice in where they go next.

Some have decided to enter the work force immediately upon graduation, accepting employment offers from political parties, government departments, the armed forces, private corporations and a range of both national and international agencies.

Others decide to continue their studies, following the academic or professional interests they confirmed or discovered during the BPAPM program. At universities in Canada and abroad, they have entered law schools, as well as graduate programs in a variety of policy-related fields that include communications, international relations, legal studies, political science, public administration, business and urban studies.

“When I first heard about the BPAPM program I did not know what to expect. However, the structure of the program as well as the different specializations it offered gave me an opportunity to really understand which field I wanted to pursue. My professors guided me as teachers but also as mentors. Most of them were also practitioners so I was able to get the insider scoop on what goes on behind the policy doors.”

Mozynah Nofal, fourth-year Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management student
Internships

Graduates of the BPAPM program have also had great success in landing internships available at many different organizations. Internships offer the opportunity to gain work experience in an area of interest, to travel to a variety of locations and to meet people already working in the field. Over the last few years, Carleton graduates have taken up internships in China, Ghana, Tanzania, Nicaragua, Tajikistan and Timor-Leste.

Admission requirements

For admission to the Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management program, you must have the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent including a minimum of six 4 U/M courses. The minimum average required on these courses is 80-84 per cent.

It is Carleton University policy to consider your best performance in any eligible course in the admissions assessment.

Since the number of qualified applicants may be greater than the number of available spaces, cut-off averages and required marks may vary. Please refer to our website at admissions.carleton.ca/requirements for the current admission requirements.

Connect with Carleton

Undergraduate Admissions Website

Everything a prospective student needs to know about Carleton University, including programs, campus life, co-op, scholarships and awards can be found here. admissions.carleton.ca

Student Blogs

Get an inside look at life at Carleton. Students share their thoughts about campus life, their professors and programs, and the transition from high school to university. carleton.ca/blogs

Insight newsletter

Receive up-to-date news about Carleton University’s undergraduate academic programs, admission requirements, scholarships and financial aid, co-op opportunities, and upcoming on- and off-campus recruitment events. Register for our monthly newsletter Insight@Carleton. carleton.ca/insight

Ask Carleton

You have questions and we have the answers. Visit our online databank of frequently asked questions anytime, day or night. admissions.carleton.ca/ask

You can also check out our Facebook page to learn more about prospective student news and events, or to view photos from around the Carleton campus. facebook.com/carletonfuture
Visit Carleton

Book your tour
Online: Select a date and time and reserve your spot at carleton.ca/tours
By phone: Call us at 1-888-354-4414 (toll-free in Canada) or 613-520-3663
By email: Drop us a line at tours@carleton.ca
You can also check our online calendar for program-specific tours.

Watch our videos
If you can’t come and meet us in person, you can always watch our “Discover Carleton University” video, available in our video gallery at admissions.carleton.ca/video.

Go Mobile
Future students can discover Carleton with our new mobile app! Check out our programs, catch up with our CU Bloggers, register for events, book a tour or view photos and videos — all on the go. Available for Apple and Android mobile devices. carleton.ca/mobile

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