



DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PUBLIC POLICY

The Ph.D. Program in Public Policy, located in the Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs prepares its graduates to conduct original research to help scholars and policymakers understand the tradeoffs involved in such choices across a broad range of critical issues. The doctorate is research oriented, emphasizing the use of interdisciplinary research paradigms in analyzing public policies. This doctoral program is rigorously grounded in scientific theory and methodologies emphasizing service and employability. Graduates will have developed an understanding of the context in which public policies are proposed, adopted, implemented and evaluated.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The doctoral program prepares its graduates to take positions as college professors or as research-oriented policy analysts in research centers, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies. Specifically, a PhD holder in the public administration can work in areas like public finance and budgeting, social policy, healthcare policy, and others. Most commonly, people choose careers like University Professor, Public Policy Consultant, or Government Researcher with their PhD. However, there are many other careers available in administration, education, and research for those who want them.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the Graduate School requirements, to be considered for admission into the Ph.D. Program in Public Policy program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ An earned and relevant graduate or professional degree from an accredited university
- ✓ A graduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.4 on a 4.0 scale
- ✓ A Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score of 1000 or better (verbal + quantitative)
- ✓ A 500-1000 word essay on research interests and professional career objectives
- ✓ Three letters of recommendation
- ✓ Evidence of experience, accomplishments, and potential to overcome any deficiencies

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum coursework requirement is 39 credit hours, comprised of 13 courses of three credit hours each. Students also must register for at least 12 hours of dissertation credits. Ten of the 13 courses are designated as “core,” including quantitative techniques, research methods, economics, and policy studies. Each student also must complete four courses or 12 hours on a specialized “concentration.” More than one concentration may be pursued in the program, should the student be interested in multiple areas. The program currently offers concentrations in Global Policy, Health Policy, U.S. Foreign Policy, International Development, Public Finance, and Sustainable Futures. Students have available a wide array of courses from which to choose, and can avail themselves of offerings at Louisiana State University through a consortium arrangement. Students who desire to pursue more than one area of concentration must secure approval from the program chair and their advisor before registering for courses outside of their declared concentration.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

The Department offers graduate assistantships for eligible students who show outstanding potential. These working assistantships are competitively awarded typically for an academic year and are based on availability of funds.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Chair: Dr. Esedo, Kingsley E.
Higgins Hall – Room 409
Phone: (225) 771-6277 | E-Mail: kingsley_esedo@subr.edu

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

For more detailed information, please refer to the Southern University Graduate School website:
<http://www.subr.edu/page/1567>

