ASU School of Public Affairs  
Major in Public Service & Public Policy  
Updated 09/06/19

A degree in Public Service & Public Policy prepares students to work for government at all levels and nonprofit organizations. Students who aspire to transform government and policy have the opportunity to work with engaging faculty who are conducting cutting edge research in a variety of policy areas. PSPP pursue concentrations in areas such as sustainability, criminology, nonprofit leadership and management, and urban studies.
Details on the major can be found at spa.asu.edu/pspp/

The School of Public Affairs actively supports Barrett students and is committed to providing them an enriching undergraduate experience. The PSPP program supports honors students in the process of carrying out a thesis, and all core courses with regular faculty can be taken for honors credit through Honors Contracts including:

- PAF 200 Introduction to Public Service & Public Policy
- PAF 201 Economics for Public Affairs
- PAF 301 or 401 Applied Statistics
- PAF 302 Public Sector Research
- PAF 311 or 411 Leadership & Change
- PAF 340 Public Policy
- PAF 460 Public Service Ethics
- PAF 484 Internship

Questions about honors in the PSPP major can be directed to the faculty honors advisor Dr. Yushim Kim (ykim@asu.edu).

Opportunities for PSPP Barrett Students

Research. The Watt’s College of Public Service and Community Solutions also commits substantial support to undergraduate research, as detailed at https://connect.publicservice.asu.edu/content/undergraduate-research-program.
Specifically, COPP students working with COPP faculty for ten hours per week can receive $500 in their first semester, $750 in the second, and $1000 in the third and subsequent semesters. This research experience can lead to ideas for independent study or thesis research.

Speakers/talks. SPA has a formal colloquium series that hosts speakers from around the country and ASU conducting research on Public Affairs. In addition, the school often hosts top scholars from around the world, and students are encouraged to attend their talks.

Public Service/Internships. There are multiple opportunities to serve as a bridge between students and the community and career world. Internships are part of the degree
program, and students serve as interns in a variety of government, nonprofit, and private organizations. Service is very much an important part of SPA's culture, and there are multiple opportunities for students to become engaged with their community. Students interested in local government are encouraged to become active in the student chapter of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) where they can network with local government officials as well as participate in service projects.

*Five-year PSPP-MPA*

For students interested in pursuing a Masters in Public Administration, the School of Public Affairs offers a five-year PSPP-MPA program. This program is an exciting opportunity for strong students who are interested in continuing their studies.

*Honors Thesis/creative project expectations*

In order for students to complete a thesis in the field of PSPP, whether they major in PSPP or not, they must have completed PAF 200 Introduction to Public Service & Public Policy. PSPP honor students are encouraged to take a graduate level research course (PAF 501 Public Service Research I) as a substitute for PAF 301 or 401 Applied Statistics. Taking PAF 501 will earn students honors credit and help ensure they are prepared to engage in honors thesis-level research on a topic of relevance to the field.

The thesis project is developed with a faculty person who will help guide the student’s research. **Thesis committees must comprise of at least two members; the chair must be an ASU lecturer or tenure-track faculty member, and the second reader can be a a member of the academic or larger community, as needed. Individual thesis chairs may require a third reader.** SPA faculty are committed to helping students develop and complete their thesis projects. Projects range from formal research projects to policy white papers. Completing a thesis will help prepare students for graduate level research, and students who pursue specific creative projects can receive experiences that will help prepare them for a variety of careers.

Prior to enrolling in HON 492 all students must complete a thesis/creative project information session. Students may complete this requirement in one of the following ways:

- HON 498 “Thesis Prep Course,” a one-credit course offered on the downtown campus
- One of the Thesis Workshop Sessions periodically offered by Barrett
- The on-line workshop offered through Barrett via ASU Blackboard
- For more information about these opportunities please visit the Barrett website: [https://barretthonors.asu.edu/academics/thesis-and-creative-project](https://barretthonors.asu.edu/academics/thesis-and-creative-project)

*Honors Faculty*

The major boasts high quality faculty who are all willing to work with honors students in a variety of capacities. For a complete list of faculty, please see [https://spa.asu.edu/asu_directory_tenure](https://spa.asu.edu/asu_directory_tenure)
Elizabeth Corley ([Elizabeth.corley@asu.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.corley@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Science policy & environmental policy

Chris Herbst ([chris.herbst@asu.edu](mailto:chris.herbst@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Social policy (welfare, child care and tax policy), public economics, applied econometrics

Yushim Kim ([ykim@asu.edu](mailto:ykim@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Public Policy Analysis, Policy Informatics, Health/Welfare Policy

Joanna Lucio ([joanna.lucio@asu.edu](mailto:joanna.lucio@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Urban Governance and Policy, Mixed income and affordable housing policy, Diversity, Citizenship

Spiro Maroulis ([spiro.maroulis@asu.edu](mailto:spiro.maroulis@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Public policy analysis; Policy informatics; Social network analysis; Agent-based modeling; Innovation implementation; Educational policy and entrepreneurship

Daniel Shugurensky ([Daniel.shugurensky@asu.edu](mailto:Daniel.shugurensky@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Participatory governance, public engagement, civic learning, educational policy, social economy, community development, participatory budgeting.

Derek Anderson ([derrick.anderson@asu.edu](mailto:derrick.anderson@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Public management

Barry Bozeman ([bbozeman@asu.edu](mailto:bbozeman@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Organization theory, public management, technology management, policy evaluation, higher education policy

Mary Feeney ([mkfeeney@asu.edu](mailto:mkfeeney@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Public and nonprofit management, sector distinctions, science and technology policy, women in science

Eric Welch ([ericwelch@asu.edu](mailto:ericwelch@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Science and technology policy; genetic resources policy; environment policy; electronic government; R&D evaluation; transportation behavior and management

Lily Hsueh ([lily.hsueh@asu.edu](mailto:lily.hsueh@asu.edu)) **Research areas:** Environmental and natural resource economics, public policy, political economy, governance, econometrics, mixed methods research design