



Public Service Major – Electives in a Related Field Sample List

The following document provides a list of electives that would be appropriate for students pursuing a public service degree. Note that this list is not exhaustive and that other options are also possible. There are many types of public service careers (in the public and non-profit sectors) and it is recommended that students select courses that most closely match their academic needs and career aspirations.

Career paths: Federal, Tribal, State & Local Government; Foundations, NGOs & Nonprofits; Intelligence & Security; International Development & Humanitarianism; International Relations & Cultural Diplomacy; Politics, Policy & Advocacy.

AFRCNA 1201 - GLOBAL DIASPORAS: CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN MIGRATION

What do Akon and Rihanna have in common? They are both part of recent diasporas from Africa and the Caribbean. This course focuses on the issues and experiences of people of African descent in contemporary (20th and 21st centuries) migratory diasporas from both Africa and the Caribbean. The course draws on extensive literature on migration, transnationalism, racial and ethnic identity formation, health, and other topics to illuminate the causes for migration and the experiences that migrants have in different host countries. What experiences do migrants from Africa and the Caribbean share? How do their experiences differ? How do migrants define themselves in new host countries? How do they stay connected to their homelands?

Course Attributes: DSAS Cross-Cult. Awareness General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Diversity General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Global Issues General Ed. Requirement

AFRCNA 1710 - AFRICAN AMERICAN HEALTH ISSUES

Course will focus on black health issues from analytical, theoretical and practical perspectives. These perspectives will be introduced through cross examination of health topics which are critical to the black population, the developing of health policies and conceptual models for health promotion and disease prevention.

Course Attributes: African Studies, DSAS Diversity General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Social Science General Ed. Requirement

ANTH 1541 - CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

This course will cover in an introductory way all aspects of cultural resource management and historic preservation. Major topics include federal historic preservation legislation, cultural resources (historic and prehistoric archaeology, historic structures), the national register of historic places, section 106 and 110 of the NHPA, historic preservation planning, and state historic preservation plans. Course will utilize historic architectural examples as well as prehistoric and historic archaeological sites. Greater emphasis placed on how to evaluate historic properties for national register.

Course Attributes: Urban Studies

ANTH 1755 - URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY

This course outlines the origins and evolution of cities and explores their roles within their historical, social, and cultural contexts. It examines the nature of life in cities cross-culturally from the perspective of the inhabitants. Features associated with urban life—such as migration, squatter settlements, family organization, ethnicity, social stratification, social networks, and social pathologies- receive special attention.

Course Requirements: PREQ: ENG 0102 or ENGCMP (0002 or 0006 or 0020 or 0200 or 0203 or 0205 or 0207 or 0208 or 0210 or 0212) or ENGFLM 0210 or FP (0003 or 0006) *Applies to all WRIT Courses*

Course Attributes: Global Studies

ECON 0220 - INTRO TO HEALTH ECONOMICS

This course applies microeconomic analysis to the allocation of resources and consumption of products within the health care economy. It will allow students to develop an understanding of microeconomic theory, in particular as it is applied to real world problems. Also it will provide students with knowledge of the economic aspects of health care in the US and related policy. Unique features of health care which interfere with competitive market allocation and pricing will be emphasized.

Course Requirements: PREQ: ECON 0100; MIN GRADE 'C' for all courses

ECON 0360 - INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS

Basic economic theory applied to issues involving joint interaction of economic activity, the environment, and use of natural resources. Debate over the sustainability of economic development, renewability and/or depletion of natural resources, and effects of pollution on environmental quality will be surveyed. The issues of ozone depletion, loss of biodiversity, and greenhouse gas emissions and global warming will be considered.

Course Requirements: PREQ: ECON 0100 or 0800

Course Attributes: Global Studies

ECON 0400 - LABOR AND THE ECONOMY

An introductory survey of contemporary labor developments and issues. Readings and lectures have a more historical and institutional perspective and less emphasis on analytical techniques than other labor offerings.

Course Requirements: PREQ: ECON 0100 or 0800 (Min Grade 'C')

ECON 0430 - WOMEN IN THE LABOR MARKET

The empirical evidence suggests that women earn lower income than men, and that the wage rates earned by women are lower than those of men — even when they have similar job classifications. This course examines the role of women in the labor market; the nature of their decision to invest in education, their labor force participation, and the demand for their labor services. In this way, a framework for policy analysis is developed.

Course Requirements: PREQ: ECON 0100 or 0800

ECON 1250 - BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS

This course will expose students to how insights from psychology and experiments have been incorporated into economic models. We will discuss how the insights have changed our understanding of markets and auctions, strategic interactions (game theory), individual decision making under uncertainty and over time, political behavior and more. We will also explore the welfare and policy

implications of the findings from behavioral economics.
Course Requirements: PREQ: ECON 1100 (Min Grade 'C')

GSWS 1450 - GENDER AND SUSTAINABILITY

This course will critically analyze sustainability from gendered perspectives. It will take a three-pronged approach to the study of sustainability and gender, engaging with the economic, social, and environmental components that contribute to our understandings of sustainability and sustainable development. Through readings, written assignments, and class discussions, students will examine the intersectionality of gender and sustainability with class, race, ability, age, nationality, religion, power, politics, social movements, and health from local and global perspectives. Students will critique practical applications of sustainable development and the role of gender in creating a more sustainable future. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, this course will draw on perspectives from anthropology, sociology, environmental studies, gender and development, human geography, public and international affairs, political science, economics, engineering, geology, business, urban studies, and a range of health sciences. Students will have the opportunity to learn about gender and sustainability through case study analyses stemming from a variety of geographic regions. There are no prerequisites for this course, although GSWS 0100 Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, GSWS 0500 Introduction to Feminist Theory or another course on gender is recommended.

Course Attributes: DSAS Global Issues General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Social Science General Ed. Requirement, Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies

GEOL 0840 - ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

This class is an interdisciplinary introduction to the science underlying environmental issues. Focusing on the principles of geology, biology, and chemistry and in their application to human impacts on the environment, strategies for sustainable management of environment and natural resources, and global change.

Course Attributes: DSAS Natural Science General Ed. Requirement

GEOL 1312 - ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

The survey course will examine the role of law and policy in regulating human impact on the environment. topics include the history and development of U.S. environmental law; theoretical approaches to environmental protection; mechanisms employed in environmental laws and regulation; the roles of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government in developing and implementing environmental law and policy; an overview of the principal environmental laws at the federal and state levels; the role of citizens in development and enforcement of environmental law; and constitutional constraints on government authority.

HIST 0760/HAA 0860 - INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HISTORY

The course will introduce students to the theory, methodology, and practice of Public History. Public History is the employment of professional historical methods by public and private agencies to engage communities in shaping the presentation of the past into usable histories. Through the course, students will be able to analyze how Public historians and the Public collaborate to explain individual and collective human behavior through a variety of methods, mediums, and contexts. Moreover, students will learn how Public Historians and the Public create and express historical meaning for their local, state, national, and global communities.

HIST 0791 - HEALTH CONTROVERSIES IN HISTORY: ETHICS, PUBLICS, INTERVENTIONS

Controversies related to human health have dominated the news in recent years, whether the Ebola

epidemic in West Africa, Zika virus in Latin America, or measles outbreaks in California, but a sense of context and causation is often lacking in the public discourse. This introductory course explores the historical roots of selected, current controversies in public health and medicine through the examination of specific case studies from a diverse geographical and chronological range. We will identify and explore the broad historical antecedents of current issues and offers points of comparison from times and places distant from our own.

Course Attributes: DSAS Global Issues General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Historical Analysis General Ed. Requirement

HIST 1019 - CITIES IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

This course examines five inter-related themes. We begin by exploring how cities have been, are, and continue to be shaped and assembled. We examine urban space and design, and how culture, economics, and technology affect them. We also focus on the evolution of urban center over time, especially from the industrial revolution. Problem created by industrialization gave rise to utopian urban planning, some of the ideas of which have shaped modern cities. We also explore issues relating to racial and class segregation. We end by examining the recent restoration/gentrification of cities.

Course Attributes: DSAS Global Issues General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Historical Analysis General Ed. Requirement, Russian & East European Studies

HIST 1062 - HUMAN RIGHTS IN WORLD HISTORY

Human rights in world history, will provide a historical overview of the human rights movement, focusing on the 18th-20th centuries. The course will lay out the parameters of the struggle to define and implement human rights in the Western and non-Western world, and engage with the different resulting viewpoints. The course will explore controversial aspects of the implementation of human rights internationally, including calls for the respect of cultural differences. Finally, the course will examine case studies of the racial/ethnic/caste dimension of the human rights struggle, looking at the US, Brazil, Israel, and India as countries with quite different cultural traditions, political makeups, and demographic compositions. The course will enroll 40 students, and will meet once per week in the evening.

Course Attributes: DSAS Diversity General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Global Issues General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Historical Analysis General Ed. Requirement

HIST 1090 - HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE

Provides an overview of the social history of medicine from prehistory to the present. Focuses on the emergence of medical institutions, education, theories, practices and the Orthodox and irregular medical sects. Describes the growth of the separate health disciplines of nursing, pharmacy and public health. Examines the impact of socioeconomic factors, religions and war on the evolution of medical science. Discusses the changing roles of government in the development of the American health care system.

Course Attributes: DSAS Historical Analysis General Ed. Requirement, Global Studies

HIST 1690 - AMERICAN LEGAL HISTORY

A lecture-discussion course on the creation, transformation, and administration of the common law and equity from the 17th century to the present, its devolution from England and its evolution in America. Courts, the bar, legislatures, regulatory agencies, police, prisons, and the Constitution are all addressed.

Course Attributes: DSAS Historical Analysis General Ed. Requirement

HPS 1630 - MUSIC, CULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

In this course, we will explore the history of sound reproduction technology from the end of the nineteenth century into the present day, analyzing the way sonic technologies have shaped the creation, consumption, and social politics of music in North America. This is not a course about how to make sonic technology, or how to use it; instead, it engages with sound reproduction technology as a social, historical, and cultural artifact. Although the course is roughly chronological, it is not comprehensive the purpose is not to learn a single, continuous history of audio technology. We will be exploring various perspectives from more than a century of historical and technological change, moving from the use of sound in 19th-century laboratories to the culture of the iPod. By thinking critically about technology's broader social and intellectual contexts, this class sheds light on the historical and material stakes of sonic technology for listeners in the 21st Century.

Course Attributes: DSAS Diversity General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Historical Analysis General Ed. Requirement, DSAS The Arts General Ed. Requirement

MUSIC 1396 - MUSIC IN SOCIETY

This course will explore critical perspectives on topics such as non-normative music history, queer modes of expression, subcultural music-making, and the implications of mainstream visibility. Along the way, the course will survey some notable lesbian/gay/bisexual/ transgender/queer composers and musicians in both art music and popular music. Course materials include readings, recordings, and possibly musical events and current media.

Course Requirements: PREQ: ENG 0102 or ENGCMP (0002 or 0006 or 0020 or 0200 or 0203 or 0205 or 0207 or 0208 or 0210 or 0212) or ENGFLM 0210 or FP (0003 or 0006) *Applies to all WRIT Courses*

Course Attributes: DSAS Diversity General Ed. Requirement, DSAS The Arts General Ed. Requirement, Global Studies

PHIL 0350 - PHILOSOPHY AND PUBLIC ISSUES

The aim of this introductory undergraduate course is to encourage systematic and clear thought about issues of public importance by philosophic reflection which emphasizes the implications of different moral and political theories for these issues.

Course Attributes: DSAS Phil. Think or Ethics General Ed. Requirement

PS 0200 - AMERICAN POLITICS

This course is, quite generally, designed to provide students with a basic working knowledge of the basic goals of the constitutional framers, giving students an understanding of the purposes of the American political system; the essential structures (or institutions) within the American political system, the behavior (broadly defined) of the actors within the American political system, the purpose and performance of the linkage institutions in the United States (possibly including political parties, elections, and interest groups); and the types of policies that are often produced by a system with the characteristics of those found in the United States. Depending on the interests, area of expertise, and inclinations of the particular instructor, some of these may be emphasized more heavily than others.

Course Attributes: DSAS Social Science General Ed. Requirement

PS 1201 - CONSTITUTION AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

The course will explore major topics in the area of civil liberties and civil rights which have concerned the Supreme Court in recent years, and which have provoked extensive political and social controversy. Examples include decisions about discrimination, privacy, freedom of speech and assembly, and conflicts between freedom of the press and a fair trial.

PS 1202 - AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

The United States constitution plays an extraordinarily powerful role in American political life. The primary focus of this course is examination of the role of constitutional law in the American political process. We do this by analyzing constitutional interpretation by the United States Supreme Court and other federal courts in its major decisions. Students will learn how the court reached its decisions, who some significant justices have been, how the court considered contending arguments, and what the consequences of these decisions for our political system have been. Topics include the development of judicial review and close analysis of the way in which the court has addressed the two major structural features of the U.S. Constitution' separation of powers and federalism in an historic and contemporary setting. Specific issues in these areas are struggles over presidential and congressional power and national versus state power. We also address issues regarding civil liberties and civil rights. Students should find this course helpful in reaching a more sophisticated understanding of the major issues of constitutional law in American life, as well as providing a useful background to the cases and kinds of legal analysis they may pursue in further study in law school or other graduate study.

PS 1232 - POLITICAL ATTITUDE & PUBLIC OPINION

This course explores the formation and measurement of mass public opinion. Topics include: how individuals gather information; the formation of political ideology, political attitudes, and political preferences; the stability of public opinions across different issues; the relationship between mass public opinion and government policy (both what it is, and what it should be); and methods for measuring public opinion, including public opinion surveys.

PS 1234 - ELECTORAL BEHAVIORS AND DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

This course examines the factors that affect national electoral outcomes in the U.S.

Course Attributes: DSAS Social Science General Ed. Requirement

PS 1235 - MEDIA AND POLITICS

The media is all around us, but what impact does it have? It permeates everything from leisure and entertainment to how candidates communicate with the public and what political decisions get made. This course tackles three broad questions about the intersection of media and politics. First, how is news created and why does it matter? For example, are late night talk shows like Stephen Colbert or the internet news sources; why or why not? Second, how is the media used in political campaigns and how does it influence campaigns? Can a bad tweet (i.e. Anthony Weiner) end a campaign or a political career? Third, how do the media shape the creation of public policies, the laws that do or do not get passed, and the decisions that get made? Can media-savvy politicians use the media to help their cause or rally public support for big decisions like going to war?

PS 1250 - GAMES, POLITICS, AND STRATEGY

How can we better understand politics by viewing it as a game of strategy? What can we really say about the "will of the majority"? Can democratic procedures be manipulated? How is conflict like a game of poker? Campaigns, elections, persuasion, lobbying, conflict, and war involve elements of competition, cooperation, and chance. The course develops analytical tools that can be applied to a variety of political phenomena. Learn how to model and analyze strategic interaction by playing classroom games and applying tools from game theory.

PS 1251 - URBAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

This course is an introduction to the key structures, procedures and problems of cities and urban areas.

Topics covered include: city-suburban conflicts, relations between cities and the federal government, forms of local government and their advantages and disadvantages, property taxes, housing, urban renewal, crime, courts, and education. The principal objective of the course is to help the student develop a well-informed and differentiated view of urban places and problems.

Course Attributes: Urban Studies

PS 1303 - PEACE MOVEMENTS AND PEACE EDUCATION

This course focuses on two major components in the field of peace studies: peace movements and peace education. Key concepts (e.g., peace, war, violence, conflict, justice, equality, democracy, and citizenship) and theories are discussed. Movements for (inter-personal, inter-group, and international) peace initiated by people in the United States and other countries historically and today will be analyzed. School-, University-, and community-based peace education programs developed in various countries will also be examined.

PS 1364 - CLIMATE CHANGE & PUBLIC POLICY IN EUROPE AND THE US

Climate change is one of the most difficult problems faced by humankind. We are all causing and suffering from it to varying degrees. As a result, some have labeled it a “super wicked problem.” The politics underlying climate change are complex and therefore particularly interesting. In the first part of this course, we will analyze what policymaking really is: how does it work? How are policies designed? Where is policymaking the most effective? In the second part, we will study the determinants of climate policy in Europe and elsewhere. Specifically, we will investigate the role played by public opinion, political leaders, bureaucracies, scientists, and interest groups. The last part of this course evaluates the effectiveness of actual policies designed to solve climate change. We will examine a broad range of policies ranging from carbon taxes to technology transfers.

PSY 0186 - CROSS CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY

The systematic, scientific study of human behavior takes into account the diverse ecological and cultural settings in which we live. The course covers traditional topics in human psychology—perception, cognition, personality development, intergroup relations and impact of social change. Research data are emphasized. Approach is interdisciplinary, integrating material from anthropology as well as psychology.

PSY 1635 - ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

This course will provide broad exposure to the field of industrial/organizational psychology. Course topics will include (but are not limited to) personnel selection, training, worker motivation, job attitudes, performance appraisal, leadership, and career development. The class format will include multiple hands-on assignments to assist the student in understanding how psychological theories can be applied in a work context. Grades will also be derived from performance on formal tests.

Course Requirements: PREQ: (PSY 0010 or 0012 or 0101 or 0200) and (PSY 0035 or 0032 or 1031) and (STAT 0200 or 1000 or 1100 or PSY 0020 or 0201 or 0270)

JS 1475 - RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

What is the best way to accommodate religious and cultural diversity within a nation-state and in civil society? How should individual rights to practice religion be balanced with communal needs? Should freedom from religion be protected as much or more than freedom of religion? These are pressing contemporary issues in many countries, including the United States, but issues of religious diversity and questions of whether and how to tolerate religious minorities have a long history. In this course, we will examine the toleration of minority religions in particular historical settings, and the issues and problems

(both doctrinal and social/political) that societies grappled with as they confronted diverse religious landscapes. We will also use these historical precedents as a lens to examine contemporary examples of religious pluralism, diversity, and conflict. Case studies will mainly be drawn from pre-modern Europe and modern Europe and North America, but we will also look at Mughal and modern India and discuss religion in pre-modern China.

Course Attributes: DSAS Diversity General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Global Issues General Ed. Requirement

RELGST 1518 - RELIGION AND ECOLOGY

This course explores various religious perspectives on the meaning and value of nature and the relationship of humans to the environment. How have different religious communities conceived of the natural world and responded to ecological crisis? How have food and farming practices been shaped by religious tradition? Special attention will be given to case studies from contemporary society, with a focus on American religious movements that take issues such as ecojustice, sustainable farming practices, and responsible consumption seriously or are defined by them. Classic religious texts, particularly of the biblical tradition, will be studied when relevant, as will archaeological and ethnographic studies.

SOC 0333 - IDEOLOGIES AND SOCIAL CHANGE

The role of ideology in promoting, thwarting, or preventing change is examined. An inquiry is made into how an ideology is formulated and implemented and what channels are used for its diffusion. Various kinds of political, religious, and scientific ideologies are analyzed.

Course Attributes: DSAS Geographic Region General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Historical Analysis General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Social Science General Ed. Requirement

SOC 0351 - SOCIAL CHANGE

Theories of social change will be evaluated in the light of case studies drawn from history and the contemporary world.

Course Attributes: Global Studies

SOC 0444 - URBAN SOCIOLOGY

The modern city is simultaneously many different things. It is an assortment of neighborhoods, it is a workshop with factories and offices, it is a crisscross of transportation arteries, it is a marketplace for the interplay of economic interests, it is an object which several different governments try to understand and control, and it is an astonishing mixture of religious, racial, ethnic, recreational, avocational, professional, educational, medical, political, social, and deviant communities. This urban complex will be studied with a sociological approach.

Course Requirements: PREQ: ENG 0102 or ENGCOMP (0002 or 0006 or 0020 or 0200 or 0203 or 0205 or 0207 or 0208 or 0210 or 0212) or ENGFLM 0210 or FP (0003 or 0006) *Applies to all WRIT Courses*

Course Attributes: DSAS Diversity General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Social Science General Ed. Requirement, Global Studies

SOC 1445 - SOCIETY AND ENVIRONMENT

The state of the environment reaches the pages of our newspapers every day. How did we get to this state? Throughout history, human societies have made use of the environment as all human activity is dependent on through puts of energy and materials. The course will seek to understand the social, economic, and political processes as they lead to impacts on the environment. Far from being 'out

there', the state of the environment is integrally related to the ways societies work.

Course Requirements: PREQ: ENG 0102 or ENGCOMP (0002 or 0006 or 0020 or 0200 or 0203 or 0205 or 0207 or 0208 or 0210 or 0212) or ENGFLM 0210 or FP (0003 or 0006) *Applies to all WRIT Courses*

Course Attributes: DSAS Global Issues General Ed. Requirement, DSAS Social Science General Ed. Requirement, Global Studies

URBNST 1612 - SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE CITY

Social justice and economic justice are popular buzz-words that are closely tied to urban environments: but what do they really mean, and how can we understand them? URBNST 1612 uses critical social geography to interrogate both historical and contemporary social justice movements that claim to protect human rights, fair housing, or to expand definitions of public space and citizenship. Taken together these agendas form a powerful prescription for social action, one often emerging in urban settings. Using a combination of lectures, Concept Mapping exercises, and case studies, we will examine the historical and theoretical context for social justice in the city and then evaluate different geographies of social change. By the end of the course students will be able to use a critical perspective to understand how the rhetoric of social justice is changing the urban geographies of specific cities worldwide.

Course Attributes: Urban Studies

URBNST 1614 - URBAN SUSTAINABILITY

This course provides a critical introduction to the concept of sustainability in relation to cities in the United States and internationally. We will investigate how the fuzzy concept of sustainability has developed, and look at how principles of urban sustainability are put into practice. In particular, we will look at the Pittsburgh city-region, and draw on examples from Singapore, Auckland (New Zealand), and Tianjin (China). In particular, the class will concentrate on how sustainability is embedded in planning urban structures, organizing for sustainable communities, and mitigating environmental risks and vulnerability. Students will hear from a variety of professionals engaged in sustainable urbanism, and learn about specific tools used to assess sustainability at different geographic scales.

Course Attributes: Urban Studies