# Social Policy and Public Service, B.A.

**Jeanett Castellanos, Director**  
2231 Social Science Plaza B  
949-824-6298  
http://www.spps.socsci.uci.edu/

The major in Social Policy and Public Service (SPPS) provides an interdisciplinary perspective on the study of policies and society, both at the individual and group level. Using the knowledge and methods of various social science disciplines, SPPS majors analyze the influence of social inequalities, policies, and the role of social institutions. A degree in this major prepares students for careers in government organizations, public policy, non-profit organizations, public administration or public health, academic research, social work, and education.

The curriculum for the major covers various research methods and statistics, contemporary social policy issues, public and social policy, and leadership. Requiring students to conduct action research at a local non-profit or a government agency, the curriculum involves the examination of societal inequalities across groups and systems. A year-long field placement requirement facilitates an in-depth understanding of social science research. Students also gain internship experiences in community, public, and educational organizations. To ensure competency in a specific area, students choose one of three focus areas: 1) Education, 2) Governance, or 3) Health.

All students must meet the University Requirements ([http://catalogue.uci.edu/informationforadmittedstudents/requirementsforabachelorsdegree/](http://catalogue.uci.edu/informationforadmittedstudents/requirementsforabachelorsdegree/)).  
All students must meet the School Requirements ([http://catalogue.uci.edu/schoolofsocialsciences/#schoolrequirementstext](http://catalogue.uci.edu/schoolofsocialsciences/#schoolrequirementstext)).

## Requirements for the Major

School requirements must be met and must include 15 courses (60 units) as specified below. Students must take all required courses for the major for a letter grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A. An understanding of the fundamental concepts, analytical tools, and methods of social science: | SOC SCI 1A Principles in the Social Sciences  
SOC SCI 2A Introduction to Social Science Analysis  
SOC SCI 3A Computer-Based Research in the Social Sciences |
| B. One course in Introduction to Social Policy and Public Service: | SOC SCI 40 Social Policy and Public Service |
| C. One course in Cultural Competency: | SOC SCI 70C Comparing Cultures  
or SOCIOL 63 Race and Ethnicity |
| D. One course in Leadership: | SOC SCI 181A Ethical Leadership |
| E. Two courses in Research Methods: | SOC SCI 102A Introduction to Geographic Information Systems in Social Sciences  
SOC SCI 170A Research Methods in the Social Sciences |
and Field Studies in Social Policy and Public Service  
and Field Studies in Social Policy and Public Service (must be taken consecutively) |
| G. Four units of off-campus internship experience: | SOC SCI 194A Public Service Internship |
| H. Functional Focus: 12 units in one of the following areas: | Education:  
EDUC 124 Multicultural Education in K-12 Schools  
EDUC 126 Ethics and Education  
EDUC 132 Reading and Writing Enrichment for After-School Programs  
EDUC 150 Changing the High School Experience  
EDUC 157 Educational Research and Evaluation  
EDUC 175 Foundations of Education  
EDUC 180 Interdisciplinary Topics in Education |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHC/LAT 189</td>
<td>Special Topics in Educational Policy and Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 158</td>
<td>Economics of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC SCI 196</td>
<td>Global Connect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Governance:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 121J</td>
<td>Urban Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTL ST 161A</td>
<td>Political Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTL ST 165</td>
<td>Introduction to Contemporary Middle East Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTL ST 177C</td>
<td>Revolution in Latin America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTL ST 177E</td>
<td>Cuban Society and Revolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 122A</td>
<td>American Metropolitan Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 122B</td>
<td>California Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 124A</td>
<td>The Politics of Protest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 124B</td>
<td>Latinos in U.S. Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 124C</td>
<td>Comparative Minority Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 124E</td>
<td>African American Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 125A</td>
<td>The United States Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 126C</td>
<td>U.S. Immigration Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 126D</td>
<td>Urban Politics and Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 130A</td>
<td>Game Theory and Politics I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 130B</td>
<td>Game Theory and Politics II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 142D</td>
<td>U.S. Foreign Policy I: Globalism and Cold War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 151H</td>
<td>Voting and Political Manipulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 171D</td>
<td>American Constitutional Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 171F</td>
<td>Law in the Twenty-First Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 172A</td>
<td>International Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 174A</td>
<td>Civil Liberties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 174C</td>
<td>U.S. Supreme Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 179</td>
<td>Special Topics in Public Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC SCI 152A</td>
<td>Non-Government Organization (NGO) Fundamentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC SCI 188A</td>
<td>Introduction to Contemporary Middle East Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIOL 138</td>
<td>Business Decisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIOL 141</td>
<td>Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIOL 144</td>
<td>Politics, Power, and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIOL 177W</td>
<td>Immigration and Social Policy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Health:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 128B</td>
<td>Race, Gender, and Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 132A</td>
<td>Psychological Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTHRO 134A</td>
<td>Medical Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHC/LAT 168</td>
<td>Chicano/Latino Social Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHC/LAT 179</td>
<td>Special Topics in Health, Medicine, and Psychosocial Dynamics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 120A</td>
<td>Abnormal Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 120D</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 121S</td>
<td>Psychology of Sleep and Consciousness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 174E</td>
<td>African American Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIOL 135</td>
<td>Social Psychology of Networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIOL 154</td>
<td>Medical Sociology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Certain special topics courses may be applicable to this major; students should see their undergraduate advisor prior to enrolling in a special topics course to ensure that it meets the requirements. SOC SCI 184A Sage Leader Research I-SOC SCI 184B Sage Leader Research II may not be used to satisfy school requirements.
Honors Program
The honors program allows SPPS majors to engage in research leading to the completion of an honors thesis. The topic for the honors thesis, reflecting a social science theme, is determined by the student in consultation with a faculty advisor. In addition to satisfying the requirements for the major, honors program participants must complete additional course work as specified below.

The honors program is composed of three four-unit courses: SPPS H190A Honors Research Workshop, SPPS H190B Honors Thesis Research, and SPPS H190C Honors Thesis. Satisfactory completion of the honors thesis course also satisfies the upper-division writing requirement. The honors program is open to all junior and senior Social Policy and Public Service majors with an overall GPA of 3.20 and a 3.50 GPA in at least five Social Science courses.

The schedule of courses for the honors program is as follows:

SPPS H190A Honors Research Workshop. 4 Units
In the fall quarter of the senior year, students enroll in SPPS H190A. This course ends with each student writing a research plan for the honors thesis. Students also select a faculty mentor who has agreed to supervise the research and evaluate the final version of their honors thesis.

SPPS H190B Honors Research Workshop. 4 Units
In the winter quarter of the senior year, students enroll in SPPS H190B, attend class and work with their faculty mentor, who supervises and evaluates data collection and analysis.

SPPS H190C Honors Research Workshop. 4 Units
In the spring quarter of the senior year, students enroll in SPPS H190C, attend class and work with their faculty mentor to complete the final version of their honors thesis.

Pi Gamma Mu: International Honor Society
The International Honor Society in Social Sciences is the oldest and preeminent honor society in the social sciences with over 150 active chapters in the United States and overseas. The mission of Pi Gamma Mu at UC Irvine is to foster and honor superior scholarship in the Social Sciences and to encourage cooperation and social service among its members. The organization champions its members to pursue further education in their field and provides information and opportunities to help them achieve students achieve their professional goals. Its mission is to encourage and recognize superior scholarship in social science disciplines and to foster cooperation and social service among its members.