The Public Leadership minor will allow students to examine today’s most pressing issues. Matters facing our world leaders such as, the global environment, human rights, the criminal justice system, equity in education, diversity, poverty, and inequality will be analyzed on multiple levels. Students will face these same challenges in their courses while learning to critically assess and recommend viable solutions through effective leadership for the public good. In order to achieve this, the School proposes a minor to engage students in leadership for the public good and effective citizenship. Additionally, the minor serves as a feeder for the School’s graduate program.

Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The minor in Public Leadership has the following objectives:

1. To develop students’ knowledge of leadership theories;
2. To offer undergraduate students a coherent and integrated public leadership curriculum;
3. To give undergraduate students an education providing knowledge and skills appropriate to the understanding and exercise of appropriate leadership in their chosen professions, organizations, and communities;
4. To create and support a community of young public leaders who hold a common interest in leadership studies;
5. To offer students who are interested in public service a place to begin to build an intellectual foundation which will allow them to address the problems of the next decade;
6. To prepare our students for the responsibilities of leadership and citizenship in a complex world; and
7. To gain experience in applying leadership theories and concepts in a structured internship experience.

Requirements

Requirements: 15 approved credits, at least 9 of which are 300- or 400-level. All courses taken for a minor must be completed with a minimum grade of C-. A minimum C (2.00) cumulative grade point average across all courses used to satisfy the minor is also required. Notes: No more than 6 credits may overlap between your major and the Public Leadership Minor, unless otherwise approved by your major. Additionally, courses completed in one minor may not be used to satisfy the requirements in another minor.

Select 12 credits from approved list 2

Total Credits 15

1 Students will be introduced to public policy as a discipline, with a brief overview of the actors and institutions involved in the process, and familiarize themselves with the kinds of problems typically requiring public action. The course will examine these problems from a multijurisdictional and multisector perspective. Specific policy areas examined include education policy, health policy, economic and budgetary policy, criminal justice policy, environmental policy, and national and homeland security policy. The course should permit students to have broad foundational exposure to the field that will give them a solid base for more advanced courses.

2 The remaining 12 credits will be selected by the student from a list of approved signature courses and electives. A credit-bearing experiential learning option for which a grade is earned, e.g., internship, study abroad, research project, etc. can count as part of the remaining 12 credits. The experiential learning option must be linked to public leadership and approved in advance.

For more information, visit here (http://publicpolicy.umd.edu/undergraduate/academics/minors/public-leadership-minor) or e-mail plminor@umd.edu.