

PUBP 6001: INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC POLICY
Fall 2026 | Instructor TBD

Friday 11:00-11:50am
Office hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION: *An introduction to the field of public policy, including an overview of the scope of the field and examples of public policy analysis.*

OBJECTIVES: After completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Define public policy and understand the scope of professional opportunities;
2. Be familiar with the breadth of career opportunities within the field;
3. Contextualize your own professional interests within the field; and,
4. Describe your professional identity.

MATERIALS: No textbook required. Readings may be assigned during the course – these will be provided.

REQUIREMENTS & GRADING: This seminar is required for first semester Master’s students in Public Policy. Course grades will be determined upon the following items:

1. **Attendance and class participation (40% of the final grade).** This course requires a high degree of participation. You must attend and engage in discussion in order to fully benefit from the course. Joining the class and speaker following the class is optional.
2. **Professional profile and interests (30%).** You will define 1-3 goals of what you would like to achieve professionally, provide an updated resume/CV, and create a professional profile on a publicly available site (e.g., a website, LinkedIn, etc.).
3. **Job ad analysis (30%).** You will create a relevant sampling frame of job ads in your area of interest and analyze these. You will upload your final product (either a paper or a robust ppt presentation) to Canvas. This report should detail your approach, methods, and results.

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

Letter Grade	Grade Range
A	90-100%
B	80-89.9%
C	70-79.9%
D	60-69.9%
F	Below 60%

ATTENDANCE POLICY: As noted earlier, this course only meets once a week for 50 minutes so attendance is a significant portion of the course. Any requests for an absence to be excused must be made via e-mail to the professor either before or immediately after class. Excused absences are at the professor’s sole discretion, and documentation may be required. Excused absences will only be granted in narrow circumstances that include, but are not limited to, Institute sanctioned absences, illness, jury duty, requirement for military service, religious observances, and death of a family member. It is the

student's responsibility to request that an absence be excused either before or immediately after the absence from class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on any assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

STUDENT/FACULTY AGREEMENT: At Georgia Tech we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. See <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22/> for an articulation of some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

ACCOMMODATIONS: If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at 404.894.2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.