

Policy and Program Evaluation Graduate Certificate

The Graduate Certificate in Policy and Program Evaluation (PPE) provides students the opportunity to gain expertise in policy and program evaluation methods, including completion of an applied evaluation project. In addition to the public and nonprofit sectors, the certificate is appropriate for individuals in disciplines such as criminology, education, economics, gerontology, social work, and sociology who need to conduct assessments of the programs for which they are responsible.

Requirements

This program consists of a six-course sequence (18 credits): 5 required courses (15 credits) and 1 elective (3 credits). The Certificate may be taken by non-degree students or in conjunction with 1) the Master's in Public Policy Administration degree program; 2) the Master's in Social Work/Master's in Gerontology degree programs; or 3) the Master's in Economics.

Students with sufficient job experience in program/policy evaluation may submit a written request to waive the Applied Evaluation Project requirement. If granted, this requirement will be replaced with a three-credit elective.

Students pursuing a graduate degree along with the certificate should check with their graduate advisor regarding which courses will also count towards their degree.

A maximum of two courses at the 4000 level can count towards the Certificate.

At least 12 of the 18 credits must be taken in residence at UMSL.

Required Courses:

P P ADM 6000	Introduction to Policy Analysis	3
P P ADM 6010	Introduction to Policy Research	3
or SOC WK 5450	Social Work Research Methods and Analysis II	
or ECON 4100	Introduction to Econometrics	
or ECON 5100	Econometric Theory and Methods	
P P ADM 6750	Introduction to Evaluation Research Methods	3
or SOC WK 6400	Practice and Program Evaluation	
POL SCI 6402	Intermediate Techniques in Policy Research	3
P P ADM 6950	Internship (which must include an evaluation project) ¹	3
or P P ADM 6751	Applied Evaluation Project	
or SOC WK 6800	Graduate Field Practicum II	
or SOC WK 6850	Graduate Field Practicum III	

Electives 3

ECON 4110	Applied Econometrics
ECON 4160	Geospatial Analysis in the Social Sciences

ECON 4170	Fundamentals of Cost-Benefit Analysis
POL SCI 6403	Advanced Techniques in Policy Research
POL SCI 6404	Multi-Method Research Design
Total Hours	18

¹ SOC WK 6800 or SOC WK 6850 must include an evaluation project.

Requirements for admission to the graduate certificate program include an undergraduate degree and a GPA of 3.0 or better. Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation, preferably with at least one from a current or former college-level instructor. Applicants must submit a personal statement explaining how the certificate program fits in with the applicant's educational and professional goals. The letters and the personal statement should be sent directly to the Public Policy Administration Program.