Master of Social Policy

Amplifying the Brown School’s ability to make a significant and lasting impact by advancing social and health equity, students have the opportunity to earn a Master of Social Policy (MSP) degree in conjunction with either a Master of Social Work or Master of Public Health degree. The MSP dual-degree program also attracts top students enrolled with select global partners, who complete the program in addition to their course work in a range of relevant subject areas at their home university.

The Brown School is a leader in translating social work and public health research to inform policy not only in St. Louis but also around the world. The MSP program combines advanced training, knowledge and skill-building to prepare students for a variety of positions and roles at local, regional, national and international policy levels. An MSP degree provides students with training across statistics, economics, politics, analysis and management to substantively engage with social issues and to effectively design, manage and evaluate social policy.

Website: https://brownschool.wustl.edu/Academics/Joint-and-Dual-Degrees/Master-of-Social-Policy

**Degree Requirements**

**Master of Social Policy**

**Course Requirements**

**Total credit hours:** 31 new MSP credits offered by the Brown School in addition to 12 credit hours (four courses) applied from primary MSW or MPH degree programs, for a total of 43 credits. To fulfill the MSP degree requirements, students must complete the following:

- Five required courses (15 credit hours)
- Three elective courses (9 credit hours)
- Two short intensive courses (4 credit hours)
- One internship (3 credit hours)

**Program Requirements**

Students take at least one course from each foundation area. The Minimum Core Requirement for each area must have been taken before a student may enroll in another course option. Students may take additional core course options as their electives.

**Statistics (3 credits)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MPH 5003</td>
<td>Biostatistics</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Economics (3 credits)**

**Additional Options After Minimum Requirement Completed:**

- MPH 5230 Applied Linear Modeling 3

**Students who have completed both Biostatistics and Applied Linear Modeling may also take doctoral-level courses, including the following:**

- SWDT 5010 Social Network Analysis 3
- SWDT 6900 Applied Linear Regression Analysis 3
- SWDT 6901 Structural Equation Modeling 3
- SWDT 6905 Propensity Score Analysis 3
- SWDT 6960 Survival Analysis 3

**Politics of Public Policy (3 credits)**

**Additional Options After Minimum Requirement Completed:**

- SWSP 5635 Politics, Power, and the Three Branches of Government 3
- SWSP 5640 Influencing Policy Implementation 3
- MPH 5107 Policy, Politics, and Power in Global Health 3

**Policy Analysis (3 credits)**

**Additional Options After Minimum Requirement Completed:**

- SWSP 5842 Social Policy Analysis & Evaluation 3
- SWSP 5620 Advanced Policy Analysis: Policy Impact Assessment 3
- SWSP 5830 Policy Design Lab 3
Management (3 credits)

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<tr>
<td>SWHS 5017</td>
<td>Management &amp; Leadership of Organizations</td>
<td>3</td>
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Additional Options After Minimum Requirement Completed:

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<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWSA 5019</td>
<td>Managing People</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other courses as approved</td>
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Elective Courses (9 credits)

Students can draw from more than 40 elective course options and 25 skill labs. Electives generally fall into the areas of Skills and Analysis, Current Issues and Policy Topics, Program and Policy Development, and Economics and Business. Please note that some electives may require instructor approval or have prerequisites, corequisites, or sequencing that must be completed.

Short Intensive Courses (4 credits)

MSP short courses (2 credits each) engage students in timely areas of policy practice across a broad range of topics and skills. To complement the foundation and elective course work that students complete, the short courses are led by Brown School faculty and completed in intensive formats, typically over one to two weeks ahead of the fall semester.

Internship (3 credits)

A key component of the MSP program is a culminating internship during which students apply their course work and prior field experience toward identifying and completing significant opportunities for policy analysis, implementation and/or practice. To ensure a substantive experience that provides students with a quality practice experience while meeting the needs of diverse policy partner organizations, students complete 3 credits (360 hours) in a full-time policy role, typically over the summer; this generally involves approximately 36 hours per week for 10 weeks or 30 hours per week for 12 weeks.