

Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE) Degree Program @ BSU (Fall 2023)

The Program

Bowie State University, beginning in the fall of 2023, will offer an interdisciplinary and inter-departmental a new interdisciplinary degree program: Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE). The two responsible and coordinating departments are Department of History & Government, and Department of Accounting, Finance & Economics. The PPE program follows the model first developed at Oxford University (1920), designed to enable students study great works and historic figures in the fields of economics, politics, and philosophy; with the conviction that such a new and flexible degree program could be used to transform students' lives and improve human condition in diverse societies.

The Mission of the Program

The interdisciplinary courses (in philosophy, politics, and economics) work together to instruct students in the methodologies for assessing political priorities and policy agenda, evaluating economic policies, business objectives and management decisions; and forming moral stances and responsible choices essential to mature leadership. The PPE program encourages the rigorous study of the approaches used by communities and various institutions to evaluate how priorities and public policies are decided, articulated, formulated and finally implemented in democratic societies. The PPE program supports BSU's mission as a comprehensive higher education institution that continues to serve a diverse population (in Maryland) in light of academic excellence, innovation and student's success.

The Program Curriculum Design

a) Seven Foundational Courses (21 Credits)

- 1) ECON 211: Principles of Macroeconomics
- 2) ECON 212: Principles of Microeconomics
- 3) GOVT 130: Intro to Political Science
- 4) GOVT 150: Introduction to Public Policy
- 5) Phil 101: Introduction to Philosophy

- 6) Phil 215: Liberation Ethics & Global Justice
- 7) PPE 160: Foundations of Phil, Pol. & Econ

b) Ten (10) PPE Core Courses (30 Credits)

- 1) ECON 351: Business & Econ Statistics
- 2) ECON 422: Public Finance & Budgeting
- 3) ECON 423: Monetary & Fiscal Policy
- 4) ENGL 255: Advanced Composition
- 5) GOVT 281: Urban Politics & Policy Analysis
- 6) GOVT 342: International Relations
- 7) PHIL 300: Philosophies of Human Nature
- 8) PHIL 305: Ethics & Public Policy
- 9) PPE 490: Capstone 1: Seminar in PPE
- 10) PPE 491: Capstone 2-Internship or Thesis

c) (Suggested) Electives (Up to 24 Credits)

- 1) ECON 311: Intermediate Macroeconomics
- 2) ECON 341: International Trade & Finance
- 3) ECON 353: Health Economics
- 4) ECON 383: Econ of Poverty & Income Dist.
- 5) GOVT 231: U.S. National Government
- 6) GOVT 232: U.S. State & Local Government
- 7) Prog. Coordinator to approve other electives

d) University-wide General Ed Requirements

- 1) ENGL 101 & 102: 6 Credits
- 2) Arts & Humanities: 6 Credits
- 3) Social & Behavioral Sciences: 6 Credits
- 4) Natural Sciences: 7-8 Credits
- 5) Mathematics: 3 Credits
- 6) Computer/Technology & Society: 3 Credits
- 7) Three (Free) Electives; 3 Credits
- 8) Two Institutional Requirements: 6 Credits

Program and Teaching Modalities

The PPE Program is not fully an online (distance education) program, but it is designed as a flexible learning with some faculty members opting to teach in the virtual environment (using the Blackboard, Zoom

or other media technologies) or via face-to-face. Some courses may be offered and delivered using the hybrid or blended modality in accordance with the best practices and consistent with the BSU Online policies.

The Choice of a Degree: B.A. or B.S.

Should the student wish to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree, rather than a Bachelor of Science (B.S.), then such a student must satisfy the necessary Foreign Language requirement. The student must take and pass, with a "C" or better grades, 12 semester credit hours of a second language other than English Language. In some cases, students can meet this requirement by passing the Foreign Language Proficiency Examination. Students who wish to pursue graduate studies are strongly advised to take 12 credit hours of Foreign Language electives and, thereby graduate with the B.A. degree option instead of B.S. choice. However, a student may graduate with a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree wherein there are no foreign language requirements.

The Possible Career Pathways

An undergraduate degree (B.A. or B.S.) in PPE offers graduates certain career opportunities in industries, corporations, government agencies (federal, state or local), academic institutions, law firms, and in not-for-profit organizations. Some examples of actual or real job titles for PPE graduates, in England or in the United States, include the following:

- Banking, Finance & Accountancy
- Journalism-Broadcaster & Analysts
- Law & Politics (Lawyers/Politicians)
- Political Campaign Strategists
- Strategic Communication Specialists
- Management Consultancy
- Marketing Executive
- Project Manager or Leader
- Accountant
- Political Leaders/Public Servants, Etc.