

AAPBPL: PUBLIC POLICY

History

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Program Cover

Program Name

Public Policy

Transcript Title

Public Policy

Department

Social Science Dept

Division/College

Humanities, Social & Behav Sci

Academic Level

Credit

Program Code

AAPBPL

Type of Award

Associate of Arts

Does this program lead to licensure?

No

Is this program occupational?

No

Program Attributes

Online

CIP Code

440501 - Public Policy Analysis, General.

Purpose

Rationale

Add program assessment plan based on recently approved program proposal documents.

Effective Catalog

Fall 2026

Proposed Effective Term

Fall 2026

Program Curriculum

Minimum Credits Required for the Program: 60

Full-Time Students

First Semester		Credits
ENG 111 or ENG 111X	Composition I or Composition 1	4
PLS 112	Introduction to American Government	3
Arts/Humanities Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#arthuma)		3
Math Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#math) (MTH 160 recommended)		3
Credits		13
Second Semester		
Select one from the following:		3
ENG 226	Composition II	
COM 101	Fundamentals of Speaking	
COM 102	Interpersonal Communication	
COM 142	Oral Interpretation of Literature	
COM 183	Persuasion	
COM 200	Family Communication	
COM 210	Nonverbal Communication	
COM 220	Small Group Communication	
COM 225	Intercultural Communication	
Arts/Humanities Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#arthuma)		3
Restricted Elective(s) : Any HST course		3
AAPBPL Restricted Electives (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/programs/public-policy-aa/#restrictedelectivestext)		3
Nat. Sci. Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#naturalsci)		3
Credits		15
Third Semester		
ECO 211	Economic Principles I - Macro ¹	3
PLS 220 or PLS 250	Politics and the Media or Campaigns and Elections	3
Restricted Elective(s) : Any HST course		3
AAPBPL Restricted Electives (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/programs/public-policy-aa/#restrictedelectivestext)		3
Nat. Sci. Lab Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#natscilab)		3
Credits		15
Fourth Semester		
ECO 222	Economic Principles II - Micro	3
Restricted Elective(s) : Any HST course		3
AAPBPL Restricted Electives (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/programs/public-policy-aa/#restrictedelectivestext)		6
Open Elective(s) to reach a minimum of 60 total credits. (Any course 100-level or above and transferrable)		5
Credits		17
Total Credits		60

¹ An Academic Math Level 3 is required for ECO 211.

Minimum Credits Required for the Program: 60

Part-Time Students

First Semester		Credits
ENG 111 or ENG 111X	Composition I or Composition 1	4
PLS 112	Introduction to American Government	3
Credits		7
Second Semester		
Select one from the following:		3
ENG 226	Composition II	
COM 101	Fundamentals of Speaking	
COM 102	Interpersonal Communication	
COM 142	Oral Interpretation of Literature	

COM 183	Persuasion	
COM 200	Family Communication	
COM 210	Nonverbal Communication	
COM 220	Small Group Communication	
COM 225	Intercultural Communication	
Arts/Humanities Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#arthuma)		3
Credits		6
Third Semester		
Restricted Elective(s) : Any HST course		3
Math Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#math) (MTH 160 recommended)		3
Credits		6
Fourth Semester		
AAPBPL Restricted Electives (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/programs/public-policy-aa/#restrictedelectivestext)		3
Nat. Sci. Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#naturalsci)		3
Credits		6
Fifth Semester		
ECO 211	Economic Principles I - Macro ¹	3
Arts/Humanities Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#arthuma)		3
Credits		6
Sixth Semester		
ECO 222	Economic Principles II - Micro	3
AAPBPL Restricted Electives (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/programs/public-policy-aa/#restrictedelectivestext)		3
Credits		6
Seventh Semester		
PLS 220 or PLS 250	Politics and the Media or Campaigns and Elections	3
Restricted Elective(s) : Any HST course		3
Credits		6
Eighth Semester		
AAPBPL Restricted Electives (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/programs/public-policy-aa/#restrictedelectivestext)		3
Restricted Elective(s) : Any HST course		3
Credits		6
Ninth Semester		
AAPBPL Restricted Electives (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/programs/public-policy-aa/#restrictedelectivestext)		3
Nat. Sci. Lab Elective(s) (https://coursecatalog.wccnet.edu/academics/general-education/#natscilab)		3
Credits		6
Tenth Semester		
Open Elective(s) to reach a minimum of 60 total credits. (Any course 100-level or above and transferrable)		5
Credits		5
Total Credits		60

¹ An Academic Level 3 is required for ECO 211.

Restricted Electives

AAPBPL Restricted Electives

Code	Title	Credits
ACC 111	Principles of Financial Accounting ¹	
ACC 122	Principles of Managerial Accounting	
ANT 201	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
BMG 231	Nonprofit Management	
ECO 110	Introduction to Economics	
GEO 101	World Regional Geography	
PHL 205	Ethics	
SOC 205	Race and Ethnic Relations	

Any PLS course

Any ARB, FRN, GRM, JPN, SPN course

¹ Academic Math Level 3 or MTH 125 or MTH 125X or MTH 160 or MTH 160X are prerequisites for ACC 111.

Program Description for Catalog

The Associate in Arts (A.A.) in Public Policy program provides students with a solid foundation in the principles of public policy analysis, development, and implementation. The curriculum integrates key areas of economics, geography, history, and political science, preparing students to analyze and address pressing public policy issues. Students will gain essential skills in research, communication, and policy evaluation, making them well-equipped for entry-level positions in government, non-profit organizations, and private sector policy roles. This program also serves as a seamless pathway for students planning to transfer to four-year institutions to pursue advanced degrees in public policy, political science, public administration, or related fields.

Admission/Eligibility Requirements

Program admission requirements

Program Requirements

- Academic Reading and Writing Levels of 6
- Demonstrated interest in the social sciences or public service, although no prior coursework in political science or related fields is required.
- All courses must be completed with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Additional program information (articulation, accreditation, advisors)

Program Assessment Plan

Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome

Identify the basic institutions of American government and their powers and purposes in the American political system.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Outcome-related departmental exam

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2027

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Fall

Anticipated assessment population

Other

If not including all students from all sections, please provide an estimation of how many students will be included, and how you're planning to ensure representation for all schedule types, delivery methods, full-time and part-time students, all instructors, etc.

PLS 112; All students from all sections

Standard of success to be used for this assessment

70% of students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data?

Political Science and Economics Faculty in the Department of Social Sciences

Scoring/evaluation tool (attach if possible)

Answer key(s) and departmentally-developed rubric(s)

Assessment #2

Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome

Identify the role of public opinion, the media, interest groups, political parties, and elections in the American political system.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Outcome-related departmental exam

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2027

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Fall

Anticipated assessment population

Other

If not including all students from all sections, please provide an estimation of how many students will be included, and how you're planning to ensure representation for all schedule types, delivery methods, full-time and part-time students, all instructors, etc.

PLS 112; All students from all sections

Standard of success to be used for this assessment

70% of students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data?

Political Science and Economics Faculty in the Department of Social Sciences

Scoring/evaluation tool (attach if possible)

Answer key(s) and departmentally-developed rubric(s)

Assessment #2

Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome

Analyze problems facing individuals and society as a whole using the concepts of scarcity, efficiency, and opportunity cost.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Departmentally-developed questions embedded in the course exams

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2027

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Fall

Anticipated assessment population

Other

If not including all students from all sections, please provide an estimation of how many students will be included, and how you're planning to ensure representation for all schedule types, delivery methods, full-time and part-time students, all instructors, etc.

ECO 211; All students from all sections

Standard of success to be used for this assessment

70% of students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data?

Political Science and Economics Faculty in the Department of Social Sciences

Scoring/evaluation tool (attach if possible)

Answer key(s) and departmentally-developed rubric(s)

Assessment #2

Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome

Manipulate supply and demand models to determine qualitative and quantitative changes in prices, output, allocative efficiency, and economic surplus that result from real-world events and government policy changes.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Departmentally-developed questions embedded in course exams

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2028

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Winter

Anticipated assessment population

Other

If not including all students from all sections, please provide an estimation of how many students will be included, and how you're planning to ensure representation for all schedule types, delivery methods, full-time and part-time students, all instructors, etc.

ECO 222; All students from all sections

Standard of success to be used for this assessment

70% of students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data?

Political Science and Economics Faculty in the Department of Social Sciences

Scoring/evaluation tool (attach if possible)

Answer key(s) and departmentally-developed rubric(s)

Assessment #2

Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome

Identify the conditions that lead to market failure and evaluate potential corrective policies.

Assessment #1

Assessment Tool

Departmentally-developed questions embedded in the course exams

Anticipated Next Assessment Year

2028

Anticipated Next Assessment Term

Winter

Anticipated assessment population

Other

If not including all students from all sections, please provide an estimation of how many students will be included, and how you're planning to ensure representation for all schedule types, delivery methods, full-time and part-time students, all instructors, etc.

ECO 222; All students from all sections

Standard of success to be used for this assessment

70% of students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data?

Political Science and Economics Faculty in the Department of Social Sciences

Scoring/evaluation tool (attach if possible)

Answer key(s) and departmentally-developed rubric(s)

Assessment #2

Learning Outcomes Display (show only)

Course Code	PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5
First Semester					
ENG 111					
ENG 111X					
PLS 112					
Second Semester					
ENG 226					
COM 101					
COM 102					
COM 142					
COM 183					
COM 200					
COM 210					
COM 220					
COM 225					
Third Semester					
ECO 211					
PLS 220					
PLS 250					
Fourth Semester					
ECO 222					
First Semester					
ENG 111					

ENG 111X					
PLS 112					
Second Semester					
ENG 226					
COM 101					
COM 102					
COM 142					
COM 183					
COM 200					
COM 210					
COM 220					
COM 225					
Third Semester					
Fourth Semester					
Fifth Semester					
ECO 211					
Sixth Semester					
ECO 222					
Seventh Semester					
PLS 220					
PLS 250					
Eighth Semester					
Ninth Semester					
Tenth Semester					

Budget

Additional Information

Is this a substantive change?

No

Key: 160

PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM

- Preliminary Approval** – Check here when using this form for preliminary approval of a program proposal, and respond to the items in general terms.
- Final Approval** – Check here when completing this form after the Vice President for Instruction has given preliminary approval to a program proposal. For final approval, complete information must be provided for each item.

<p>Program Name:</p> <p>Division and Department:</p> <p>Type of Award:</p> <p>Effective Term/Year:</p> <p>Initiator:</p>	<p><u>Public Policy</u></p> <p><u>Humanities, Social & Behavioral Sciences Division, Department of Social Sciences</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AA <input type="checkbox"/> AS <input type="checkbox"/> AAS <input type="checkbox"/> Cert. <input type="checkbox"/> Adv. Cert. <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Assoc. Cert. <input type="checkbox"/> Cert. of Comp.</p> <p><u>Fall 2026</u></p> <p><u>Lauren Foley, Ph.D., Professional Faculty</u></p>	<p>Program Code:</p> <p>AAPBPL</p> <p>CIP Code:</p> <p>44.0501</p>
<p>Program Features Program's purpose and its goals.</p> <p>Criteria for entry into the program, along with projected enrollment figures.</p> <p>Connection to other WCC programs, as well as accrediting agencies or professional organizations.</p> <p>Special features of the program.</p>	<p>Summary:</p> <p>The Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree in Public Policy will provide students with a comprehensive foundation in the analysis, development, and implementation of public policies at the local, state, and national levels. It will be an interdisciplinary program that integrates elements from political science, economics, history, and geography, giving students the analytical tools and practical knowledge to engage with the policymaking process. Students will develop essential skills in research, critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving, preparing them for both further academic study and careers in public policy, political science, public administration, or related fields.</p> <p>Purpose and Goals:</p> <p>The primary purpose of the A.A. in Public Policy will be to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand the complexities of the policy-making process and its impact on society. By focusing on core concepts in social sciences, the program will encourage students to critically assess current public policies, understand the role of government institutions, and explore solutions to societal challenges.</p> <p>The program is designed for students who wish to transfer to a four-year institution to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Public Policy, Political Science, Public Administration, or related disciplines. While a Bachelor's degree is often required for many roles in public policy, political science, public administration, and related fields, an A.A. in Public Policy can prepare students to secure entry-level positions, such as a policy research assistant, legislative aide, public relations or communications assistant, community outreach coordinator, and program coordinator in the government, non-profit organizations, think tanks, and private sector entities. The program will aim to foster active, informed citizens who can participate in the policymaking process and contribute to improving society.</p> <p>Criteria:</p> <p>Students seeking admission to the A.A. in Public Policy program must meet the following criteria:</p>	

- Level I Prerequisites: Academic Level 6 in both Reading and Writing
- A demonstrated interest in the social sciences or public service, although no prior coursework in political science or related fields is required. The interest will be determined by the Student Advisors.

Projected Enrollment Figures:

Based on student feedback, as well as sentiments from the student advisors in the Humanities, Social & Behavioral Sciences Division, we anticipate an enrollment of 5-10 students for the first academic year with steady growth as awareness of the program increases. The program will be driven by the increasing demand for public policy education and the expanding role of policy professionals in society.

Connections:

The program will establish strong internal and external connections to support student success as well as promote academic and career pathways.

- Internal Connection: The program will complement other academic offerings within the Department of Social Sciences, particularly political science, economics, history, and geography. By drawing on these disciplines, the program will provide students with a well-rounded understanding of the political, economic, and social forces that shape public policy. In addition, the interdisciplinary nature of the curriculum will encourage cross-departmental collaboration, allowing students to engage with relevant coursework and faculty expertise across these fields. This approach will foster a more comprehensive academic experience and better prepare students for careers and continued education.

External Connection: The required courses in the A.A. in Public Policy program will fulfil MTA requirements in Social Sciences and Natural Sciences (with a lab), and meet the requirements for many introductory courses required by undergraduate degree programs. Therefore, students who complete the program will be well-positioned to transfer to four-year institutions and pursue Bachelor's degrees in Public Policy, Political Science, Public Administration, and related fields.

Community colleges serve as a crucial access point for students seeking affordable, high-quality education before transferring to four-year institutions. Many students begin their academic journeys at community colleges, where they complete foundational coursework before transitioning into Bachelor's programs. The A.A. in Public Policy is specifically designed to facilitate this transition by providing students with a rigorous academic foundation, transferable credits, and the skills necessary for success in advanced undergraduate studies.

The program will serve as a strong academic foundation for students interested in transferring to leading public policy programs, such as the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy, the University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science and the Arts (LSA) Program in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE), Eastern Michigan University's Master of Public Administration Program, and Wayne State University's Bachelor of Public Affairs (B.P.A.) Program. By structuring the curriculum to align with the prerequisites of these institutions, the program will ensure that students will be well-prepared for the academic rigor and expectations of their future studies.

	<p>In addition, the program will create a clear academic pathway for students pursuing careers that influence public life, such as community organizing, public relations, or social justice advocacy.</p> <p>By equipping students with the foundational knowledge and practical skills in public policy, the program will empower graduates to pursue leadership roles in both the public and private sectors or continue their education at the graduate level.</p> <p>Accrediting Agencies and Professional Organizations:</p> <p>The program will align with the accreditation standards set by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). No special accreditation is required in Public Policy, Political Science, Public Administration, or related fields.</p> <p>Special Features:</p> <p>The program will include several special features:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Internship and Volunteer Opportunities:</u> The program will offer students the opportunity to engage in internships and/or volunteer work with local government offices, non-governmental organizations, think tanks, and public advocacy groups. For example, PLS-112 will publicize internships and/or volunteer work with politicians on the local, state, and federal levels. These hands-on experiences will provide valuable real-world exposure to policy analysis, development, and implementation. 2. <u>Interdisciplinary Approach:</u> The program will be built around an interdisciplinary curriculum that combines political science, economics, history, and geography. This holistic approach ensures that students understand how policies interact with broader cultural, economic, and social systems. 3. <u>Faculty Expertise:</u> The program will be taught by faculty members with expertise in public policy, political science, public administration, economics, and related fields. Many of the instructors have experience working in public policy, bringing practical insights to the classroom.
<p>Need</p> <p>Need for the program with evidence to support the stated need.</p>	<p>The demand for public policy professionals is growing. As societies face challenges, ranging from climate change and economic inequality to healthcare reform and social justice issues, the need for knowledgeable and skilled individuals who can analyze and shape public policy is critical. There is a clear gap between the demand for policy professionals and the current supply of individuals with specialized training in public policy analysis, development, and implementation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>A Pathway to Transfer and Advanced Study in Public Policy:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a clear and structured pathway for students to transfer from a community college to a four-year institution is essential for fostering educational and career success. According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, over 33% of students who begin their higher education journey at a community college ultimately transfer to a four-year institution, with many of them pursuing degrees in fields such as public policy, political science, and public administration. However, without a direct pathway to transfer, these students may face barriers in continuing their education toward a Bachelor's degree. By offering an A.A. in Public Policy, WCC will provide a streamlined and supportive route for students who wish to transfer to a four-year institution. This pathway will be an ideal stepping stone for students aiming to pursue degrees at institutions with strong public policy

programs, such as the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy, the University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science and the Arts (LSA) Program in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE), Eastern Michigan University's Master of Public Administration Program, or Wayne State University's Bachelor of Public Affairs Program (B.P.A.). Students will have a competitive edge in applying to these programs, as they will have already acquired critical skills in policy analysis, research methods, and effective communication.

2. Growing Demand for Public Policy Professionals:

- According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment in public policy, political science, public administration, and related fields is expected to grow by 6% from 2021 to 2031, with about 500 openings each year, which is faster than the average for other occupations (around 0.4% annually). This growth is driven by the increased complexity of societal problems and the need for policymakers who can navigate the interplay between government, private sectors, and the public.
- The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the median annual wage for political scientists, including public policy analysts, in 2023 was 132,350 USD (or 63.63 USD per hour). The median annual wage for all workers in 2023 was 48,060 USD.
- The National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) reports that public policy programs are among the most sought-after academic offerings with a growing need for professionals trained in policy analysis, government relations, and public affairs.
- While a Bachelor's degree is often required for many roles in public policy, political science, public administration, and related fields, an A.A. in Public Policy can serve as a stepping stone for students to secure entry-level positions, such as a policy research assistant, legislative aide, public relations or communications assistant, community outreach coordinator, and program coordinator in the government, non-profit organizations, think tanks, and private sector entities. Employers in these sectors increasingly seek candidates with knowledge of public policy analysis, development, and implementation.

3. Increased Student Interest in Public Policy Careers:

- Recent surveys of college students indicate a growing interest in careers that promote social good and impact change. According to the American Political Science Association (APSA), many students are pursuing public policy and political science degrees because they are eager to engage with real-world issues, such as climate change, health disparities, and social inequality.

4. The Changing Political and Social Landscape:

- In response to global and local challenges, there is a rising recognition of the need for educated professionals who can influence public policy. For instance, climate change, healthcare access, and social justice issues are at the forefront of public discourse. The complexity of these issues requires a nuanced understanding of public policy, which this program will provide.
- The National Public Radio (NPR) and the Brookings Institution report that the demand for individuals who can work at the intersection of

	<p>politics, policy, and public administration is stronger than ever. This includes roles in advocacy, public service, nonprofit sectors, and policy-related private sector positions.</p> <p>5. <u>Economic Impact and Workforce Development:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investing in a public policy program contributes to workforce development by providing students with essential skills in research, analysis, communication, and problem-solving – skills that are increasingly in demand across a wide array of industries. According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), employers are consistently seeking graduates with strong communication and analytical skills, both of which are core components of public policy education. In addition, public policy professionals can help drive solutions to economic challenges within the community, such as workforce development. Training students in this field prepares them not only for careers in government but also in sectors like economic consulting, research institutions, and policy analysis firms. <p>By providing students with the opportunity to pursue an A.A. in Public Policy, WCC will not only address a growing demand for skilled policy professionals but also contribute to the development of an informed, engaged citizenry capable of tackling the most pressing challenges today.</p>	
<p>Program Outcomes/Assessment</p> <p>State the knowledge to be gained, skills to be learned, and attitudes to be developed by students in the program.</p> <p>Include assessment methods that will be used to determine the effectiveness of the program.</p>	<p><u>Outcomes</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the basic institutions of American government and their powers and purposes in the American political system. Identify the role of public opinion, the media, interest groups, political parties, and elections in the American political system. Analyze problems facing individuals and society as a whole using the concepts of scarcity, efficiency, and opportunity cost. Manipulate supply and demand models to determine qualitative and quantitative changes in prices, output, allocative efficiency, and economic surplus that result from real-world events and government policy changes. Identify the conditions that lead to market failure and evaluate potential corrective policies. 	<p><u>Assessment method</u></p> <p>For all: Outcome-related departmental exam questions.</p>

<p>Curriculum</p> <p>List the courses in the program as they should appear in the catalog. List minimum credits required. Include any notes that should appear below the course list.</p> <p>Associate degree programs must provide a semester-by-semester program layout.</p>	<p>All of the courses required for the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree in Public Policy must be completed with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.</p> <p>See attached layouts</p>		
<p>Budget</p> <p>Specify program costs in the following areas, per academic year:</p>		<p>START-UP COSTS</p>	<p>ONGOING COSTS</p>
	<p>Faculty</p>	<p>\$.</p>	<p>See Faculty Salary Schedule</p>
	<p>Training/Travel</p>	<p>.</p>	<p>.</p>
	<p>Materials/Resources</p>	<p>.</p>	<p>.</p>
	<p>Facilities/Equipment</p>	<p>.</p>	<p>.</p>
	<p>Other</p>	<p>.</p>	<p>.</p>
	<p>TOTALS:</p>	<p>\$.</p>	<p>See Faculty Salary Schedule</p>
<p>Program Description for Catalog and Website</p>	<p>The Associate in Arts (A.A.) in Public Policy program provides students with a solid foundation in the principles and practices of public policy analysis, development, and implementation. The curriculum integrates key areas of economics, geography, history, and political science, preparing students to analyze and address pressing public policy issues. Students will gain essential skills in research, communication, and policy evaluation, making them well-equipped for entry-level positions in government, non-profit organizations, and private sector policy roles. This program also serves as a seamless pathway for students planning to transfer to four-year institutions to pursue advanced degrees in public policy, political science, public administration, or related fields.</p>		
<p>Program Information</p>	<p>Accreditation/Licensure -</p> <p>Advisors -</p> <p>Advisory Committee -</p> <p>Admission requirements -</p> <p>Articulation agreements -</p> <p>Continuing eligibility requirements -</p>		

Assessment plan:

<p>Program outcomes to be assessed</p>	<p>Assessment tool</p>	<p>When assessment will take place</p>	<p>Courses/other populations</p>	<p>Number students to be assessed</p>
<p>Identify the basic institutions of American government and their powers and purposes in the American political system.</p>	<p>Outcome-related departmental exam.</p>	<p>Fall 2027 Semester</p>	<p>PLS 112</p>	<p>All students</p>

Identify the role of public opinion, the media, interest groups, political parties, and elections in the American political system.	Outcome-related departmental exam.	Fall 2027 Semester	PLS 112	All students
Analyze problems facing individuals and society as a whole using the concepts of scarcity, efficiency, and opportunity cost.	Departmentally-developed questions embedded in course exams.	Fall 2027 Semester	ECO 211	All students
Manipulate supply and demand models to determine qualitative and quantitative changes in prices, output, allocative efficiency, and economic surplus that result from real-world events and government policy changes.	Departmentally-developed questions embedded in course exams.	Winter 2028 Semester	ECO 222	All students
Identify the conditions that lead to market failure and evaluate potential corrective policies.	Departmentally-developed questions embedded in course exams.	Winter 2028 Semester	ECO 222	All students

Scoring and analysis plan:

1. Indicate how the above assessment(s) will be scored and evaluated (e.g. departmentally-developed rubric, external evaluation, other). Attach the rubric.







Answer keys and departmentally-developed rubrics.

2. Indicate the standard of success to be used for this assessment.

70% of students will score 70% or higher.

3. Indicate who will score and analyze the data.

Political Science and Economics Faculty in the Department of Social Sciences.

REVIEWER	PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Chair/Area Director	Christopher Barrett		12/18/25
Dean	Anne Nichols		5/28/25
Please return completed form to the Office of Curriculum and Assessment (SC 257) or by email to curriculum.assessment@wccnet.edu. Once reviewed by the appropriate faculty committees, we will secure the signature of the VPI and President.			
Curriculum Committee Chair	Randy Van Wagnen		1/22/26
Assessment Committee Chair	Jessica Hale		1/22/26
Executive Vice President for Instruction <input type="checkbox"/> Approved for Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final Approval	Dr. Brandon Tucker		2/17/26
President	Dr. Rose Bellanca		2/19/26
Board Approval			3/26/26

Full-Time Students		
First Semester (Fall)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
ENG 111 or ENG 111X	Composition 1	4
PLS 112	Introduction to American Government	3
Arts/Human. Elective(s)		3
Math Elective(s) (MTH 160 Recommended!!!)		3
Total		13
Second Semester (Winter)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
ENG 226 or COM 101, 102, 142, 183, 200, 210, 220, 225		3
Arts/Human. Elective(s)		3
Restricted Elective(s): Any HST Course		3
Restricted Elective(s): ACC 111** ACC 122 ECO 110 ANT 201 BMG 231 GEO 101 PHL 205 SOC 205 Any PLS Any ARB, FRN, GRM, JPN, SPN Course		3
Natural Science Elective(s)		3
Total		15
Third Semester (Fall)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
ECO 211*	Principles of Economics I	3
PLS 220 or PLS 250	Politics and Media, or Campaigns and Elections	3
Restricted Elective(s): Any HST Course		3
Restricted Elective(s): ACC 111** ACC 122 ECO 110 ANT 201 BMG 231 GEO 101		3

PHL 205 SOC 205 Any PLS Any ARB, FRN, GRM, JPN, SPN Course		
Natural Science Lab Elective(s)		3
Total		15
Fourth Semester (Winter)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
ECO 222	Principles of Economics II	3
Restricted Elective(s): Any HST Course		3
Restricted Elective(s): ACC 111** ACC 122 ECO 110 ANT 201 BMG 231 GEO 101 PHL 205 SOC 205 Any PLS Any ARB, FRN, GRM, JPN, SPN Course		6
Elective(s) 100-level or above transferrable courses to reach a minimum of 60 credits.		5
Total		17
Total		60

*Math Level 3 required for ECO 211

**Academic Math Level 3 or MTH 125 or MTH 125X or MTH 160 or MTH 160X are prerequisites for ACC 111

Part-Time Students		
First Semester (Fall)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
ENG-111	Composition 1	4
PLS-112	Introduction to American Government	3
Total		7
Second Semester (Winter)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
ENG 226 or COM 101, 102, 142, 183, 200, 210, 220, 225		3
Arts/Human. Elective(s)		3
Total		6
Third Semester (Fall)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
Restricted Elective(s): Any HST Course		3
Math Elective(s) (MTH-160 – Recommended!!!)		3
Total		6
Fourth Semester (Winter)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
Restricted Elective(s): ACC 111** ACC 122 ECO 110 ANT 201 BMG 231 GEO 101 PHL 205 SOC 205 Any PLS Any ARB, FRN, GRM, JPN, SPN Course		3
Natural Science Elective(s)		3
Total		6
Fifth Semester (Fall)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
ECO 211*	Principles of Economics I	3
Arts/Human. Elective(s)		3

Total		6
Sixth Semester (Winter)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
ECO 222	Principles of Economics II	3
Restricted Elective(s): ACC 111 ACC 122 ECO 110 ANT 201 BMG 231 GEO 101 PHL 205 SOC 205 Any PLS Any ARB, FRN, GRM, JPN, SPN Course		3
Total		6
Seventh Semester (Fall)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
PLS 220 or PLS 250	Politics and Media, or Campaigns and Elections	3
Restricted Elective(s): Any HST Course		3
Total		6
Eight Semester (Winter)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
Restricted Elective(s): ACC 111** ACC 122 ECO 110 ANT 201 BMG 231 GEO 101 PHL 205 SOC 205 Any PLS Any ARB, FRN, GRM, JPN, SPN Course		3
Restricted Elective(s): Any HST Course		3
Total		6
Ninth Semester (Fall)		

Class	Title	Minimum Credit
Restricted Elective(s): ACC 111** ACC 122 ECO 110 ANT 201 BMG 231 GEO 101 PHL 205 SOC 205 Any PLS Any ARB, FRN, GRM, JPN, SPN Course		3
Natural Science Lab Elective(s)		3
Total		6
Tenth Semester (Winter)		
Class	Title	Minimum Credit
Elective(s) 100-level or above transferrable courses to reach a minimum of 60 credits.		5
Total		5
Total		60

*Math Level 3 required for ECO 211

**Academic Math Level 3 or MTH 125 or MTH 125X or MTH 160 or MTH 160X are prerequisites for ACC 111