

PUBLIC POLICY (M.A.P.P.) - THINK TANK & POLICY RESEARCH

Important: This degree plan is effective for those starting this degree program in fall 2025 through summer 2026. This degree plan will remain in effect for students who do not break enrollment or who do not change degree programs, concentrations, or cognates.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
PPOG 500	Introduction to Research and Writing	3
PPOG 502	Economics and Public Policy	3
PPOG 503	Political Philosophy	3
PPOG 504	Leadership, Statesmanship, and Governance	3
PPOG 506	Introduction to Geopolitics and International Diplomacy	3
PPOL 501	Foundations of American Governance: An Introduction to Public Policy	3
PPOL 505	Applied Public Policy Research Methods	3
Total Hours		21

Code	Title	Hours
Think Tank & Policy Research Cognate		
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
Total Hours		9

Code	Title	Hours
Thesis or Elective Courses ^{1,2}		
PPOG 688	Thesis Proposal	3
PPOG 689	Thesis Research ^{3,4}	3
PPOG 690	Thesis Defense	0
Total Hours		6

¹ Students may take two elective courses² instead of PPOG 688, PPOG 689, & PPOG 690

² Choose from the following courses: Any 500-600 level course offered by the Helms School of Government. Other 500-600 level courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis

³ Any student who is not ready for enrollment in PPOG 690 after completing PPOG 689 may be required, as determined by the student's thesis chair, to repeat PPOG 689 until deemed ready for enrollment in PPOG 690

⁴ While PPOG 689 may be taken more than once, only one enrollment in the course will be permitted to count toward degree requirements

All applicable prerequisites must be met

Graduation Requirements

- Complete 36 hours
- A maximum of 50% of the program hours may be transferred if approved and allowable, including credit from an earned degree from Liberty University on the same academic level
- 3.0 GPA
- No more than two grades of C may be applied to the degree (includes grades of C+ & C-)
- No grade of D or below may be applied to the degree (includes grades of D+ & D-)
- Degree must be completed within 5 years
- Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a student's anticipated graduation date

Program Offered in Resident Format Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
First Semester		
PPOG 500	Introduction to Research and Writing	3
PPOL 501	Foundations of American Governance: An Introduction to Public Policy	3
PPOL 505 or PPOG 506	Applied Public Policy Research Methods or Introduction to Geopolitics and International Diplomacy	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
PPOG 502	Economics and Public Policy	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOL 505 or PPOG 506	Applied Public Policy Research Methods or Introduction to Geopolitics and International Diplomacy	3
Hours		9
Third Semester		
PPOG 503 or PPOG 504	Political Philosophy or Leadership, Statesmanship, and Governance	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOG 688	Thesis Proposal	3
Hours		9
Fourth Semester		
PPOG 503 or PPOG 504	Political Philosophy or Leadership, Statesmanship, and Governance	3
PPOG 600	Think Tank, Research, Training, and Policy Development	3
PPOG 689	Thesis Research ^{1,2,3}	3
PPOG 690	Thesis Defense ^{3,4}	0
Hours		9
Total Hours		36

¹ Students may take two additional elective courses⁴ instead of PPOG 688, PPOG 689, and PPOG 690.

- ² Any student who is not ready for enrollment in PPOG 690 after completing PPOG 689 may be required, as determined by the student's thesis chair, to repeat PPOG 689 until deemed ready for enrollment in PPOG 690.
- ³ While PPOG 689 may be taken more than once, only one enrollment in the course will be permitted to count toward degree requirements.
- ⁴ Choose from the following courses: Any 500-600 level course offered by the Helms School of Government. Other 500-600 level courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis.