



## HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

# UPCOMING COURSES FOR UNDERGRADUATES

**Do you want to learn more about the worlds of public policy,  
civic engagement, and public affairs?  
Check out the Humphrey School Undergraduate Course Offerings  
Fall 2024**

### **PA 1401 – Community Organizing Skills for Public Action (3 credits)**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-2:15 p.m.*

*Instructor: [Dennis Donovan](#), National Organizer, Public Achievement*

This is a hands-on introduction for students wanting to develop skills, confidence, and knowledge to become empowered citizens of change by examining key concepts of citizenship, politics, and democracy. Hands-on experiential learning in problem solving and team work within the framework of Civic Studies develop the skills to address the challenge of collective action in a world of often radically different ethical frameworks.

### **PA 3002 – Basic Methods of Policy Analysis (3 credits)**

*Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:00-2:15 p.m.*

*Instructor: [Julie Marzec](#), a doctoral candidate in Public Affairs and research fellow at the Interdisciplinary Center for Global Change at the University of Minnesota. Her research focuses on the impacts of gendered social movements on public policy in Ecuador.*

The complex economic, political and social issues that define our world are not easily solved. PA 3002 teaches students to apply the methods and techniques of the social science discipline to address these multifaceted challenges that increasingly confront public agencies and nonprofit organizations. This course is designed for students who share an interest in quantitative techniques to analyze issues of public policy. This multidisciplinary course is appropriate for students from various undergraduate majors, including economics, political science, business and other social sciences. In particular, this introductory course provides a firm academic and technical background for students preparing for graduate studies and careers in public and nonprofit organizations at the local, state, national and international levels.

### **PA 3003 – Nonprofit and Public Financial Management (3 credits)**

*Thursdays, 4:40-7:25 p.m.*

*Instructor: [Haiyue Jiang](#), a doctoral candidate in Public Affairs with a focus on social equity, public finance, and public policy analysis. Her research centers around the examination of the relationship between public investment and social inequality. Her primary focus pertains to issues of racial equity, with a specific emphasis on discerning the impact of public investment on minority-owned small business enterprises.*

There is an increasing demand for public and non-profit organizations to manage their finances well while effectively providing quality services. Governments are pressured to “do more with less” and nonprofit organizations are expected to “do better in doing good”. To meet these challenges, it is important that

managers and employees of public and nonprofit organizations possess the fundamental skills of budgeting and financial analysis. This is an introductory course designed for students who have some background in financial analysis but wish to gain a clearer understanding of managing the finances for a public/non-profit organization.

### **PA 4101 – Nonprofit Management and Governance (3 credits)**

*Tuesdays, 5:30-8:15 p.m., Remote*

*Instructor: [Kabo Yang](#), strategic services consultant, Propel Nonprofits. Previously Executive Director of the MN Women's Consortium. She has served on nonprofit boards and other community organizations for the past decade.*

This course explores the theories, concepts, and some real-world examples of how to manage nonprofit organizations. Students will study governance systems, strategic management practices, the effects of different funding environments, and management of multiple constituencies.

### **PA 4200 – Urban and Regional Planning (3 credits)**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00-5:15 p.m.*

*Instructor: [Frank Douma](#), Director of State and Local Policy and Outreach for the Institute for Urban and Regional Infrastructure Finance, Humphrey School of Public Affairs*

This course is geared toward upper division undergraduates who are curious about a career in urban and regional planning, or simply want to know how planning works and affects our lives. It provides an introductory overview of planning theory and practice, with primary attention to current issues in planning practice in the U.S. The content covers land use, urban design, transportation, community development, housing, and environmental planning problems within the broader context of the historic development of cities, political processes, and regional and national economic forces.

## **ONLINE-ONLY CLASSES – Election Administration**

### **PA 3969 – Survey of Election Administration (3 credits)**

*Instructor: Neal Kelley*

A comprehensive course on the general building blocks of election administration from voter registration to recounts. Students will learn how the three levels of government interact to manage different aspects of the election process; recognize the key debates and tensions in election policy; and identify their impacts on election administration.

### **PA 3976 – Voter Participation (1 credit)**

*Instructor: Regina Roberts*

Elections administration can support voters or create barriers to their participation. This course will explore the experience of diverse voting populations in the U.S. with a focus on traditionally underrepresented voters. Through readings and activities students will gain a better understanding of the challenges voters face and how election administration can help improve the voter experience for all voters.



## PA 3985 - Physical Election Security (2 credits)

Instructor: [Jennifer Morrell](#), partner at The Elections Group and recognized expert in election audits

U.S. Homeland Security designated election security as a “critical infrastructure” after threats from foreign governments, and collaborates with states in detecting and responding to foreign interference. This course will provide students with a deeper understanding of the current security context and best practices and processes for physically safeguarding elections based on 2016 and 2020. Students will learn the difference between physical and cyber threats to U.S. systems; tangible steps to protect election offices and their equipment; the use of audits to ensure the accuracy of elections; the integration of security into vendor relationships; and the connection between physical election security and citizen trust in elections.

*For more information about the Election Administration classes, please contact Lea Chittenden at [chit0018@umn.edu](mailto:chit0018@umn.edu).*

