



Fact Sheet

JOHN W. MCCORMACK GRADUATE SCHOOL OF POLICY AND GLOBAL STUDIES AND
THE COLLEGE OF ADVANCING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Gender, Leadership and Public Policy

18-credit, 9-month graduate certificate on-campus or online; optional credit transfer to MPA

The Program

The Gender, Leadership and Public Policy 18-credit graduate certificate program prepares women to take on leadership roles in government and nonprofit organizations, and to pursue advanced degrees, most frequently in law and public policy. The program offers a unique combination of course work in intersectional policy analysis, research skills, organizational leadership in addition to career-enhancing internships, individual advising, and professional development opportunities.

Affiliated with the McCormack Graduate School's Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, the program draws upon center offerings, including opportunities for internships, attendance at conferences and forums, mentorship from our Distinguished Public Service Fellows, and advising from renowned scholars in politics and public policy.

Courses take place two evenings per week, and once a month students also attend an internship course. Students are admitted as full-time students in September and take six courses as a cohort over two semesters.

GLPP graduate certificate students can also choose to apply for the Masters of Public Administration (MPA) program, GLPP track, and complete an MPA in one additional academic year, including one summer.

Financial aid is available through the university; students may also apply for merit and need-based scholarships available through the Betty Taymor Fund for the Education of Women in Government and the Polly Logan Fund. Paid internships made available by the Cummings Foundation are offered to ten students per year who have financial need and intern in nonprofit organizations.

An innovative, award-winning program:

- *University Council for Educational Administration--Innovative and Creative Program Award*
- *University Council for Educational Administration New England--Outstanding Credit Program Award*
- *American Association of University Women--Massachusetts Progress in Equity Award*

Curriculum

The academic program focuses on political structures and processes, the effects of public policies, women's influence in politics, and the formulation and implementation of public policy. The role of gender, race/ethnicity, class, immigrant status, and other social positions in politics and policymaking is central to the program's design, goals, and curriculum.

Core Seminars Two courses, Women in American Politics and Policymaking (Fall) and Contemporary American Public Policy Issues (Spring) equip students with skills in advanced policy analysis as well as analytic and practical skills for understanding the role and impact of women in American politics and policymaking.

Leadership Development The course on gender and leadership in organizations allows students to delve deeply into issues they will confront as leaders. Students' leadership is also nurtured through a series of professional development workshops and career panels.

Research Methods In this course, students learn to critically analyze various research methodologies used in public policy development. Students will utilize these research methods to write policy briefs on issues they select.

Public Policy Internships The required internship provides a learning environment for a deeper understanding of the political and policymaking process and hands-on development of leadership skills. Students serve as interns in the offices of members of state senators and representatives or the U.S. Congress; in state or local government agencies; in nonprofit or advocacy organizations; or at academic centers or institutes. Throughout the program, faculty guide students through the process of integrating theoretical knowledge gained through their coursework with practical skills learned in their internships.

Interested?

For more information about the program or to schedule an interview, please call or email:

Muna Killingback, Assistant Program Director
Gender, Leadership and Public Policy
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Fall Semester

Women in American Politics and Policy Making

PUBADM 623

Students are active participants in exploring the many dimensions of politics in the United States, how women have organized to have a greater role in politics, and the skills women need to fully participate in politics and policymaking. Students examine how politics and government affect American women's lives today, and assess the ways that women participate in the political process in order to influence the course of public policy. Reading and class discussions on the intersection of race/ethnicity and gender in politics are central to the theoretical perspectives that provide the foundation of this course.

Fall Internship

PUBADM 622

The GLPP internship program is designed to provide students with substantive experience in the field of politics and public policy. Students receive faculty guidance through the internship selection process and are expected to secure an internship by the end of the semester. Students may begin their internship in the fall or spring semester, and are expected to complete a minimum of 160 hours during the course of the academic year. Monthly internship class meetings and a final reflective assignment emphasize professional and leadership development. PASS/FAIL

Research Methods for Policy Analysis

PUBADM 628

This class provides a survey of research methods and the use of evidence to build persuasive arguments. The course is divided into three sections: (1) quantitative methods; (2) qualitative methods; and (3) community-based participatory action research, providing an overview of each group of research methods. Throughout all three sections, the course will include feminist research methods and scholarly work. Each section of the course culminates in the submission of a policy brief on a topic of the student's choosing. Each policy brief will highlight the research methods from that portion of the course.

Spring Semester

Contemporary American Public Policy Issues

PUBADM 619

Students examine the formulation, implementation, and impact of public policy as well as the values and principles that influence political debates in the United States. In addition to learning the essentials of public policy formation and analysis, students will actively negotiate the complexity of policy making in action through assignments designed to develop key skills. The course focuses on several major domestic policy areas with emphases on health care, economic security, and social welfare.

Spring Internship

PUBADM 624

The second semester of GLPP's internship program provides an opportunity for students to integrate and apply knowledge from GLPP core seminars to the experiential learning at the internship setting. It also allows for learnings in the field to inform and complement GLPP coursework. Monthly meetings explore themes of leadership, organizational and institutional analysis, career trajectories, and self-evaluation/professional development. Written assignments and oral presentations are required in this course in addition to the completion of internship hours. The course culminates in final presentations to the cohort and program faculty about the internship experience.

Leadership and Organizations: Gender, Power, and Authority

PUBADM 629

This course offers students the opportunity to develop an in-depth understanding of authority, leadership, and organizational dynamics, and to learn about their own behavior in groups. We will unpack terms such as authority, power, leadership, boundaries, role, and task to deepen students' understanding of their own experiences in groups, organizations, and communities. The impact of social identity (gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, age, etc.) on how roles are taken up or allowed to be taken up in groups and organizations will also be explored.

Gender, Leadership and Public Policy Faculty and Areas of Expertise

Laurie Nsiah-Jefferson (CWPPP Interim Director, Professor, and GLPP Graduate Program Director)
PhD, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University
Intersectionality • Social and Health Policy • Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Emily Hardt (Lecturer) PhD, Comparative Politics and International Relations, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Contemporary Social Movements • Gender, Race, and Class • New Economy Movement Thinking

Christa M. Kelleher (CWPPP Policy and Research Director and Senior Lecturer) PhD, Sociology, Brandeis University
Women's Political Representation and Leadership • Public Policy Development and Analysis • State and Local Government

Elena Stone (Lecturer) PhD, Sociology, Brandeis University
Intersectional Women's Leadership • Human Rights • Arts, Culture, and Social Change

Tracy Wallach (Senior Lecturer) PhD, Lesley University
Group and Organizational Behavior • Organizational Development • Gender and Leadership

MORE INFORMATION:

Financial aid is available; Merit and need-based scholarships offered through the Betty Taymor Fund for the Education of Women in Government and the Polly Logan Fellowship Fund.

Admission requirements BA/BS degree, two letters of recommendation, a personal interview, a two-part essay discussing student's interest in graduate school and reflecting on academic and professional goals.

Graduation requirements: minimum 3.0 GPA; completion of 18 credits including 12 credits in coursework and 6 credits for the internship.