Enrolling in Electives for MSSP Students

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Electives can be a remarkable way to enhance and enrich your academic experience. Many students use electives as an opportunity to explore and gain further expertise in a specific area of policy that is of interest to them. Others use electives to gain further skills in an area that could supplement their short- and long-term career goals in social policy. You can and should work with your academic advisor to explore and discuss your interests and potential opportunities.

How to Request Permission for Non-SP2 Elective Courses

Students must request academic advisor permission for any non-SP2 elective courses.

1. Once you have chosen an elective course you would like to take, please email your academic advisor the following information:
   - Name/Penn ID
   - Course Number, Course Name, and Course Description
   - Why have you selected this course and how will it benefit, inform, and increase your policy knowledge and/or skills towards your short- and long-term career goals?
   - *Please note not all requests will be approved.*
2. Once you are given permission, your academic advisor will make note of the approval in your student file.
3. If the elective course requires submission of a permit on Path@Penn, follow this guide to submit a permit.

Guidelines for Selecting Elective Courses

- All elective courses **must** be taken at the 5000-level or above.
- Students can take elective courses at SP2, including additional MSSP coursework or coursework in the Masters of Social Work program (Course Code: SWRK) and the Masters of Science in Non-Profit Leadership program (Course Code: NPLD). SP2 also offers school-wide courses available to all SP2 students regardless of program (Course Code: SSPP). *All courses offered at SP2 are approved elective courses.*
- Prior to registration, you must request permission from your academic advisor to enroll in an elective course outside of SP2 (see process detailed above).
- Courses outside of the MSSP program may require the department or the instructor's permission to join. *NOTE: your academic advisor's approval to take a course does not mean you have permission from the host department to take the course.*
- Courses outside of SP2 may follow a specific registration process. It is recommended that you carefully read the section details and registration restrictions and/or contact the department directly for directions on how to register.
- Should you be unable to enroll in an elective course right away, it is recommended that students choose an SP2 course as a back-up option until your permission request is approved and processed by the external department. If your permit request from another department is not approved by the first day of classes, we recommend choosing another course.

- Do not wait until the add/drop deadline to choose elective courses. Your academic advisor requires at least 3 business days to review and approve your elective coursework. Additionally, students should aim to have their schedule finalized by two weeks prior to the start of the term and their elective course options finalized no later than the first day of classes.
- Not all courses are offered every semester. Search in Path@Penn to see what courses are offered each term.

Exploring your Elective Options
Consider the following as you explore elective options:
- What were your motivations for pursuing a M.S. in Social Policy?
- What are your short- and long-term career goals?
- What skills and knowledge base do you hope to graduate with?
- Is there a specific area of social policy you would like to specialize in (i.e. health, housing, education, immigration, climate change, etc.)?
- How can elective coursework add to your core MSSP or MSSP+DA curriculum?

Browse the University Catalog and use Path@Penn's search function to search for courses by keyword, subject area, and/or times of day, and to research which courses are offered during which term. Below is a list of relevant departments and course codes that we recommend students explore:

Africana Studies (AFRC)
Anthropology (ANTH)
Business & Public Policy (BEPP)
City Planning (CPLN)
Communications (COMM)
Computer and Information Technology (CIT)
Computer and Information Science (CIS)
Criminology (CRIM)
Education (EDUC)
Environmental Studies (ENVS)
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GSWS)
Government Administration (GAFL)

Health Care Management (HCMG)
Health Policy Research (HPR)
Healthcare Innovation (HCIN)
International Studies (INTS)
Law / Master in Law (LAW / LAWM)
Urban Spatial Analytics (MUSA)
Nursing (NURS)
Organizational Dynamics (DYNM)
Political Science (PSCI)
Public Health (PUBH)
Sociology (SOCI)
Urban Studies (URBS)

On the next page, please find a list of previously approved electives for your reference.

Previously Approved Electives Outside of SP2

The below table contains previously approved elective courses for MSSP & MSSP+DA students. This list is not exhaustive and should be used as a reference guide for the possible courses you may be able to take outside of SP2. Although the courses in this document have been *previously* approved, they are not *automatically* approved for current students. Each semester, students must receive permission from their academic advisor to take any course outside of SP2 as an elective. As a reminder, all courses offered at SP2 (Course Codes: MSSP, SWRK, NPLD, SSPP) are approved elective courses.

Department	Course #	Course Section Title
Africana Studies	AFRC5220	Psychology of the African-American
Africana Studies	AFRC7230	Multicultural Issues in Education
Anthropology	ANTH5470	Anthropology & Education
Anthropology	ANTH5430	Public Environmental Humanities
Anthropology	ANTH6190	Proseminar: Cultural Diversity & Global Connections
Bioethics	BIOE5610	Ethics and Policy of Science
Bioethics	BIOE6010	Proseminar: Introduction to Bioethics
Business & Public Policy	BEPP7700	Intro to Business Economics and Public Policy
Business & Public Policy	BEPP8050	Risk Management
City Planning	CPLN5010	Quantitative Planning Analysis Methods
City Planning	CPLN5030	Modeling Geographic Objects (MUSA503)
City Planning	CPLN5200	Intro to Community and Economic Development
City Planning	CPLN5310	Intro to Environmental Planning and Policy
City Planning	CPLN5510	Transport Justice
City Planning	CPLN5900	Spatial Analysis for Urb and Env Planning (MUSA507)
City Planning	CPLN5920	Public Policy Analytics
City Planning	CPLN6210	Metropolitan Food System
City Planning	CPLN6240	Race, Place and Poverty
City Planning	CPLN6250	The Politics of Housing & Urban Development
City Planning	CPLN6270	Social Impact in Practice
City Planning	CPLN6420	Downtown Development (GALF642)
City Planning	CPLN6440	Housing Policy
City Planning	CPLN6710	Spatial Statistics and Data Analysis
City Planning	CPLN6720	Geospatial Data Science in Python
Communications	COMM5060	Introduction to Media Policy
Communications	COMM5760	Communication & Public Opinion
Communications	COMM6370	Public Health Communications
Communications	COMM6730	Arts & Propaganda
Communications	COMM7010	Introduction to the Political Economy of Media
Communications	COMM7170	Communications and Development
Communications	COMM8470	Development Communication and Social Change
Communications	COMM8580	CHANGE: Networks and Policy

Computer and Inform Tech	CIT5900	Programming Language and Techniques
Computer and Inform Sci	CIS5190	Applied Machine Learning
Computer and Inform Sci	CIS5450	Big Data Analytics
Computer and Inform Sci	CIS5500	Database and Information Systems
Criminology	CRIM6010	Proseminar in Criminal Justice
Criminology	CRIM6010	Evidence-Based Crime Prevention
Design	DSGN6360	Art, Design and Digital Culture
Education	EDUC5030	Global Citizenship
Education	EDUC5050	Globalization and the University
Education	EDUC5110	Ed and Culture Wars: Hist & Contemp Perspectives
Education	EDUC5120	University-Community Partnerships
Education	EDUC5140	Education in Developing Countries
Education	EDUC5290	Systems Thinking for Intn'l Develop & Ed Change
Education	EDUC5340	Diversity & Social Justice in American K-12 Ed
Education	EDUC5410	Access & Choice in American Higher Education
Education	EDUC5440	School & Society in America
Education	EDUC5450	Politics and Education
Education	EDUC5460	Sociolinguistics of Education
Education	EDUC5470	Anthropology & Education
Education	EDUC5480	American Education Reform: History, Policy, & Practice
Education	EDUC5560	Higher Education Finance
Education	EDUC5600	Human Development
Education	EDUC5710	Collaboration & Conflict
Education	EDUC5970	Policy Planning in Intn'l Ed Develop: Theory & Practice
Education	EDUC6010	Economic Aspects of Educational Policy
Education	EDUC6140	Child Development and Social Policy
Education	EDUC6230	Big Data, Education, and Society
Education	EDUC6280	Education Finance Policy
Education	EDUC6400	History of American Higher Education
Education	EDUC6420	School, Society & Self
Education	EDUC6450	Issues in Ed and Health: Disparities & Prevention
Education	EDUC6460	Contextualizing the School to Prison Pipeline: Implications of History, Policy, Race
Education	EDUC6670	Introductory Statistics for Educational Research
Education	EDUC6730	Curriculum & Pedagogy in International Contexts
Education	EDUC6770	Info & Communications Tech. for Education Development in Global Perspective
Education	EDUC6820	Qualitative Modes of Inquiry
Education	EDUC6830	Survey Methods & Design
Education	EDUC6980	Politics of School Reform
Education	EDUC7020	Conceptual Models in Education Administration
Education	EDUC7030	Advanced Qualitative and Case Study Research

Education	EDUC7120	Comprehensive School Reform: From 'No Child Left Behind' through 'Race to the Top' to 'Every Student…
Education	EDUC7160	Public Policy Issues in Higher Education
Education	EDUC7230	Multicultural Issues in Education
Education	EDUC7650	Intro to Causal Inference for Educational Research
Education	EDUC7680	Measurement Theory & Text Construction
Education	EDUC7710	Factor Analysis & Scale Development
Education	EDUC8800	Complex, Multilevel & Longitudinal Res. Models
Environmental Studies	ENVS6810	Modeling Geographical Space
Finance	FNCE6110	Corporate Finance
Finance	FNCE6130	Macroeconomics & the Global Economic Environment
Gender, Sex., Women St	GSWS5160	Public Interest Workshop
Gender, Sex., Women St	GSWS5320	Gender, Labor Force & Markets
Gender, Sex., Women St	GSWS5550	Women and Incarceration
Gender, Sex., Women St	GSWS5880	The Politics of Women's Health Care
Gov't Administration	GAFL5150	Public Finance Leadership in the New Fiscal Reality
Gov't Administration	GAFL5170	Quantitative Tools for Consulting
Gov't Administration	GAFL5200	Marketing & Fundraising for Non-Profit Organizations
Gov't Administration	GAFL5280	Critical Issues in Public Finance
Gov't Administration	GAFL5020	Public Communications
Gov't Administration	GAFL5310	Data Science for Public Policy
Gov't Administration	GAFL5320	Urban Government in Action (Big City Politics: How to Pass Municipal Legislation)
Gov't Administration	GAFL5380	Human Rights, Access to Justice, and Public Policy
Gov't Administration	GAFL5420	Downtown Development
Gov't Administration	GAFL5490	Leading Nonprofits
Gov't Administration	GALF5510	Government Relations: Lobbying
Gov't Administration	GAFL5690	The Politics of Housing and Urban Development
Gov't Administration	GAFL5710	Children and Law Seminar
Gov't Administration	GAFL6310	Policy Making & Public Institutions
Gov't Administration	GAFL6400	Program Evaluations and Data Analysis
Gov't Administration	GAFL6510	Public Finance and Public Policy
Gov't Administration	GAFL7320	Public Management
Health Care Mgment	HCMG8590	Comparative Health Care Systems
Health Policy Research	HPR6060	Fundamentals of Health Policy
Health Policy Research	HPR6100	Achieving Evidence-Based Health Policy
History	HIS5600	Melting Pots, Mosaics &Walls: Immigration & Dvrsty
Healthcare Innovation	HCIN6020	Behavioral Economics and Decision Making
Healthcare Innovation	HCIN6040	Health Economics
Healthcare Innovation	HCIN6040	Health Ins. & Benefits Dsgn & Health Law Fund.

Healthcare Innovation	HCIN6120	Driving Value in Health Care & Ethics in Health Care Innovation and Research
International Studies	INTS5120	Global Issues, Politics, and Institutions
Master in Law	LAWM5050	American Constitutional Law
Master in Law	LAWM5110	US Law and Legal Methods
Master in Law	LAWM5150	Contracts and Negotiations
Master in Law	LAWM5220	Corporate Compliance
Master in Law	LAWM5280	General Business Law
Master in Law	LAWM5290	Navigating the Regulatory State
Latin Am. & Latino Studies	LALS5260	Trans Justice in Latin America
Legal Studies & Bus. Ethics	LGST6430	Other Ppl's Money: Law, Politics, & Hist of Fin. Insts.
Urban Spatial Analytics	MUSA5030	Modeling Geographical Objects (CPLN 5030)
Urban Spatial Analytics	MUSA5070	Spatial Analysis for Urban & Environ Planning
Urban Spatial Analytics	MUSA5080	Public Policy Analytics
Urban Spatial Analytics	MUSA5500	Geospatial Data Science in Python
Urban Spatial Analytics	MUSA6200	Data Wrangling and Visualization
Management	MGMT7990	Epidemics, Nat Disasters, & Geopolitics: Managing Global Business/Financial Uncertainty
Nursing	NURS5310	Forensic Mental Health
Nursing	NURS5400	Current Issues in Health and Social Policy
Nursing	NURS5550	Women and Incarceration
Nursing	NURS5700	Intro to Public Health
Nursing	NURS6400	Global Health Policy and Delivery
Nursing	NURS6440	Health Care in an Aging Society
Nursing	NURS7080	Public Policy Leadership in the American Public/Private System of Health Care
Nursing	NURS7490	History, Health, and Social Policy
Operations Info. Decisions	OIDD6120	Business Analytics
Organizational Dynamics	DYNM5010	Perspectives on Organizational Dynamics
Organizational Dynamics	DYNM6070	Psychodynamics of Organizations
Organizational Dynamics	DYNM6350	Organizational Essentials for Leadership
Organizational Dynamics	DYNM6560	New Normal: Racial & Ethnic Diversity in the 21st Century Workplace
Organizational Dynamics	DYNM6660	Systems and Design Thinking
Organizational Dynamics	DYNM6890	Balance of Power in the Global New Normal
Political Science	PSCI5140	Political Economy of East Asia
Political Science	PSCI6550	Democracy in Comparative Perspective
Political Science	PSCI5000	Foundations of Public Health

Political Science	PSCI5580	Human Rights
Political Science	PSCI5980	Decolonization
Public Health	PUBH5040	Public Health Theories and Frameworks
Public Health	PUBH5050	Public Health Policy and Administration
Public Health	PUBH5070	Public Health, Law and Ethics
Public Health	PUBH5170	Intro to Epidemiologic Study of Geography and Health
Public Health	PUBH5250	Dev Effect Pub Health Prgms Using Hum Rgts Apprch
Public Health	PUBH5510	Global Health Policy and Delivery
Public Health	PUBH5530	Science and Politics of Food
Public Health	PUBH5650	Health Communication in the Digital Age
Public Health	PUBH5730	Substance Use as a Public Health Issue
Real Estate	REAL7050	Global Real Estate: Risk, Politics and Culture
Sociology	SOCI5410	Gender, Labor Force and Labor Markets
Sociology	SOCI5440	Sociology of Climate Emergency
Sociology	SOCI5530	Field Methods in Qualitative Research
Sociology	SOCI5630	Mechanisms for Perpetuating or Reducing Inequality by Class, Race and Gender
Sociology	SOCI5960	Sociology of Education
Sociology	SOCI6050	Data Analytics in R
Sociology	SOCI6430	Social Stratification
South Asia Studies	SAST6110	Sex, Sexuality and Sexual Science in South Asia: Perspectives from the Past and Present
Statistics	STAT5200	Applied Econometrics
Statistics	STAT5200	Applied Regression and Analysis of Variance
Urban Studies	URBS5160	Public Interest Workshop
Urban Studies	URBS5300	GIS Applications in Social Science
Urban Studies	URBS7140	Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation for Planning