

**UNIVERSITY SENATE**

**UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

Introduced by: Undergraduate Academic Council & Graduate Academic Council

Date: March 2007

**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A COMBINED BACHELORS/MASTERS  
PROGRAM  
B.A. HISTORY / M.A. PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY**

IT IS HEREBY PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING BE ADOPTED:

1. That the University Senate approves the attached Proposal as recommended by the Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Councils.
2. That this proposal be forwarded to the President for approval.

**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A COMBINED DEGREE INVOLVING THE BA IN HISTORY AND THE MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY**

The Department of History and the Department of Public Administration and Policy are proposing a new combined degree program joining the undergraduate major (BA) in History with the Master of Arts (MA) in Public Affairs and Policy in the Department of Public Administration and Policy. This program will allow a student to earn a BA in History and the M.A. in Public Affairs and Policy in approximately one less semester than would otherwise be required.

The proposed program would join a growing list of programs that combine UAlbany undergraduate degrees with Rockefeller College master's degrees. Combined B.A. or B.S./MPA programs already exist for majors in Economics, Sociology, and Political Science. Combined B.A./M.A. in Public Affairs and Policy exist with Political Science and Public Policy; a proposed combined program with Sociology is under campus review.

For the Department of History, the rationale for the combined degree program is that by establishing such a program the Department will better serve its majors and meet student needs, allowing its students the same options as those in departments where combined degree programs already exist. A joint program would also complement the department's focus on public policy history. Moreover, the proposed joint program will complement the existing dual program leading to an MA History/MA Public Affairs and Policy

In order to complete the combined degree program, students would need to meet all the requirements for the BA in History, including all major requirements, the minimum liberal arts and science graduation credit requirement, the residency requirement, and the General Education requirement. Students would need to meet all the requirements for the MA in Public Affairs and Policy. Students could take up to 12 graduate credits during the senior year that would be applied toward both the credits required for the BA in History and the 45 credits required for the MA in Public Affairs and Policy. Applicants to the program would need to have a 3.2 GPA and, as in the case of the other combined M.A. programs and the combined MPA programs, the GRE would be waived.

APPROVED BY THE PUBLIC POLICY FACULTY

\_\_\_\_\_ DIRECTOR \_\_\_\_\_ DATE  
Jeryl L. Mumpower

APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY

\_\_\_\_\_ CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_ DATE  
George P. Richardson

APPROVED BY ROCKEFELLER COLLEGE

\_\_\_\_\_ DEAN \_\_\_\_\_ DATE  
Jeffrey D. Straussman

APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

\_\_\_\_\_ CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_ DATE  
Iris Berger

APPROVED BY THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

\_\_\_\_\_ DEAN \_\_\_\_\_ DATE  
Joan Wick-Pelletier



**COMBINED PROGRAM WITH THE B.A. IN HISTORY  
AND THE MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY**

**1. Program Title and suggested HEGIS code for the multi-award program**

Program Title: BA History/MA Public Affairs and Policy  
Suggested HEGIS code: 2205/2102

**2. Titles and SED program code numbers of the currently registered programs to be combined:**

Program Title 1: BA History  
SED Prog. CODE: 03062

Program Title 2: MA Public Affairs and Policy  
SED Prog. CODE: 03040

**3. Clear Tabular Display of the Separate Existing Programs Juxtaposed with the Combined Program:**

The relationship between the existing programs and the proposed combined program is displayed in the Table 1:

**Table 1. Relationship between the existing programs and the proposed B.A. History/M.A. Public Affairs and Policy**

<b>BA IN HISTORY</b>	<b>MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>	<b>COMBINED BA IN HISTORY AND MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>
<i>General Bachelor of Arts Requirements:</i>		<i>General Bachelor of Arts Requirements</i>
A minimum of 120 credits		A minimum of 120 credits
At least 90 credits in the liberal arts and sciences		At least 90 credits in the liberal arts and sciences. (Up to 12 credits from three graduate courses from the Public Policy curriculum may be applied toward satisfying this requirement.)
Completion of the general education requirements. [Specific general education requirements are determined by the student's matriculation date and basis		Completion of the general education requirements. [Specific general education requirements are determined by the student's matriculation date and basis

<b>BA IN HISTORY</b>	<b>MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>	<b>COMBINED BA IN HISTORY AND MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>
of admission to the University as described in the General Education section of the UAlbany Undergraduate Bulletin]		of admission to the University as described in the General Education section of the UAlbany Undergraduate Bulletin]
The completion of a writing requirement whereby students must satisfactorily complete with grades of C or higher [for students matriculating Fall 1997 or thereafter; otherwise C- or higher], or S, two writing intensive courses, including at least one at or above the 300 level (courses meeting this requirement as identified in the course description)		The completion of a writing requirement whereby students must satisfactorily complete with grades of C or higher [for students matriculating Fall 1997 or thereafter; otherwise C- or higher], or S, two writing intensive courses, including at least one at or above the 300 level (courses meeting this requirement as identified in the course description)
30–36 credits in a major that has been registered with the education department of the state of New York		30–36 credits in a major that has been registered with the education department of the state of New York
The completion of a minor consisting of 18–24 graduation credits which must include a minimum of 9 graduation credits in course work requiring one or more prerequisite courses or courses at or above the 300 level. The minor requirements may be combined with the major requirements but the total may not exceed 60 graduation credits.		The completion of a minor consisting of 18–24 graduation credits which must include a minimum of 9 graduation credits in course work requiring one or more prerequisite courses or courses at or above the 300 level. The minor requirements may be combined with the major requirements but the total may not exceed 60 graduation credits. (Up to 12 credits from three graduate courses from the Public Policy curriculum may be applied toward satisfying this requirement.)
<i>Program Requirement for the</i>		<i>Program Requirement for the</i>

<b>BA IN HISTORY</b>	<b>MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>	<b>COMBINED BA IN HISTORY AND MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>
<i>Bachelor of Arts in History</i>		<i>Bachelor of Arts in History</i>
36 credits in History, while fulfilling a concentration in one of the following fields --		36 credits in History, while fulfilling a concentration in one of the following fields -- (Up to 12 credits from three graduate courses from the Public Policy curriculum may be applied toward satisfying this requirement.)
Europe: 18 credits of coursework must be at or above the 300 level in European history, while 6 credits must be at or above the 300 level in a field outside the European concentration. The remaining 12 credits are electives.		Europe: 18 credits of coursework must be at or above the 300 level in European history, while 6 credits must be at or above the 300 level in a field outside the European concentration. The remaining 12 credits are electives.
United States: 18 credits of coursework must be at or above the 300 level in United States history, while 6 credits must be at or above the 300 level in a field outside the U.S. concentration. The remaining 12 credits are electives.		United States: 18 credits of coursework must be at or above the 300 level in United States history, while 6 credits must be at or above the 300 level in a field outside the U.S. concentration. The remaining 12 credits are electives.
World: 24 credits of coursework must be at or above the 300 level in any geographic field(s), with the following restriction: a maximum of 9 credits is allowed from the Europe and U.S. fields combined. (A His 286 and A His 287 may be counted for upper-level credit in the World History concentration.) The remaining 12 credits are electives.		World: 24 credits of coursework must be at or above the 300 level in any geographic field(s), with the following restriction: a maximum of 9 credits is allowed from the Europe and U.S. fields combined. (A His 286 and A His 287 may be counted for upper-level credit in the World History concentration.) The remaining 12 credits are electives.
Any history course can be		Any history course can be

<b>BA IN HISTORY</b>	<b>MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>	<b>COMBINED BA IN HISTORY AND MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>
used to fulfill the “elective” requirement—100, 200, and 300-level courses in any geographic area are all potential electives.		used to fulfill the “elective” requirement—100, 200, and 300-level courses in any geographic area are all potential electives.
	44 graduate credits minimum	44 graduate credits minimum
	PUB 504 Data, Models, and Decisions I (4)	PUB 504 Data, Models, and Decisions I (4)
	PUB 505 Data, Models, and Decisions II (4)	PUB 505 Data, Models, and Decisions II (4)
	PUB 506 Implementation and Impact (4)	PUB 506 Implementation and Impact (4)
	PUB 522 Politics and Policy (4)	PUB 522 Politics and Policy (4)
	PUB 503 Public Economics and Finance I (4)	PUB 503 Public Economics and Finance I (4)
	PUB 514 Economic Analysis for Public Affairs II (4)	PUB 514 Economic Analysis for Public Affairs II (4)
	PUB 507 Professional Applications (2)	PUB 507 Professional Applications (2)
	PUB 508 Current Research Topics in Public Policy (2)	PUB 508 Current Research Topics in Public Policy (2)
	PUB 529 Law and Policy (4) OR PUB 502 Philosophical and Ethical Issues in Public Policy (3)	PUB 529 Law and Policy (4) OR PUB 502 Philosophical and Ethical Issues in Public Policy (3)
	A minimum of three courses in a Public Policy Field (3-4 credits)	A minimum of three courses in a Public Policy Field (3-4 credits). With approval by the advisor, graduate courses from History may be used to satisfy this requirement. These include but are not limited to His 501 Introduction to Public History (3) His 507 History and Public Policy (4) His 515 Topics in Economic History (4) His 630 Readings in Public Policy (4)

<b>BA IN HISTORY</b>	<b>MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>	<b>COMBINED BA IN HISTORY AND MA IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLICY</b>
	PUB 698 Master's Essay (4)	PUB 698 Master's Essay (4)
	Internship (non-credit)	Internship (non-credit)

#### 4. General Requirements for Program Completion:

The key elements of the proposed new program are as follows:

- a. Students must meet the requirements for the undergraduate major in History and all of the requirements for the M.A. degree.
- b. In qualifying for the undergraduate degree in History, students must meet all the University and College requirements for the BA major in History. These include a minor requirement, the minimum liberal arts and sciences graduation credit requirement, the residency requirement and the general education requirements, as detailed in the above table.
- c. In qualifying for the M.A. degree, students must meet all University and College requirements as outlined in the Graduate Bulletin, including completion of the minimum 44 graduate credit requirement, core and specialty courses, the internship experience, and master's essay, as detailed in the above table.
- d. A maximum of twelve graduate credits may count toward the credit hour requirements of both the B.A. and the MA. These may be either (a) graduate courses in History that count both as electives toward the undergraduate major for a BA in History and as courses satisfying the Policy Specialty requirement for the MA in Public Affairs and Policy or (b) graduate courses in Public Policy that count both as required courses or courses satisfying the Policy Specialty requirement for the MA in Public Affairs and Policy and as courses counting toward satisfying the requirement for upper level or open electives or the minor for the BA.
- e. A list of graduate courses that might count toward the credit hour requirements for both the B.A. and the M.A. include but are not limited to the following:

**From History** (potentially counting toward both the B.A. upper level or open electives and the M.A. specialty courses):  
His 501 Introduction to Public History (3)  
His 507 History and Public Policy (4)  
His 515 Topics in Economic History (4)  
His 540 Black Women in U.S. History (4)  
His 543 Topics in Asian History (4)  
His 544 Topics in Middle East History (4)  
His 551 Gender and Class in Latin American Development (3)  
His 590 Quantitative Methods in History (4)  
His 593 History of Women in Modern Society (4)  
Others, as approved by both BA and MA advisors

**From Public Administration and Policy** (potentially counting toward both M.A. core or specialty courses and the general B.A. electives):  
PUB 504 – Data, Decisions, and Models I  
PUB 505 – Data, Decisions, and Models II  
PUB 506 – Implementation and Impact



PUB 509 – Citizen Participation and Public Policy  
PUB 510 – Minorities and the Politico-Legal System  
Others, as approved by both BA and MA advisors

**Courses from the Student's Undergraduate Minor or Electives**

## **5. Specific Program Requirements:**

- a. Describe limitations imposed on admission to restrict to students with exceptional academic records; include admission requirements and administrative process for making admissions decisions.**

Students may be admitted to a combined degree program at the beginning of their junior year and after successful completion of 56 credits. A GPA of 3.2 or higher, three supportive letters of recommendation, and a written personal statement and supporting information are required. The GRE examination will not be required for BA/MA applicants.

The Master's Admission Committee of the Department of Public Administration and Policy reviews all applications individually.

- b. List all required courses, indicating whether graduate or undergraduate, how many credits, and when and how often offered.**

All required undergraduate and graduate courses are identified in Table 1. All required courses are typically offered at least once annually. Most required undergraduate courses and core graduate courses are offered every semester.

- c. Indicate the number of undergraduate (if applicable) and graduate elective credits required.**

The requirements for the B.A. in History include a minimum of 120 credit hours; at least 36 credits in History are required in accordance with the policies described in Table 1. A minimum of 44 credit hours is required for the M.A. in Public Affairs and Policy; a minimum of 35 credit hours will be from required courses.

- d. Indicate the number of semesters of full-time study required for program completion at the undergraduate (if applicable) and graduate levels.**

In the combined program, the requirements for both the undergraduate and graduate degrees can typically be satisfied in slightly more than 11 semesters of full-time study (defined as 15 credit hours for undergraduates and 12 credit hours for graduates). Of these, approximately seven semesters will be required for undergraduate course work. Approximately four semesters will be required for graduate course work.

- e. State all other program requirements such as thesis, comprehensive examination, field experience, project, and residence.**

The full requirements are detailed in Table 1; they include a special project culminating in a master's essay (PUB 698), plus an internship.

**f. Describe the means by which program quality is assured given the time-shortened aspect of the program.**

Program quality is assured because at the graduate level all requirements for the degree are maintained, while at the undergraduate level more advanced graduate-level work is substituted for undergraduate coursework.