CIVICS, PUBLIC POLICY AND EQUITY UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Introduction

This certificate is designed to help students from any disciplinary major develop competencies and skills regarding United States civics from diverse perspectives. The certificate provides students with many course options to complete introductory and advanced coursework tailored to their individual interests. Student demand for such a certificate will likely come from students who major in the social sciences, but also from students who have an interest in completing coursework in American civics, public policy, and equity from other disciplines. This certificate promotes civic engagement and participation in the political process.

Students will engage in the following focus areas:

Historical and Legal Context

Courses completed in this area facilitate the development of knowledge and skills related to the American founding, the United States Constitution, American political development, political actors and institutions, constitutional law and the legal system, and the rights and duties of citizenship, among others. Learning objectives for these courses vary depending on the department offering the course selections and the specific courses selected, but students should generally develop broad knowledge of historical and contemporary aspects of American political institutions and civic engagement. While many of these courses employ historical and/or legal approaches to the study of civics, additional or alternative approaches may also be utilized, such as analytical lenses that are theoretical or applied in nature. Courses typically emphasize critical thinking and written communication skills and may also involve independent or collaborative original research projects or experiential learning beyond the classroom.

Public Policy

Courses completed in this area facilitate the development of knowledge and skills pertaining to the formulation, analysis, and critique of public policy. Courses included in this category examine public policy from diverse perspectives using numerous methodological approaches. Individual courses may engage in the study of the primary actors, entrepreneurs, and institutions that formulate public policy, examine policy from a public administration perspective, and/or provide a focused analysis of policy within the context of a specific issue area, among others. Learning objectives for these courses vary depending on the department offering the course selections, but students should generally expect to engage in an immersive study of public policy as outlined in each course description.

Equity

Courses completed in this area facilitate the development of knowledge and skills regarding equity in politics and society. Topics of study may include social movements, social justice, political reforms related to protected classes, criminal justice reform, societal inequalities, public goods, and responsible citizenship, among others. Courses may have a historical, contemporary, and/or futuristic focus and may approach the study of equity from theoretical, analytical, practical, critical, or aspirational perspectives, among others. Learning objectives for these courses vary depending on the department offering the course selections, but students should generally develop competencies in their particular area of study with each course addressing political or social equity in some meaningful capacity.

Program Delivery

- This is an on-campus program.

Declaring This Certificate

Students interested in completing this certificate should complete this form: CLAS Undergraduate Certificate Intent to Declare Form (https://ucdenver.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2hNYIHqVx0Ta0Dk), which requests that the certificate be added to your student record. Once added, you will be able to run a certificate degree audit. The certificate degree audit should be used in collaboration with the Certificate Advisor to ensure successful completion of the requirements.

Students should then work with Margaret Woodhull (margaret.woodhull@ucdenver.edu) – the certificate advisor, to ensure completion of all certificate requirements.

Completing This Certificate

Students must also complete the CLAS Undergraduate Certificate Completion Verification Form, (https://ucdenver.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eyPLZI6vVh0wG8K) before graduation, in order to confirm completion of their certificate. The certificate advisor will confirm that your certificate has been successfully completed, and will work with campus partners to apply the certificate to your transcript.

Students must fill out the Certificate Completion Form before the deadlines below, to ensure the certificate is applied to your transcript correctly. If you are a non-degree seeking student, please fill out this form in the term in which you intend to complete your certificate.

Spring semester – **April 1**
Summer semester – **July 1**
Fall semester – **November 1**

These program requirements are subject to periodic revision by the academic department, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences reserves the right to make exceptions and substitutions as judged necessary in individual cases. Therefore, the College strongly urges students to consult regularly with their Civics, Public Policy and Equity advisor to confirm the best plans of study before finalizing them.

General Requirements

Students must satisfy all requirements as outlined below and by the department offering the certificate.

- Click here (https://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/) for information about Academic Policies

Certificate Requirements

1. Students must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours, from approved coursework
2. Students must complete a minimum of six upper division (3000-level and above) credit hours, from approved coursework.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of C (2.0) in all courses that apply to the certificate and must achieve a minimum cumulative GPA

of 2.0. Courses taken using P+/P/F or S/U grading cannot apply to certificate requirements.

4. Students must complete all credit hours applying to the certificate with CU Denver faculty.

Certificate Restrictions, Allowances and Recommendations

1. Students must complete the specified number of courses from the designated certificate focus areas. Exceptions to the focus area distribution requirements are not permitted.
2. Courses completed in pursuance of the certificate may also count toward CU Denver major or minor requirements, however each course may count for a maximum of two graduation requirements.

Code	Title	Hours
Complete two of the following Historical and Legal Context courses:		**6**
HIST 1361	U.S. History to 1876	
HIST 1362	U.S. History Since 1876	
HIST 1400	Controversies in History	
HIST 3230	The American Presidency	
HIST 4494	Red and Blue America: U.S. History, 1973-Present	
HUMN/SSCI 4251	Introduction to Legal Studies	
HUMN/SSCI 4325	First Amendment: Theory and Context	
PHIL 4260	Why Obey the Law? Introduction to Philosophy of Law	
PSCI 1101	American Political System	
PSCI 4024	State Politics: Focus Colorado	
PSCI 4044	The Presidency	
PSCI 4477	Constitutional Law I	
PSCI 4487	Constitutional Law II	
PSCI 4494	Judicial Politics	
PSCI 4837	Contemporary Issues in Civil Liberties	
SOCY 4740	Courts & Society	
Complete one of the following Policy courses:		**3**
COMM 4680	Mass Media Law And Policy	
CRJU 4121	Ethics in Criminal Justice	
CRJU 4430	Law and Society	
CRJU 4440	Courts and Social Policy	
GEOG 4420	The Politics of Nature	
GEOG 4440	Science, Policy and the Environment	
PHIL 3200	Justice, Freedom, and Power: Social and Political Philosophy	
PHIL 3430	How to think green: Environmental Ethics	
PHIL 4242	Medicine, Health Care, and Justice: Bioethics	
PSCI 3034	Race, Gender, Law and Public Policy [1]	
PSCI 4009	Politics of the Budgetary Process	
PSCI 4034	Political Parties and Pressure Groups	
PSCI 4354	Environmental Politics	
PSCI 4545	Immigration Politics	
PUAD 3002	Organizational and Strategic Management	
PUAD 3005	Collaboration Across Sectors	
PUAD 4740	Sustainable Energy Policy	
SOCY 4700	Sociology of Law	
Complete one of the following Equity courses:		**3**
COMM 2020	Communication, Citizenship, and Social Justice	
COMM 4040	Communication, Prisons, and Social Justice	
CRJU 4120	Race, Class, and Justice	
CRJU 4130	Poverty, Crime, and Justice	
ECON 3100	Economics of Race and Gender	
EDFN 1000	Equality, Rights & Education	
ETST/PBHL 3002	Ethnicity, Health and Social Justice	
HDFR 4260	Family Systems and Social Justice	
HDFR 4500	Diversity, Inclusion, Social Justice in Higher Education	
HIST 3349	Social Movements in 20th Century America	
HIST 4308	Crime, Policing, and Justice in American History	
PHIL 3500	Ideology and Culture: Racism and Sexism	
PHIL/WGST 4500	Feminist Philosophy	
PMUS 3100	US Music: Social & Political Impact	
PSCI 1001	Introduction to Political Science: The Quest for Freedom and Justice	
PSCI 3034	Race, Gender, Law and Public Policy [1]	
PSCI 3035	Political Movements: Race and Gender	
PSCI 3064	Power and Empowerment in the United States	
PSCI 3914	The Urban Citizen	
PSCI 4207	Theories of Social and Political Change	
PSCI 4427	Law, Politics and Justice	
PSCI/WGST 4564	Gender and Politics	
PUAD 4002	Leading and Engaging for the Public Good	
PUAD 4145	Philanthropy	
SJUS 2000	Foundations in Social Justice	
SJUS 4050	Special Topics: Social Justice	
SOCY 2001	Inequalities in Social World	
SOCY 3020	Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.	
SOCY/ETST 4020	Race, Culture and Immigration	
SOCY 4050	Health Disparities	
SOCY 4440	Poverty and Social Inequality	
Total Hours		**12**

[1] PSCI 3034 Race, Gender, Law and Public Policy can apply toward the Policy or Equity requirement.

Upon completion of this program, students will:

• develop critical thinking and written communication skills

• explain and analyze historical and contemporary aspects of American political institutions and civic engagement

• describe and examine the formulation, analysis, and critique of public policy

• discuss and evaluate how equity/inequity operates in politics and society