Program Change Request

New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: 09/17/21 10:23 am

Viewing: : **Science Policy Graduate Certificate**

Last edit: 09/17/21 10:46 am

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Rationale for

In Workflow

1. **SC Program Chair**
2. **SC Curriculum Committee**
3. SC Associate Dean
4. SC CAT Editor
5. Assoc Provost-Graduate
6. SACSCOC New Program Approval
7. SCHEV New Program Approval
8. Registrar: Activate Code
9. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

1. 09/17/21 10:46 am Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz): Approved for SC Program Chair

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

Yes

Requestor:

Name	Extension	Email
Lee Solomon	6418	lsolomo

Effective Catalog: 2022-2023

Program Level: Graduate

Program Type: Certificate

Degree Type: Graduate Certificate

Title: Science Policy Graduate Certificate

Banner Title: Science Policy

Is this a retitling of an existing   No

program?

Existing Program

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Status   Pending Approval

Registrar's Office Use Only – Program Start Term

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Letter

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SACSCOC Status

Concentration(s):

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Concentration CIP Code

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: College of Science

Jointly Owned Program?   No

Participating
Participating

Justification

The purpose of the Graduate Certificate in Science Policy is to bridge the fields of public policy and scientific study to improve the creation and implementation of federal policies related to scientific research, and governmental functions that oversee the research. Science students bring a wealth of technical knowledge, but are not fluent in the language and implementation of federal policies. Policy students have knowledge of government operations, but do not have the technical knowledge needed to properly interpret scientific data and implement science-based legislation. Students will learn how scientific research is guided by the government through policy-based considerations such as funding. Students will learn how research is prioritized and overseen by federal agencies. Students will learn to use scientific analytical skills to interpret polices and government functions. Students will be prepared to read and draft polices distributed and enacted by federal and state governments. Graduates will be able to serve as liaisons between the scientific and political communities to assist in policy making that is informed with scientific facts and rigor. Graduates will be able to interpret federal budgets and use that information to influence policy decisions.

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits Required:	Total credits: 17
Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code:	
Registrar/IRR Use Only – Program CIP Code	
Admission Requirements:	

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the Graduate Admissions Policies section of this catalog.

To apply for this program, please complete the George Mason University Admissions Application.

Applicants should have an undergraduate degree from an institution of higher education accredited by a Mason-recognized U.S. institutional accrediting agency or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale). No specific undergraduate degree is required.

Program-Specific Policies:

Policies

For policies governing all graduate programs, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Degree Requirements:

This certificate may be pursued on a full-or part-time basis.

Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

Core Courses

COS 510	Introduction to Science Policy	3
COS 515	Science Policy Internship Preparation	1
EVPP 529	Environmental Science Communication	3
POGO 794	Internship 1	3
Restricted Electives		7

Students select 7 credits of relevant science (COS prefix) and policy (POGO prefix) coursework at the 500 level or above. Elective coursework must be pre-approved, in writing, by the Program Director. Elective coursework must include at least one technical science course, and one policy course. Remaining elective credits may be taken from either subject area. Independent directed research and reading courses will not count toward the required credits for this certificate program.

Total Credits	17

1Students will be required to complete 120 clock hours in a federal government office for the 3 credit hour externship. Since the students are practicing new policy-based skills learned in the science policy certificate program, the externship placement cannot be in their current position of employment. Prior experience cannot be applied toward the credit hour requirement.

The externships will be coordinated by the Program Director of the certificate program. The externship performance will be evaluated by externship supervisor and the Program Director. The Program Director assessment is based on participation in the graded discussion forums, course assignments, journaling, midterm and final self-evaluations, and timesheets to verify contact hours. In addition, the externship supervisor conducts and submits to the Program Director a graded midterm supervisor and final supervisor evaluation. If a student fails the externship, then the course will be repeated in the next term to fulfill the externship requirement. If a student fails the externship a second time, they will be given a permanent failing grade in the course and will not be allowed to complete the certificate.

Retroactive Requirements Updates:

Plan of Study:

Honors Information:

Accelerated Description/Dual Degree Description:

INTO-Mason Requirements:

College Requirements & Policies:

Department /
Academic Unit
Requirements &
Policies:

Program Outcomes

Additional Program Information

This information is required by the Office of Accreditation and Program Integrity.

**Courses offered via
distance (if
applicable):**

**Indicate whether
students are able
to pursue on a:**   Both Full and Part-time basis

**What is the
primary delivery
format for the
program?**   Face-to-Face Only

Does any portion of this program occur off-campus?

Yes

Off-campus details:

The internship (3 credits) will occur off campus at a governmental agency.

Are you working with a vendor / other collaborators to offer your program?

No

Please explain:

**Related
Departments**

Department
Schar School of Policy and Government

**Could this program prepare students for any type of professional licensure, in
Virginia or elsewhere?**

No

Please explain:

Are you adding or removing a licensure component?

No

Please explain:

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

Are you changing the total number of credits required for this program?

No

Are you changing the delivery format in any way (e.g adding an online option)?

No

Are you adding/removing a licensure option which was approved by SCHEV?

No

Will any portion of this program be offered at an off-campus location?

Yes

What off-campus location(s)? List all

To be determined governmental agencies for an internship.

What percentage of credits toward this program are offered at the off-campus location(s)?
Please list percentages by site (i.e. 15% at Site A, 35% at Site B etc.)

18%

Will this program change affect any specialized accreditation?

No

Is the content of the new program closely related to that of an existing approved program?

No

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this new program considered to be "advancing the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at lower degree level, new content is at the higher degree level)?

No

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this new program considered to be "lowering the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at higher degree level, new content is at the lower degree level)?

No

Which existing approved program(s)?

Does this change represent a repackaging of content in an existing approved degree/certificate program?

No

Which existing approved program(s)?

Percentage of total credits containing new course content, excluding gen ed courses for undergraduate programs ("New content" means content that is not currently included in an existing approved degree/certificate program.) Please choose a percentage (i.e. 0%-100%)

less than 25%

Are the total credits for the program increasing or decreasing by more than 3 credits?

No

Will any additional equipment/facilites be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional faculty be required?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional financial resources be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional library/learning resources needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf
program?

Green Leaf
Sustainability-focused academic programs require at least one green leaf

Relationship to

Relationship to

List sustainability-

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

Yes

Impacted Departments

Department
Schar School of Policy & Government

Additional Attachments

SCHEV Proposal Draft Science Policy_09172021.pdf

SCHEV Proposal

Executive Summary

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

%wi_required.eschtml%

Attached

Key: 948