

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/23/24 4:23 pm

Viewing: **SC-CERG-SCPO : Science Policy Graduate Certificate**

Last approved: 06/30/22 11:14 am

Last edit: 03/01/24 9:39 am

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages Using this Program [Science Policy Graduate Certificate](#)

No Longer Accepting Students 2024-2025
Anticipated closure date (i.e., calendar year)
Rationale for

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?
 No

Effective Catalog: 2024-2025

Program Level: Graduate

Program Type: Certificate

Degree Type: Graduate Certificate

Title: Science Policy Graduate Certificate

Approval Criteria

1. What was the process used within your academic
2. Who was involved in approving the badge?
3. What evidence was used to identify need/demand
4. Please attest to the following statements regarding your badge:
 - a. Have you ensured there are no other existing badges
 - b. Has CPE confirmed the proposed badge does not
 - c. Has the instructor(s) for this badge experience been
 - d. Is there a contact hour minimum?
 - e. Is an assessment required?
 - f. Does this badge provide a benefit for current or

In Workflow

1. **SC Curriculum Committee**
2. SC Program Chair
3. SC Curriculum Committee
4. SC Assistant Dean
5. Assoc Provost-Graduate
6. SACSCOC Modification Review
7. SCHEV Modification Review
8. Registrar-Programs

History

1. Jun 30, 2022 by Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz)

5. Is this badge co-sponsored with another

a. What is the organization, program, or department

Earning Criteria

Course:

Badge:

Participant:

Pavment:

Portfolio:

Presentation:

Assessment:

Credential:

Education

Other:

Project:

Professional

Schedule/Registration:

Volunteer:

Skills Tag

Skills Tag

Badge Attributes

Please select one from each category:

Achievement Type:

Mastery Level:

Time Commitment:

Cost:

Industry Standards:

Recommendations:

Issuance information and Pricing

Pricing: See <https://cpe.amu.edu/digitalbadgespricing/> for more information.

Estimated Number of Badges Expected to be Issued:

Notes:

- All badge requests will be routed to CPE for review and approval. Please allow 7 business days for processing. A draft badge template and design will be provided
- A Mason Digital Credentials Advisory Group may be developed to review badge development on an annual basis to determine which badges are underutilized and may need to be archived. Earners for any archived badges will always retain
- To view examples of all active badges at Mason, please see: <https://www.credly.com/organizations/course-mason-university/badges>

Banner Title: CERG Science Policy

Is this a retitling of an existing program? No

Existing Program

Registrar/OAPI Use Approved

Only – SCHEV

Status

Registrar's Office Use Only – Program Start Term	Fall 2022
Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Letter	Science Policy CERG.pdf
Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SACSCOC Status	
Concentration(s):	
INTO Major(s):	
Registrar/IRR Use Only – Concentration CIP Code	
College/School:	College of Science
Department / Academic Unit:	College of Science
Jointly Owned Program?	No
Participating Colleges	
Participating Departments	
Justification	What: Referring applicants to central admissions language and removing extraneous wording. Why: To make the program more adaptable to changes in university policies.

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits Required: Total credits: 16-17

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code:
SC-CERG-SCPO

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. [International students and students having earned international degrees should also refer to Admission of International Students for additional requirements.](#)

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

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 discipline is required. ~~scale~~).

Application Requirements

To apply for this certificate, prospective students should submit ~~program, please complete~~ the George Mason University Admissions Application and its required supplemental documentation. ~~Application.~~

The GRE is not required for admission into this certificate.

~~No specific undergraduate degree is required.~~

Program-Specific
Policies:

Policies

For policies governing all graduate certificates, programs; see [AP.6 Graduate Policies](#).

Transferring Previous Graduate Credit into this Certificate

Previously earned and relevant graduate credits may be eligible for transfer into this certificate; details can be found in the Credit by Exam or Transfer section of this catalog.

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 certificate.

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
Total Credits		10

1

Students 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.

Elective Courses

Students select 6-7 credits of relevant science and policy 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. Any 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.

Students select 6-7 credits from the following: 1

6-7

Technical Science Courses

Atmospheric, Oceanic, & Earth Sciences

[CLIM 690](#) Scientific Basis of Climate Change

[GEOL 521](#) Geology of Energy Resources

Biology

[BIOL 562](#) Personalized Medicine

[BIOL 685](#) Emerging Infectious Diseases

Chemistry & Biochemistry

[CHEM 560](#) Environmental Biotechnology

Computational & Data Sciences

[CDS 502](#) Introduction to Scientific Data and Databases

Environmental Science & Policy

[EVPP 533](#) Energy Policy

[EVPP 534](#) Food-Energy-Water Nexus

[EVPP 642](#) Environmental Policy

Forensic Science & Digital Forensics

[FRSC 640](#) Legal, Privacy and Ethical Issues in Identity Analysis

[DFOR 768](#) Digital Warfare

Physics & Astronomy

[PHYS 581](#) Topics in Renewable Energy

Policy Courses

[BIOD 609](#) Biodefense Strategy

[BIOD 706](#) Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons Policy and Security

[BIOD 760](#) National Security Technology and Policy

[GOVT 753](#) Collaborative Public Management

[POGO 611](#) Advanced Data Analysis for Policy and Government

[PUBP 500](#) Theory and Practice in Public Policy

[PUBP 605](#) State and Local Government Policy and Economic Development

[PUBP 707](#) Budget Decision Making: Concepts and Practices in Economic and Financial Analyses

[PUBP 760](#) Science and Technology Policy in the 21st Century

[PUBP 820](#) Technology, Science, and Innovation: Institutions and Governance

Total Credits

6-7

1

Alternative courses can be applied with permission of the Program Director.

**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

Is the content of the new program closely related to that of an existing approved program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, doctoral)?

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)?

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)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this a re-opening of a program that was closed to admission within the last five years?

Date of Program Closure

What are the methods of delivery for the program?

Does this program include a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

Is this change a simple retitling of an existing program, with no other changes, to any existing program content, curriculum requirements, etc?

No

Does this change represent a repackaging of content in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral)?

No

Which existing approved program(s)?

Percentage of total credits containing new course content. ("New course content" is defined by SACSCOC as content that is not currently included in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level. Do not exclude gen ed credits in calculations for undergraduate programs.)

0%-24%

Does this change include the addition of a distance education or face-to-face method of delivery for this program?

No

What is the new method of delivery?

Does this change include the addition of a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

No

Will any additional equipment/facilities 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:

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? No

Green Leaf Designation

Sustainability-focused academic programs require at least one green leaf course. Either that course is itself sustainability-focused or else the program requires a set of sustainability-related courses with aggregated

Relationship to Existing Courses

Relationship to Existing Programs

List sustainability-focused courses currently required in the degree

Sustainability-related academic programs either require at least one sustainability-related course or else offer any green leaf course as an option or elective *

List sustainability-related courses currently required in the degree

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 Graduate Certificate_Oct6.pdf](#)

SCHEV Proposal Executive Summary

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

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

%wi_required.eshtml%

**Attached
Document**

[%attach_document.eshtml%](#)

Key: 948