

Public Policy Thesis Application 2018-2019

Name:	E-mail:
Banner ID:	Graduation Date:
Policy Specialization:	

Coursework Core Classes

Course Name	Course #	Complete Y or N	Semester	Grade
Intro to Public Policy	PLCY0100			
Ethics	PLCY1400			
Economics	PLCY1600, ECON1110/1130 or EDUC1130			
Statistics	POLS1600, EDUC1110, ECON1620 or SOC1100			
Program Evaluation	PLCY1200			

Please list policy electives you have completed:

Name of Course	Semester Taken	Broad/Specialization	Grade

Please list any courses outside of the concentration related to your thesis topic:

Name of Course	Semester Taken	Instructor	Grade

Please list any internships or work experience related to your research topic.

Name of Organization:	Dates:	Description of responsibilities:

Please list two Brown Faculty References (they can be the same as your thesis readers).

Name:	Department:

Please obtain signatures from two faculty advisors who agree to be first and second reader for your thesis. Your first reader should have had a chance to review your thesis prospectus.

Name:	Signature:	Date:

Initial Thesis Prospectus

Under separate cover please write an initial thesis prospectus of 1000-1500 words. This prospectus should include:

1. Tentative Thesis Title
2. Description of how you became interested in the policy area you have chosen and why it is important to you.
3. Specification of the most important policy questions or outcomes you hope your thesis will help to answer or better understand.
4. Discussion of why these policy questions or outcomes are important, and to the best of your current knowledge what the existing literature on the subject says about them.
5. Description of the methods (research design) you expect to use to investigate your topic and to answer the questions you have defined. If you expect your research design to depend heavily on quantitative analysis describe what you know about the availability of the requisite data sets. If you expect your research design will depend heavily on qualitative methods describe the type of fieldwork you expect to do, and when you expect to do it.
6. A discussion of your current suppositions (hypotheses) about the forces, factors, or processes that best answer the policy questions or the outcomes you are hoping to explain.
7. Please submit a writing sample (e.g. a seminar paper) that illustrates your best analytic work.

Please submit all application materials to Melissa Nicholaus and be prepared to rework your initial prospectus at the request of the concentration advisor.

Summer Preparation for your Senior Thesis

Once your proposal has been accepted you should:

- Submit to your concentration advisor and your 1st reader a concrete research plan for the summer.
- Apply for summer research funds if appropriate.
- Over the Summer:



- Read [Undergraduate Work Involving Human Subjects](#) on the Research at Brown website.
- Complete [Brown's education course](#) for the protection of human research participants (CITI). Submit your completed training certificate to the thesis seminar instructor in the fall.
- Read at least one of the thesis writing resources below.
 - [Charles Lipson, How to Write a Thesis,](#)
 - [A Guide to Writing a Senior Thesis in Government or A Guide to Writing a Senior Thesis in Social Studies](#)