

**Department of STS/Public Policy
Public Policy Program**

**The Public Policy Colloquium
Policies on Attendance and Credit**

REVISED 9/10/07

Purpose

As part of the Public Policy Program, students are required to participate in a non-credit-bearing colloquium that meets twice per quarter (fall, winter, and spring quarter only). The colloquium allows public policy students to interact in an intellectual, yet informal setting. The colloquium is a forum for the following:

- Faculty and students to present current research or senior/thesis projects;
- Students to discuss co-op and internship activities;
- Practitioners to discuss public policy practice and careers; and
- Special guests to make presentations about various policy topics.

Colloquium Requirements

1. Full-time students are expected to attend the two Public Policy-sponsored colloquia events per quarter (with a maximum total of 24 colloquia for the B.S. degree, and a maximum total of 10 colloquia for M.S. degree).
2. Part-time graduate students must attend at least three colloquia per year, with an expectation that at least 10 colloquia will have been attended upon graduation.
3. To obtain credit for attending each colloquium, students will “sign-in” and their attendance will be recorded in their file.
4. Students who are “double majors” are only required to attend one colloquia per quarter.

Colloquia Substitutions

We encourage students to attend the Public Policy-sponsored colloquia, as the colloquia also serve the purpose of building our community on campus. However, we realize that due to scheduling conflicts, students will not always be able to attend the colloquia. In such cases, students can meet the colloquium requirements by attending an “alternative event.” Each alternative event should be directly related to public policy. Students should obtain prior approval from the department chair or affiliated faculty member that an alternative event will count as colloquium credit by use of the Colloquium Substitution Form. (In some cases, the program may identify an event as a “colloquium credit event,” whereby prior approval is not necessary.)

In order to receive credit for attending an “alternative event,” students must write a short paper (2-3 pages) to describe the event and their reaction to it. The program has the discretion to limit the number of alternative events that can be used for colloquium credit.

Waivers

Students may request a colloquium waiver as necessary and for good reason. For example, students entering the program as a 2nd, 3rd or 4th year student can request a waiver of colloquia credit based on what quarter they enter the program. In such cases, students should fill out a colloquium waiver form, available from the department office.

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