

From: [Miriti, Maria](#)
To: [Greenbaum, Rob](#); [Smith, Randy](#)
Cc: [Reed, Katie](#); [Vinopal, Katie](#); [Adams, Christopher](#); [Kowalsky, Lisa](#)
Subject: Re: Informational items about the Glenn College doctoral program
Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 12:54:38 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thank you, Rob.

Katie, this looks fine to me.

Best,
Maria

From: Greenbaum, Rob <greenbaum.3@osu.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Smith, Randy <smith.70@osu.edu>; Miriti, Maria <miriti.1@osu.edu>
Cc: Reed, Katie <reed.901@osu.edu>; Vinopal, Katie <vinopal.4@osu.edu>; Adams, Christopher <adams.615@osu.edu>; Kowalsky, Lisa <kowalsky.10@osu.edu>
Subject: Informational items about the Glenn College doctoral program

Hi Randy and Maria,

Please find attached an informational item about two small changes to the Glenn College doctoral program. We have increased the number of credit hours in our first year doctoral seminar class from one to two credits hours to better reflect the workload, and we will now be requiring that one of the students' methodology courses be a qualitative methods class. These two changes do not affect the number of required courses or credit hours for graduation.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these changes.

Sincerely,

Rob



Robert T. Greenbaum

Associate Vice Provost for Academic Programs

Office of Academic Affairs

Professor, Associate Dean for Curriculum

John Glenn College of Public Affairs

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Pronouns: he/him/his



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May 16, 2025

Vice Provost W. Randy Smith
Council on Academic Affairs
Office of Academic Affairs
203 Bricker Hall
190 North Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Randy:

I am writing regarding an informational item pertaining to two small changes to the Glenn College's doctoral program.

In Spring 2025, the College's doctoral committee and faculty voted to require all future entering doctoral students to take PUBAFRS 7573 – Qualitative Methodologies for Public Affairs Research as one of the methods courses they are required to take. This will not change the number of required courses or credit hours needed for graduation. It will, however, allow the required PUBAFRS 8782 research design course to more narrowly focus on quantitative approaches.

Further, in Spring 2024, the College's doctoral committee recommended increasing the number of credit hours in PUBAFRS 8890.01 – First Year Doctoral Seminar from one to two credit hours to better reflect that we will be enforcing the requirement that first year students attend the weekly doctoral colloquium. The required credit hours for the degree will not change. While the new syllabus was approved last July, this update to the program has not been recorded by CAA yet.

Enclosed, please find two memos documenting these changes from Associate Professor Katie Vinopal, Director of Doctoral Studies, as well as the current and proposed doctoral curriculum.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Greenbaum, Professor

To: Randy Smith

From: Katie Vinopal, Associate Professor and Doctoral Director, John Glenn College of Public Affairs

Re: Informational Item: Requiring PUBAFRS 7573: Qualitative Methodologies for Public Affairs Research as part of the Doctoral Curriculum

Date: May 12, 2025

Please find materials for an informational item related to the PhD in Public Policy and Management. The program wishes to change begin requiring PUBAFRS 7573: Qualitative Methodologies for Public Affairs Research as part of the methods requirement.

The Glenn College seeks to prepare doctoral students to become experts in their own research area and also to be good citizens to the broader field. Increasingly, funded research opportunities require a qualitative component. Additionally, doctoral students should be prepared to appropriately assess the quality of qualitative research done by others, as part of their own research process as well as in peer review roles. Further, our current research design course (PUBAFRS 8782) covers both qualitative and quantitative approaches. This is too much for one course and prevents deeper conversation and learning in service of topic breadth. Therefore, by requiring students take a qualitative methods course, we will increase both their qualitative and quantitative research skillset. While coverage of qualitative approaches will be removed from PUBAFRS 8782, the course Expected Learning Outcomes remain unchanged.

This revision will not change the total number of required classes or credit hours needed for the degree. Previously, students had to take four methods classes, including through econometrics II and then two of their choosing, as long as approved by the Doctoral Studies Committee. After this change, students will have to take through econometrics II as well as PUBAFRS 7573, and then at least one other approved methods course of their choosing.

This issue was presented at the John Glenn College Doctoral Studies Committee meeting on February 28, 2025, and was unanimously supported. The change was then circulated to faculty for feedback, discussed at a faculty meeting, and brought to a faculty vote on Friday, April 11, 2025. A large majority voted in support. If there are any questions, please contact me at vinopal.4@osu.edu.

Proposed changes to handbook in Red

Note: Handbook can be found at <https://glenn.osu.edu/doctoral-handbook>

Course Descriptions and Listings

The course requirements for the PhD in Public Policy and Management are organized into four categories: **foundation**, **content-area**, **research design and methods**, and **focus-area**. All students take the foundation courses. Students may have already taken some of the content-area courses or their equivalents (e.g., as part of a master's program), in which case the Doctoral Studies Committee can waive them. (Courses indicated by an asterisk below can be waived informally, without consulting the Doctoral Studies committee.) The Doctoral Studies Committee may also give students waivers for some of the core, methods, and focus-area course requirements. The committee considers such waivers on a case-by-case basis.

Students are required to take the core courses Seminar in Public Policy (PUBAFRS 8030) and Seminar in Organization Theory and Behavior (PUBAFRS 8040). Students must also take the doctoral course Public Sector Economics (PUBAFRS 8050) or the master's course Public Budgeting and Finance (6040). Which of these two courses students take typically depends on whether they plan to test in this field on their candidacy exam, so that they can market themselves as specializing in public-sector economics. Prior to enrolling in PUBAFRS 8050, students must have had an intermediate microeconomics course (e.g., PUBAFRS 6030 can work, though an intermediate microeconomics course that employs calculus would be better) and are strongly encouraged to have had prior coursework in calculus.

Students are also required to take at least four methods courses and three focus-area courses. We provide students with significant discretion in fulfilling the requirements of this elective coursework, as student backgrounds and interests vary significantly. **Students must take the initiative to seek out current information and to work closely with their advisers to decide on a set of methods and focus-area courses appropriate for the dissertation and future research interests.** The primary

constraints are 1) that students must take PUBAFRS 7573: Qualitative Methodologies for Public Affairs Research and 2) that two of the ~~four-elective~~ methods courses need to cover the content similar to a two-course sequence in econometrics (ECON 5410 and ECON 5420). [As we note below, students typically take PUBAFRS 7571 (Multivariate Data Analysis) and Econometrics II (ECON 5420).] The Doctoral Studies Committee can grant a waiver from two of these four methods course requirements if students have completed coursework that is equivalent to ECON 5420. Similarly, students with very specialized master's coursework may obtain waivers from all focus-area requirements. Methods and focus-area course offerings vary from year to year, so it is important for students to take the initiative and explore possible coursework well ahead of time and in close collaboration with their advisors (more on this below). For more information on the layout of the curriculum, please see Appendix V: Graduation Requirement Checklist.

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Research Design and Methods Coursework

PUBAFRS 8782: Research Design for Public Policy and Management

An introduction to research design in the social sciences, particularly as it applies to public policy and management. Topics include the generation of research questions; theory development; experimental, quasi-experimental, and non-experimental research designs; defining and measuring concepts; and quantitative ~~and-qualitative~~ data collection and analysis. 3 credit hours

Note: The prerequisites for this sequence are undergraduate courses in statistics and college math.

PUBAFRS 6080*: Public Affairs Program Evaluation

Survey of the conceptual, methodological, bureaucratic, political and organizational issues surrounding evaluation research. 4 credit hours

* Whether students need PUBAFRS 6080 prior to enrolling in PUBAFRS 8782 will depend on the extent to which they have had some experience in research design.

PUBAFRS 7573: Qualitative Methodologies for Public Affairs Research

This course reviews prominent qualitative methodologies used in public affairs research. Students will learn how to design and conduct rigorous and ethical qualitative research for the purpose of theory- and knowledge-building. The course is intended for doctoral students and research-oriented master's students.

Methods Elective Courses (students are required to take at least **4 3**)

Students are required to take at least ~~four~~ **three** additional methods courses, two of which should be statistics or econometrics courses. Students without a strong background in econometrics should begin with PUBAFRS 7571, "Multivariate Regression Analysis" (ECON 5410, "Econometrics I" may be substituted for PUBAFRS 7571 if a scheduling conflict prevents a student from enrolling in PUBAFRS 7571). The second course should be an advanced econometrics course such as Econometrics II in the Economics Department (ECON 5420) or a comparable course in another department. The Doctoral Studies Committee can grant a waiver from two of these four required methods courses if students have completed coursework that is equivalent to ECON 5420.

Many departments on campus offer methods classes. Students should work with their advisor to select courses that fit with their research interests and provide the skills needed for the completion of their dissertation. For some, this may mean advanced work in econometrics; for others, it may mean more specialized study in areas such as survey research methods, qualitative research methods, or experimental design. Indeed, as we discuss below, students can also obtain formal OSU minors or interdisciplinary specializations to meet methods requirements—both of which will be formally stated on their OSU transcripts and which students can list on their CVs.

PUBAFRS 7571: Multivariate Regression Analysis

Provides an understanding of regression techniques, both from a "producer's" and a "consumer's" perspective. Regression, a statistical method used to study the relationships between variables, is used in public policy analysis. 3 credit hours

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APPENDIX VI: Graduation Requirement Checklist

Progress in Program

Check off/list courses taken

- **PA Foundation Courses**

- 8000 (3)
- 8890.01 (2)
- 8890.02 (1)
- 8890.03 (1)

- 8898 (4)
- **Public Economics**
 - 8050 (3) or 6040 (4)
- **Public Management**
 - 8040 (3)
- **Methods (Fill Blanks)**
 - I. PA7571 or equivalent
 - II: _Econ II or equivalent
 - III: PUBAFRS 7573
 - IV: _____
- **Focus-area Electives (Fill Blanks)**
 - I: _____
 - II: _____
 - III: _____

*Note: The Doctoral Studies Committee confirms that students have met course requirements for the degree as part of the annual review process. With the committee's approval, master's coursework may count toward meeting the methods electives for the equivalents of PA7571 and Econometrics II, as well as for the three focus-area electives.

Total Graduate Credit Hours: _____

Total Graduate Credit Hours Beyond Master's: _____

Dissertation Advisor: _____

Committee Members: _____

Completed items require date of completion and advisor signatures:

- First Year Paper
- Candidacy Exam
- Dissertation Proposal
- Dissertation Defense

To: Randy Smith

From: Katie Vinopal, Associate Professor and Doctoral Director, John Glenn College of Public Affairs

Re: Informational Item: Credit hour change for PUBAFRS 8890.01

Date: June 10, 2024

Please find materials for an informational item related to the PhD in Public Policy and Management. The program wishes to change PUBAFRS 8890.01 – First Year Doctoral Seminar – from one credit hour to two credit hours. This change will more accurately reflect the workload of that seminar, which includes a requirement that students attend weekly colloquium presentations in addition to the seminar class.

This revision will not change the number of required classes or credit hours needed for the degree.

This issue was presented at the John Glenn College Doctoral Studies Committee meeting on April 5, 2024, and was unanimously supported. If there are any questions, please contact me at vinopal.4@osu.edu.

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy and Management

Objectives

The PhD in Public Policy and Management prepares individuals for university careers in teaching and research, and for research roles in government, nonprofit organizations, and other settings. The curriculum provides graduates with an ability to combine techniques and theory from several disciplines to address public sector problems and to advance knowledge of public policy and management through teaching and research.

PhD Curriculum

The PhD curriculum incorporates a wide array of courses and experiences to provide students with the foundation necessary to advance public policy and management research and practice. The Glenn College doctoral seminars are concentrated in five core areas of instruction: public affairs foundations and inquiry, public policy processes and analysis, public sector economics, organizational theory and behavior, and research design and methods. These core areas provide a common body of knowledge and skills for all doctoral students with an eye toward careers in multidisciplinary research environments.

Students have considerable flexibility in designing their remaining program of study, which requires four elective methods courses and three or more elective courses to develop specialized expertise in a focus area. Examples of focus areas include public management, nonprofit management, public economics, public finance, energy and environmental policy, education and workforce policy, housing policy, health policy, food policy, and management science. A (non-exhaustive) listing and description of courses appears below.

The main restrictions are that methods courses in a focus area do not count towards the three-course requirement, and at least two of the four methods courses must be in statistics or econometrics. The Doctoral Studies Committee makes decisions on a case-by-case basis as to whether a student can count prior coursework toward these requirements (e.g., students with master's degrees in an area of focus or that involved substantial methodological coursework). Most of these courses are offered outside of the Glenn College, with the exception of PUBAFRS 7571, "Multivariate Data Analysis," an introductory econometrics course that is taught at the graduate level. This course is an appropriate first course for students without a strong prior background in regression analysis. The college also offers PUBAFRS 7572 "Policy Simulation and Modeling," PUBAFRS 7573 "Qualitative Methods for Public Affairs," and PUBAFRS 7574 "Mixed Methods Approaches for Policy-Related Research."

Upon entering the program, students initially work with the Director of Doctoral Studies, who assists them in scheduling courses and in becoming familiar with the college and its doctoral program. By the end of the second year of enrollment in the PhD program, students select a faculty advisor and, together with that advisor, plan a program of study designed to complete the core curriculum and elective coursework.

Required courses:

Public Affairs Foundation Courses

- PUBAFRS 8000: Public Policy and Management: Foundations and Approaches (3)
- PUBAFRS 8890.01: First Year Doctoral Seminar (1)
- PUBAFRS 8890.02: Second Year Doctoral Seminar (1)
- PUBAFRS 8890.03: Third Year Doctoral Seminar (1)
- PUBAFRS 8998: Graduate Research Non-Dissertation (4)

Public Economics

- PUBAFRS 8050: Seminar in Public Sector Economics (3) or PUBAFRS 6040: Public Budgeting and Finance (4) [Note, PUBAFRS 6030 or undergraduate level intermediate microeconomics is a prerequisite for both 8050 and 6040.]

Public Management

- PUBAFRS 8040: Seminar in Organizational Theory/Behavior (3)

Public Policy

- PUBAFRS 8030: Seminar in Public Policy (3)

Research Methods

- PUBAFRS 8782: Research Design for Public Policy and Management (3)
- PUBAFRS 7571: Multivariate Regression Analysis (3) or equivalent
- Econometrics II (e.g. ECON 5420) or equivalent
- Two additional methods courses

Focus-Area Electives

- Three focus-area electives

Dissertation Research Credit hours

- PUBAFRS 8999: Dissertation research (3 hours each semester of dissertation work)

Other Requirements:

- Complete an annual review each year in the program
- Successful defense of first year paper
- Pass candidacy exam
- Successful defense of dissertation proposal
- Successful defense of dissertation
- Educator training:
 - Complete TA orientation prior to first TA position
 - Submit teaching evaluations (from students and the instructor of record) and teaching narratives as part of the annual review process.
 - Complete at least one formal training (e.g., one that results in an endorsement for classroom teaching or for mentorship/leadership) before your third-year annual review. Students can fulfill this requirement by completing a Drake Institute

Teaching Endorsement of their choosing. (Students who wish to substitute a different formal training must obtain approval from the Doctoral Studies Committee.)

- Students who serve as instructors must complete the Glenn College's internal training, and students for whom English is not a first language must pass the oral proficiency assessment (see the TA/instructor section above).

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy and Management Program Guidelines

Credit hours required: Students must take a minimum of 80 credit hours total. If a master's degree has been earned by the student, then a minimum of 50 graduate credit hours beyond the master's degree is required.

Grades required: Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0

Proposed

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy and Management

Objectives

The PhD in Public Policy and Management prepares individuals for university careers in teaching and research, and for research roles in government, nonprofit organizations, and other settings. The curriculum provides graduates with an ability to combine techniques and theory from several disciplines to address public sector problems and to advance knowledge of public policy and management through teaching and research.

PhD Curriculum

The PhD curriculum incorporates a wide array of courses and experiences to provide students with the foundation necessary to advance public policy and management research and practice. The Glenn College doctoral seminars are concentrated in five core areas of instruction: public affairs foundations and inquiry, public policy processes and analysis, public sector economics, organizational theory and behavior, and research design and methods. These core areas provide a common body of knowledge and skills for all doctoral students with an eye toward careers in multidisciplinary research environments.

Students have considerable flexibility in designing their remaining program of study, which requires four elective methods courses and three or more elective courses to develop specialized expertise in a focus area. Examples of focus areas include public management, nonprofit management, public economics, public finance, energy and environmental policy, education and workforce policy, housing policy, health policy, food policy, and management science. A (non-exhaustive) listing and description of courses appears below.

The main restrictions are that methods courses in a focus area do not count towards the three-course requirement, **that students must take PUBAFRS 7573 Qualitative Methodologies for Public Affairs Research, and that at least two of the methods courses** must be in statistics or econometrics. The Doctoral Studies Committee makes decisions on a case-by-case basis as to whether a student can count prior coursework toward these requirements (e.g., students with master's degrees in an area of focus or that involved substantial methodological coursework). Most of these courses are offered outside of the Glenn College, with the exception of PUBAFRS 7571, "Multivariate Data Analysis," an introductory econometrics course that is taught at the graduate level. This course is an appropriate first course for students without a strong prior background in regression analysis. The college also offers PUBAFRS 7572 "Policy Simulation and Modeling," **PUBAFRS 7573 "Qualitative Methods for Public Affairs,"** and PUBAFRS 7574 "Mixed Methods Approaches for Policy-Related Research."

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Required courses:

Public Affairs Foundation Courses

- PUBAFRS 8000: Public Policy and Management: Foundations and Approaches (3)
- PUBAFRS 8890.01: First Year Doctoral Seminar (2)
- PUBAFRS 8890.02: Second Year Doctoral Seminar (1)
- PUBAFRS 8890.03: Third Year Doctoral Seminar (1)
- PUBAFRS 8998: Graduate Research Non-Dissertation (4)

Public Economics

- PUBAFRS 8050: Seminar in Public Sector Economics (3) or PUBAFRS 6040: Public Budgeting and Finance (4) [Note, PUBAFRS 6030 or undergraduate level intermediate microeconomics is a prerequisite for both 8050 and 6040.]

Public Management

- PUBAFRS 8040: Seminar in Organizational Theory/Behavior (3)

Public Policy

- PUBAFRS 8030: Seminar in Public Policy (3)

Research Methods

- PUBAFRS 8782: Research Design for Public Policy and Management (3)
- PUBAFRS 7571: Multivariate Regression Analysis (3) or equivalent
- Econometrics II (e.g. ECON 5420) or equivalent
- PUBAFRS 7573 Qualitative Methodologies for Public Affairs Research (3)
- One additional methods course

Focus-Area Electives

- Three focus-area electives

Dissertation Research Credit hours

- PUBAFRS 8999: Dissertation research (3 hours each semester of dissertation work)

Other Requirements:

- Complete an annual review each year in the program
- Successful defense of first year paper
- Pass candidacy exam
- Successful defense of dissertation proposal
- Successful defense of dissertation
- Educator training:
 - Complete TA orientation prior to first TA position
 - Submit teaching evaluations (from students and the instructor of record) and teaching narratives as part of the annual review process.

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