Graduate Program in Public Policy
The Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey seeks to improve our increasingly urbanized and interconnected world by exploring planning approaches and public policy solutions that are healthier, greener, fairer, and generate greater prosperity than do current practices. It pursues equitable and efficient solutions to public problems at multiple levels from the global to the local and emphasizes the professional perspectives of urban planning, public policy, and public health. Within each of these domains, the school advances its aspiration to be a global leader in teaching, research, and service by engaging society’s challenges with focused programs that align current strengths with emerging needs.

The Bloustein School is consistently ranked among the top public policy and planning programs in the country. Faculty in the program are nationally and internationally renowned scholars who are actively involved in shaping the fields of community development, social policy, education, environment, health policy, transportation, and workforce development. The faculty’s cutting-edge research and policy work are augmented by the numerous research centers within the school, providing a rich, vibrant learning environment.
The Program in Public Policy prepares students for careers in policy analysis, politics, and public affairs within the public, private, nonprofit, or private for-profit sectors. It seeks to give students conceptual and analytical tools to build their competencies in four areas: public policy, research methods, economics, and politics, as well as training in leadership, values, and ethical behavior that guide the responsible application of these competencies in the field.

The select group of students admitted into the Master of Public Policy and Master of Public Affairs and Politics programs can take advantage of all the courses offered by the Urban Planning and Doctoral programs at the Bloustein School, as well as the hundreds of courses offered elsewhere at Rutgers University. Ninety percent of full-time students receive funding to support their studies; masters students often work as teaching assistants in undergraduate courses. The program has been ranked consistently in the top five among Public Policy programs nationally by GraduatePrograms.com, an online student satisfaction survey.

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY (MPP)

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) program is typically a two-year degree for full-time students. Students must complete 48 credits, which includes 30 credits of required course work and 18 elective credits. As part of the elective selections, students must choose nine (9) credits, or three courses, towards an approved concentration in a substantive policy area, and nine (9) additional elective credits. There is no thesis requirement. A student must maintain an overall grade-point average of 3.0 in order to graduate. The Bloustein School also welcomes part-time students in the MPP program.

MASTER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLITICS (MPAP)

The Master of Public Affairs and Politics (MPAP) degree is designed to help students develop or refine analytic and quantitative skills and to form a more thorough understanding of the political institutions and processes through which public policies are implemented and formulated. The MPAP is a 30-credit program designed for students with significant work experience in public affairs and politics (generally at least five years), and is typically a one-year degree for full-time students. Students also may pursue it on a part-time basis.

Additional information about our programs can be found on the Bloustein School website at bloustein.rutgers.edu/graduate/public-policy/
DUAL AND JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

Allied with the Program in Public Policy is the school-wide PhD program, which focuses on the preparation of planning-focused scholars who will teach and conduct research. In addition, the following dual degrees are also offered:

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY/MASTER OF CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING (MPP/MCRP)
Combining the Bloustein School’s Master of City and Regional Planning (MCRP) and MPP leads to a three-year dual degree option. Students are accepted independently to both graduate programs after providing a separate application to each, but share concentrations, course electives, and requirements.

MASTER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND POLITICS/JURIS DOCTOR (MPAP/JD)
This program leads to completion of both a Master of Public Affairs and Politics and a law degree in three-and-a-half years. The program includes two-and-a-half years of law study at the Rutgers School of Law in Camden or Newark, and one year at the Bloustein School studying politics and public policy.

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY/MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPP/MPH)
This joint program with the Rutgers School of Public Health leads to the completion of both a Master of Public Policy degree and a Master of Public Health degree in three years.

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY/MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MPP/MBA)
This program leads to completion of both the MPP and Master of Business Administration degrees in three years. The program includes a year-and-a-half studying business at the Rutgers Business School and a year and a half studying policy at the Bloustein School.

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY/MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS (MPP/MS)
This program leads to completion of both the MPP and Master of Science degree offered by the Graduate School-Newark, Division of Global Affairs in three years.

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY/BACHELOR OF ARTS OR SCIENCES (MPP/BA OR MPP/BS)
This program leads to completion of both the Bachelor of Arts or Sciences and Master of Public Policy degrees in five years. Students may apply for admission to the joint program in February of their junior year. Admitted students are allowed to take up to 18 graduate credits in the Program in Public Policy over the course of their senior year; these credits are applied to both degrees. Upon completion of the BA or BS degree, students advance into the second year of the MPP program.

Concentrations
As part of the elective selections, students must develop a three-course (9-credit) concentration in a substantive policy area. The Bloustein faculty is recognized for its policy expertise in community development and social policy, along with the other areas of concentration. Students may also design their own concentrations, and do so frequently.

- Budget and Finance %
- Economics
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Labor and Workforce
- Management
- Methods
- Non-Profit Management %
- Political Processes and Institutions
- Public Informatics
- Social Justice and Advocacy
- Social Policy and Women’s Issues
- Urban Policy and Community Development

* These concentrations include coursework at the Bloustein School and at the School of Public Affairs and Administration, Rutgers-Newark.
FACULTY
Faculty in the Policy Program publish in scholarly journals; serve as advisers to local, state, and federal governments; and are engaged in cutting-edge research that addresses many of today’s most challenging issues.

Debra Borie-Holtz, Assistant Teaching Professor
— policy formation and implementation; legislative leadership and governing; federal and state regulatory process; women in government; and survey research.

Alan Cander, Assistant Teaching Professor
— urban redevelopment; how public and private entities in declining cities collaborate to revalorize contested urban space; and the political economy of land assembly.

Joel Cantor, Distinguished Professor
— health care financing and delivery; health care policy; and access to health services by low-income populations.

Henry A. Coleman, Professor
— state and local public finance; intergovernmental relations and government structure; income (re)distribution; education finance; and urban revitalization.

Jocelyn Elise Crowley, Professor
— American social policy; family policy; and women and politics.

Frank A. Felder, Associate Research Professor
— energy policy; big data analytics; and restructured electric power systems.

Andrea Hetling, Associate Professor
— poverty and family welfare; welfare policy; social policy implementation; and intimate partner violence.

Richard F. Kevey, Senior Policy Fellow
— federal, state and local fiscal policy; financial management; education and finance challenges

Dawne Mouzon, Associate Professor
— physical and mental health disparities, including the sub-disciplines of race, gender, and sociology of the family.

Kelcie Ralph, Assistant Professor
— travel behavior of special populations; and the causes and consequences of the decline in driving among young adults.

William Rodgers III, Professor
— economic and social inequality; skills gaps and skills shortages; macroeconomic policy and labor market outcomes; and the federal minimum wage and food security.

Julia Sass Rubin, Associate Professor
— community economic development; developmental finance; non-profit and hybrid organizational forms; social enterprise; and organizational behavior.

Stuart Shapiro, Professor
— public administration and public policy; regulatory processes; civil-service issues; economics; and quantitative methods.

Marc Weiner, Associate Research Professor
— survey research; demography and population studies; social movements; and intra- and international power relations.

Carl E. Van Horn, Distinguished Professor
— employment policy; policy analysis and evaluation; public policy formation; and state government and politics.

Cliff Zukin, Professor
— mass media and American politics; public opinion and voting behavior; and survey research.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT
The Office of Student and Academic Services provides career development support to graduate students and alumni of the Bloustein School.

Our staff is committed to helping students and alumni through career advisement services such as:

- Job and internship search
- Employer engagement
- Resume and cover letter review

Our students and alumni have found meaningful work in the public, non-profit, and private sectors, and have dedicated themselves to enacting effective policy changes at the federal, state and local level.

OUR GRADUATES AT A GLANCE:

- **90%** Percentage of 2015* MPP students employed or pursuing further education six months post-graduation.
- **$50,333** Average salary for our class of 2015.
- **100%** Master of Public Policy students participating in an internship for their Applied Field Experiences.

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE
Students in the Program in Public Policy are encouraged to work on real-world projects by becoming involved with many of the school’s centers and institutes. The centers and institutes maximize the school’s ability to perform in-depth research; extend its activities beyond the classroom through public service and outreach; and provide students with the opportunity to develop professional skills and experience.

- Bloustein Center for Survey Research
- Bloustein Local Government Research Center
- Center for Energy, Economic & Environmental Policy
- Center for Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
- Center for Urban Policy Research
- Environmental Analysis and Communications Group
- Center for Transportation Safety, Security and Risk
- Sustainable Raritan River Initiative
- New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance
- National Center for Neighborhood & Brownfields Redevelopment
- HIV Prevention Community Planning Support & Development Initiative
- John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development
- Planning Health Communities Initiative
- Rutgers Center for Green Building
- Rutgers Economic Advisory Service
- Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center
- New Jersey Travel Independence Program (NJTIP@Rutgers)
- National Transit Institute
- Ralph W. Voorhees Center for Civic Engagement
Paul Siracusa, MPP ’15
Survey Statistician, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC

“While at the Bloustein School I had the opportunity to learn data analysis software, conduct data driven research, and learn about various research methodologies. These experiences taught me to think analytically using data, which is a key skill at the Census Bureau. My work at the Census Bureau is personally satisfying because it helps provide policymakers with data that can be used to make better economic decisions.

Doing well at the Bloustein School takes focus and effort. But, the payoff is more than worth the studying. One of the reasons I chose to attend the Bloustein School was because of the diverse and very interesting course offerings. It was how I found survey research, and it changed the course of my career.”

Rachel Moody, MPP/JD ’15
Attorney, Regulatory, Compliance, and Environmental Practice Area, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

“The school’s public policy curriculum is highly practical. Courses are designed by faculty with extensive professional experience in their fields. As practitioners, they introduce a broad range of practices and subject areas, and equip students with the most useful, universal tools and skills that can be applied in the field.

My coursework taught me to understand how to prioritize issues and information, and to consider alternatives. In the workforce, leaders appreciate an unbiased presentation of options. The Bloustein School prepared me not just to articulate policy problems, but to approach each new challenge with an eye for potential solutions.”

Monete Johnson, MPP ’14
Research Associate, Education Law Center, Newark, NJ

“I chose to attend the Bloustein School because of my desire to be at a program with faculty that would be invested in my personal and professional growth. I took a number of research courses that taught me skills I use in my job but more importantly, I learned how to dissect, analyze and challenge policy and research.

After my first meeting with my adviser, Professor Julia Rubin, I knew that she genuinely cared about her students and the work that she does. I found that to be true about every faculty member I worked with at Bloustein. The Bloustein School is a small community and the connections, knowledge, and passion each faculty member bring are invaluable.”