

SPP Educational Programming

The School of Public Policy will offer a comprehensive suite of educational programming, covering undergraduate, doctoral, and professional degrees. These degrees will help to establish the SPP as a world-class policy school with a distinctive approach to the study of public policy, drawing on strengths from across the university in areas including data science and technology policy; environmental and sustainability policy; health policy; inequality and social policy; human security; and the politics and economics of development. These areas of strength appear in the SPP's educational programs as concentrations, focus areas, and coursework options for students as they craft their degree plans. We also emphasize a thematic focus on race, racism, and public policy that is woven throughout the curricula, as well as a common emphasis on engagement and experiential learning across degree programs.

Contingent on Cornell and New York State approval, the SPP plans to offer the following degree programs, some of which will evolve from existing programming, and others to be created:

- **Undergraduate majors and minors in public policy.** The **public policy major** will evolve from the current policy analysis and management (PAM) undergraduate major through the addition of new courses focusing on the politics of public policy in the American and international contexts. With additional changes to emphasize race, racism, and public policy, as well as experiential learning, the major will strengthen connections to the other focus areas of the SPP. The public policy minor will replace both the current PAM minor and the current public policy minor administered by the Department of Government, combining key elements of both and closely matching the areas of strength of the SPP.

The SPP's second undergraduate degree will be a **major and minor in health care policy.**

- **Master's in Public Administration (MPA):** Building on the strengths of the current Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA) degree, a redesigned MPA program will offer students a core sequence in public administration while retaining the CIPA program's flexibility in concentration areas connected to the SPP's areas of strength and tracks in public management or policy analysis. Similarly, the SPP will administer the executive MPA program, which was launched in June 2021.
- **Sloan Master's in Health Administration (MHA):** The Sloan MHA Program offers students training in the knowledge and skills of management applied to the health care industry. Administration of the MHA will shift to the SPP, with no intended shifts to the program, although there will be synergies with other professional degree programs. The executive MHA program also will be administered by the SPP.
- **Master's in Public Policy (MPP):** A new MPP program will be developed in the coming years — the first MPP degree to be offered in New York state. In addition to rigorous core coursework in policy analysis and evaluation, MPP students will choose from a range of concentrations connected to the SPP's distinctive areas of strength.

- **Public Policy Ph.D.:** The current PAM Ph.D. program will evolve to include courses taught by SPP faculty across its areas of strength. The SPP faculty will also consider the possibility of joint Ph.D. programs in collaboration with disciplinary departments following a “discipline-plus” model — such as government and public policy or sociology and public policy — to combine rigorous training in public policy and policy analysis with a strong disciplinary focus.