

The Philosophy, Politics, Economics and Law Major (PPEL)

“A Broad Foundation of Knowledge”



The complex social realities of contemporary life require a wide-ranging understanding of the human sciences on the part of citizens and leaders alike. The Philosophy, Politics, Economics and Law (PPEL) major is an interdisciplinary collaboration of the School of Arts & Sciences, the Robins School of Business, the Jepson School of Leadership Studies, and the School of Law to create a curriculum with a focus on the moral assessment of law and public policy.

Why Philosophy, Politics, Economics and Law?

The PPEL major enables students to pursue a rigorous exploration of the historical, methodological and theoretical interconnections among these four fields of study. Students will acquire knowledge of different conceptual, theoretical and normative perspectives within each discipline, and will learn to use methods appropriate to each of them. The distinctive aim of the major is to assist students in bringing an interdisciplinary focus of practical and theoretical knowledge to questions of social order and public policy. With its unique configuration of five schools, the University of Richmond is especially well-suited to offer this program.

Course Work

The major consists of 14-15 units, including five core courses, three area courses, and a concentration of courses selected from Economics, Politics, or Philosophy. The Economics concentration is shown below. Students interested in other concentrations should refer to: <http://ppel.richmond.edu/major/index.html>

Students may also contact Professors Steve Simon (ssimon@richmond.edu), Jonathan Wight (jwight@richmond.edu), or Erik Craft (ecraft@richmond.edu) with questions regarding PPEL.

Core Courses (5 units):

ECON 101	Principles of Microeconomics	One course in normative ethics
PPEL 261	PPEL Seminar in Theory and Public Policy	One course in normative political theory/political philosophy
PPEL 262	PPEL Seminar in Law and Social Order	One law-related course
PPEL 363	PPEL Rational Choice and Political Theory	
PPEL 401	PPEL Capstone Seminar	

Area Courses (3 units):

PPEL Economics Concentration (7 units):

ECON 102	Principles of Macroeconomics	
ECON 271	Microeconomic Theory	
ECON 231 or 260	ECON 231 Law and Economics ECON 260 Ethics and Economics	
	Two electives in Economics	
	One elective in Political Science	
	One elective in Philosophy	

For further information, see: <http://ppel.richmond.edu/major/index.html>

