SOCIAL POLICY ANALYSIS (SOPA)

SOPA 200 - APPROACHES TO SOCIAL POLICY
Short Title: APPROACHES TO SOCIAL POLICY
Department: Social Policy Analysis
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course covers applications of statistics to policy analysis and evaluation. Topics include regression, limited dependent variable and selection models, and other estimation techniques appropriate for evaluation and causal inference.

SOPA 238 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Social Policy Analysis
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Laboratory, Lecture, Seminar, Independent Study
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course provides an introduction to the social sciences and the study of public policy. Students will review the nature of different disciplines and their research programs. These approaches will be studied as different paradigms for policy making.

SOPA 300 - SOPA FIELD RESEARCH EXPERIENCE
Short Title: SOPA FIELD RESEARCH EXPERIENCE
Department: Social Policy Analysis
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): SOPA 200 and (SOSC 302 or STAT 310 or STAT 315)
Description: Students work on approved field research projects, write a research report for publication and present finding from their field research project to Rice faculty and staff. Recommended Prerequisite(s): POLI 338 or SOSC 301. Repeatable for Credit.

SOPA 309 - APPLIED ECONOMETRICS FOR POLICY EVALUATION
Short Title: APPLIED ECONOMETRICS: POL EVAL
Department: Social Policy Analysis
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): SOSC 302 or STAT 310 or ECON 307 or STAT 315 or DSCI 301
Description: This course covers applications of statistics to policy analysis and evaluation. Topics include regression, limited dependent variable and selection models, and other estimation techniques appropriate for evaluation and causal inference.

SOPA 340 - INTRODUCTION TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE
Short Title: INTRO TO PANDEMIC RESPONSE
Department: Social Policy Analysis
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course provides students with a broad, introductory-level overview of the knowledge and skills necessary for preparing a public health response to epidemics or pandemics of infectious diseases. The course will use the recent pandemic, COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019), and the subsequent response efforts in the United States to provide context to covered topics.

SOPA 400 - SOPA CAPSTONE RESEARCH SEMINAR I
Short Title: SOPA CAPSTONE RESEARCH I
Department: Social Policy Analysis
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): (ECON 209 or SOSC 302) and (POLI 338 or SOSC 301) and SOPA 200
Description: Students work in teams under the guidance of a Rice faculty member, researcher, or community partner (government, nonprofit, advocacy Organization, etc.) to evaluate or design a social policy intervention. Teams write a research report of publication quality and present findings at the end of the year.

SOPA 401 - SOPA CAPSTONE RESEARCH SEMINAR II
Short Title: SOPA CAPSTONE RESEARCH II
Department: Social Policy Analysis
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): SOPA 400 and (POLI 338 or SOSC 301)
Description: The capstone research seminar is a two-semester course taken in the final year of study. During the Spring Semester, the research teams will write up and present their final research report.

SOPA 477 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Social Policy Analysis
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester’s topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.