



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

Faculty of Arts

BACHELOR OF PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS & ECONOMICS (PPE)

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0 WEEK



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PLAN FOR TODAY

- Welcome to PPE!
- History and Future of PPE
- Our program
- The first year
- How this looks in 2020
- The second year
- Choosing your major
- The third year
- PPE core courses
- Afterwards
- Who to ask for help
- Peer support



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WELCOME TO PPE!

The Bachelor of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics program provides students with an opportunity to explore the nature of societies, institutions, and values, and to address pressing issues from a variety of perspectives. The program is a challenging avenue of study, aiming to prepare students for leadership in the public and private sectors, as well as providing a foundation for higher degree studies. Using a broad crossdisciplinary approach, students will gain a sophisticated comprehension of the nature of social and political institutions, the way individuals and organisations can and should choose to allocate resources, and the constraints that moral and ethical values place on the proper functioning of economic and political structures. The program provides students with specialised and advanced knowledge in the disciplines and opportunities for research and hands on work experiences in government, NGOs, and the business sector.



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PPE: HISTORY & FUTURE

- Dates back to 1920 in Oxford, where it was established to be ‘**the study of the structure, and the philosophical and economic principles, of Modern Society**’. It was explicitly designed to train a new generation of civic leaders and policy makers.
- This Oxford tradition is the foundation of the degree program at Adelaide – though our approach is more **egalitarian** and more **applied**.
- Still growing: 2019 was the first full cohort to enter the program.
- Look around you at the future leaders of South Australia – and beyond!



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OUR PROGRAM

- The PPE program at Adelaide gives you a **broad grounding** in all three of the constituent disciplines, and the opportunity to focus on a field of your particular interest (a **major**).
- You also take some **core interdisciplinary PPE courses**, and undertake a required **internship** (or equivalent)
- Let's look in a bit more detail.

An indicative 2021 study plan is available from the Faculty:

arts.adelaide.edu.au/system/files/media/documents/2020-11/2021%20b-phil-poli-econ.pdf

and the full program rules can be found in the University calendar:

calendar.adelaide.edu.au/aprcw/2021/bppe_bphilpolec



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THE FIRST YEAR

- This is a **foundational** year for the degree. Here you take required courses in all three areas and the Faculty of Arts required course *The Enquiring Mind* (ARTS 1007/1007OL – S1/S2/Summer).
- In Economics, you take *Principles of Economics* (ECON 1012 – S1/S2/Summer) and *Data Analytics* (ECON 1008 – S1/S2/Summer), plus one of the (*Introduction to*) *Mathematical Economics* (ECON 1005/1010 [advanced – S2]), whichever is more appropriate for your maths background.
- In Philosophy, you take *Morality, Society and the Individual* (PHIL 1103 – S2) plus one of *Argument and Critical Thinking* (PHIL 1101 – S1) or *Introduction to Logic* (PHIL 1110 – S2 or PHIL 1111OL – Summer).
- In Politics, you take any two of *Introduction to Global Politics* (POLIS 1102 – S2), *Introduction to Comparative Politics* (POLIS 1104 – S1), or *Introduction to Australian Politics* (POLIS 1106 – S1).



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THE SECOND YEAR

- In this year you finish most of your **required** courses, and complete your **closed electives**.
- You take the level II PPE core subject PPE 2002 *Foundations of Public Policy*. PPE 2002: *Foundations of Public Policy*. This course digs into issues in the **conceptual foundations of political and economic thought**: morality and markets, the nature of welfare and value, rational decision making, and the foundations of evidence based policy.
- In Economics, you take *Managerial Economics* (ECON 2514) and *Intermediate Macroeconomics* (ECON 2507).
- In Politics, you must take either *Justice, Virtue and the Good* (POLIS 2106), *Passions and Interests: the History of Greed* (POLIS 2107) or *The Ethics of War and Peace* (POLIS 2109) [which is on offer changes from year to year] and one other level II subject from the Politics closed elective list (which includes the above).
- In Philosophy, you choose two level II subjects from the Philosophy closed elective list.
- In the second year you have the most flexibility about which subjects to take and when. If an **exchange** is ever possible again, this is probably the time to do it.



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CHOOSING YOUR MAJOR

- You will also nominate a **major area of study** during your second year, building on your prior study, and take a further level II class in your major area this year.
- Many students come in thinking they know what they wish to focus on – or what their parents think they should focus on!
- **But be open minded!** All three disciplines in this degree give you a rich collection of **highly flexible and transferable skills**, and the core courses guarantee you have a sound working knowledge of all three disciplines.
- You can therefore safely choose your major on **intellectual interest** alone.
- You'll probably do better, too, if you choose what you are **passionate** about, than if you choose on what you or others think is most 'sensible'.
- That said, none of these disciplines is an easy choice – economics probably has more mathematics than you are expecting, politics more theory, and philosophy more conceptual rigour. Different students will find different disciplines more congenial – and our program allows for that.



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THE THIRD YEAR

- In the final year, you will complete your major including a **capstone** and complete an **internship**.
- You will take at least two level III courses in your chosen major plus undertaking a discipline-based capstone.
- You will undertake an internship – various options are available, in business, politics, and the community and not-for-profit sector. You may organise an independent internship too.
- At present, students take the level III core PPE course *Collective Action and Public Policy* (PPE 3002) to satisfy a program capstone, but this is liable to change before you reach that point.



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AFTERWARDS

- We train PPE graduates to be **flexible** and **critical** thinkers: for a life, not a narrowly defined 'job'. (You have job-ready skills, but you aren't limited to one path.)
- Our graduates have great **versatility** in shaping their careers, choosing to pursue stimulating and successful careers in the public service, private sector, NGOs and the not-for-profit sector, or in academia.
- Most students will end up in high impact rewarding careers :
 1. **Formulating policy** and advice to government;
 2. Leading **implementation** through the public service;
 3. Providing **research and analysis** to business and the community;
 4. Creating **new knowledge** through further academic work (Our program is explicitly designed to allow students to continue to postgrad study.)
- The options are virtually **limitless**, with the right attitude – you'll have the skills you need, your main job is just to sell them!



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WHO TO ASK FOR HELP

- For issues with timetabling, enrolment, internships, exchange, and other **general administration**, the Arts Faculty office is the first place to ask.
- For academic and **course content** issues, you should talk first to the course coordinator – their details will be on MyUni.
- For **tricky matters**, if these other folks can't help, you can contact me as the program coordinator. (I will for example be involved in approving any alternative internships, or in working with you to figure out how to satisfy course requirements if you are on exchange, and I can help with course choice through the degree.) I also am responsible for the overall intellectual rationale of the program and the core courses.



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PEER SUPPORT

- Your **fellow PPE students** are going to be your biggest help – you should get to know them as soon as you can. You won't have a core class with them until later in your degree, but we will try to run some cohort building events through the year.
- You might also be interested in **student clubs**:
 - Economics Club: www.facebook.com/adelaideeconclub/
 - Philosophy club: www.facebook.com/AdelaidePhilosophy/
 - Politics & IR Association: www.facebook.com/UoAPIRA/



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PPE EVENT



- The first cohort building event will take place in April, with **Senator Rex Patrick** (www.rexpatrick.com.au) talking at an exclusive PPE event about some current policy challenges in legislation.
- Napier G04, April 6th, 1pm.



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FACULTY OF ARTS OFFICE

Available to assist you with all your enquiries relating to your studies

- Opening Hours: operating remotely due to COVID-19, but ASK Adelaide is in the Hub for face-to-face contact.
- E: arts@adelaide.edu.au
- T: 8313 5245
- Facebook: Uni Adelaide Faculty of Arts Students



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FIRST YEAR AT ADELAIDE

The University provides a range of services and resources that will assist you in adjusting to Uni life - visit the University's page - <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/orientation/first-year-at-adelaide/>

- **Student Life** – free and confidential counselling advice is available to all students
- **Writing Centre** – provides academic learning and language support and resources
- **Maths Learning Centre** – helps students learn and use mathematics and mathematical skills in order to succeed at university.
- **UniThrive** – explores ideas to help with resilience, wellbeing, overcoming problems and boosting performance.