




IUPUI

**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Indianapolis

To: Janice Blum
Associate Vice Chancellor for Graduate Education, IUPUI

From: Jody Sundt 
Associate Dean, Graduate and Executive Education
School of Public and Environmental Affairs, IUPUI

CC: John Graham
Dean
School of Public and Environmental Affairs

Lilliard Richardson
Executive Associate Dean
School of Public and Environmental Affairs, IUPUI

RE: Changes to Existing Concentration and PhD Minor

Date: November 3, 2016

SPEA IUPUI is requesting a change to the course requirements for the Urban Sustainability Concentration in the MPA. The Urban Sustainability concentration is currently active.

Proposed Changes

1. Name Change, MPA Concentration

SPEA IUPUI requests a change in the name of the "Urban Sustainability" concentration to "Environmental Policy and Sustainability."

Rationale

There are two rationales for changing the name of this concentration. First, we want to better align the name of the concentration with the US News and World Report ranking areas. SPEA IUPUI was ranked #13 nationally in the area of "Environmental Policy and Management." The name change will improve marketing and recruiting efforts and better leverage SPEA's high national rank in this area. Second, SPEA recently added a concentration in "Urban Affairs." Removing the term "urban" from the title of this concentration will improve clarity and better reflect the breadth and focus of the curriculum and the strengths of the faculty.

2. Curricular Revisions, MPA Concentration

The Urban Sustainability Concentration is an 18 credit hour track within the MPA. The proposed change curricular change revises the required courses to emphasize environmental policy analysis and sustainability. In addition, the list of recommended electives is shortened to improve enrollment efficiency, course rotation, and curricular coherence.

Required Courses (9 credits)

SPEA-V 527 Urban Sustainability (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 520 Environmental Policy Analysis (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 541 Cost-Benefit Analysis of Public and Environmental Policies (3 cr.)

Three of the Following Electives (9 credits)

SPEA-E 511 Sustainability Assessment (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 515 Sustainable Communities (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 528 Energy, Policy, and Sustainability (3 cr.)
SPEA-E 529 Application of Geographic Information Systems (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 547 Negotiation and Dispute Resolution for Public Affairs (3 cr.)
SPEA-E 560 Environmental Risk Analysis (3 cr.)
SPEA-V 562 Public Program Evaluation (1-3 cr.)

A revised degree checklist is attached.

Rationale

The proposed revisions are motivated by three objectives. First, we want to better align the name and curriculum of the concentration with the US News and World Report ranking areas. SPEA IUPUI was ranked #13 nationally in the area of "Environmental Policy and Management." These revisions are also consistent with strategic priorities identified in the SPEA 2020 Strategic Plan. Second, the revisions will simplify and clarify the requirements for the concentration and improve the ease of advising and scheduling. Third, the list of recommended electives needs to be updated to reflect the addition of new courses and the removal of courses no longer offered.

3. Name Change, PhD Minor

SPEA IUPUI requests a change in the name of the PhD minor in "Urban Sustainability" to "Environmental Policy and Sustainability."

Rationale

Same as 1 above

4. Curricular Revisions, PhD Minor

The PhD minor in “Urban Sustainability” is 12 credit hour program of study. We propose revising the required courses and list of recommended electives.

Required Courses (9 credits)

- SPEA-V 527 Urban Sustainability (3 cr.)
- SPEA-V 520 Environmental Policy Analysis (3 cr.)
- SPEA-V 541 Cost-Benefit Analysis of Public and Environmental Policies (3 cr.)

One of the Following Electives (3 credits)

- SPEA-E 511 Sustainability Assessment (3 cr.)
- SPEA-V 528 Energy, Policy, and Sustainability (3 cr.)
- SPEA-E 529 Application of Geographic Information Systems (3 cr.)
- SPEA-V 547 Negotiation and Dispute Resolution for Public Affairs (3 cr.)
- SPEA-E 560 Environmental Risk Analysis (3 cr.)

Rationale

Same as 2 above

Faculty Resources

No additional faculty resources are needed to implement the proposed changes. The changes should reduce resources required to deliver this concentration by consolidating enrollment in fewer classes.