Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)
New Program Overview

1. Program statement

The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics program provides students a unique opportunity to study the three disciplines that together constitute our knowledge of how best to form and guide social and political policy. The program has a core that requires the student to develop an understanding of, and ability to apply, the fundamentals of each of the constituting disciplines. Then, the student narrows focus to complete additional and more advanced work at the intersection of at least two of these disciplines. Students interested in pursuing careers in law, politics, public service, or any field concerned with developing or interpreting social policy, will find the course of study uniquely beneficial.

2. Justification

The program’s educational objective is to provide students with a high quality degree that ensures they have the core skills of each of the constituting disciplines, along with a unique integrated interdisciplinary perspective on social and political policy. Students will acquire: skills in critical thinking and in formal and informal logic; ability to identify, interpret, and evaluate arguments and construct arguments; a command of existing knowledge in economics, and the ability to interpret and apply this knowledge; ability to interpret and manipulate economic data; ability to describe and analyze the principal philosophical, ethical, and economic concepts that have shaped the history of political theory, including political economy; and the ability to research and write a substantial paper that advances a precise thesis and reflects the clear and effective organization of students’ own interpretation of this research.

The career objective of the program is to educate students, to provide them with an accredited degree, and prepare them for job opportunities in fields that require knowledge of economics and policy. These kinds of careers can be in management, finance, business services, aspects of health care concerned with management and policy, and government. The New York State Department of Labor projects that between 2012 and 2022 there will be more than 9% growth in management jobs, and 13% growth in employment in business and financial services. The U.S. Department of Labor projects that nationwide, over the same period, there will be more than 7% growth in management jobs, and nearly 13% growth in employment in business and financial services.

Interdisciplinary opportunities. SUNY Oswego has a long and well-established reputation as an institution that furthers interdisciplinary experiences for its students. We believe that it is in the interface between and among disciplines that the creativity necessary for innovation occurs. The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics program is an example of this commitment. Furthermore, because we are a comprehensive institution with a large number of liberal arts and professional programs, the opportunity for interaction with other disciplines remains. For example, a student could study a science such as biology as a second major, to position herself for a career in health care policy.
3. Major requirements

Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Major – B.A. Degree (36-40 cr)

A. Core Requirements (24-25 cr)

ECO 101 – Principles of Microeconomics Credit: 3  
ECO 200 – Principles of Macroeconomics Credit: 3  
PHL 111 – Valid Reasoning I Credit: 3  
PHL 205 – Ethics I: Introduction to Classical Ethics Credit: 3  
POL 201 – Global Politics Credit: 3  
POL 203 – Critical Thinking in Politics Credit: 3

Select one course from the following:  
ECO 320 – Comparative Economic Systems Credit: 3  
ECO 322 – History of Economic Doctrines Credit: 3  
PHL 443 – Philosophy of Law Credit: 3  
POL 205 – American Politics and Government Credit: 3

Select one of the following:  
PPE495 – Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Senior Capstone Seminar Credit: 3  
- OR -

For Political Economics Track  
One of:  
• ECO 405 – Seminar in Economic Theory and Policy Credit: 3  
• ECO 409 – Seminar in Applied Mathematical Economics Credit: 3  
• POL 497 – Seminar in Political Science Credit: 3  
and  
• PPE 496 – Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Senior thesis Credit: 1

- OR -

For Philosophy and Politics Track  
One of:  
• PHL 497 – Capstone Seminar in Philosophy Credit: 3  
• POL 497 – Seminar in Political Science Credit: 3  
and  
• PPE 496 – Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Senior thesis Credit: 1

- OR -

For Philosophy and Economics Track  
One of:  
• ECO 405 – Seminar in Economic Theory and Policy Credit: 3  
• ECO 409 – Seminar in Applied Mathematical Economics Credit: 3  
• PHL 497 – Capstone Seminar in Philosophy Credit: 3  
and  
PPE 496 – Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Senior thesis Credit: 1
B. Elective Requirements (12 cr) Note: Some courses may have prerequisites. Select one track from the following:

**Political Economics Track**
Choose four of the following under advisement, with at least two from each area (counting GLS as political science):
- ECO 300 – Intermediate Macroeconomics Theory Credit: 3
- ECO 320 – Comparative Economic Systems Credit: 3
- ECO 322 – History of Economic Doctrines Credit: 3
- ECO 326 – American Economic History Before 1900 Credit: 3
- ECO 327 – Issues in American Economic History Since 1900 Credit: 3
- ECO 330 – Economic Development Credit: 3
- ECO 341 – Political Economy of Financial Crises Credit: 3
- ECO 345 – International Monetary and Financial Management Credit: 3
- ECO 378 – Health Economics Credit: 3
- ECO 390 – Environmental Economics Credit: 3
- GLS 300 – Issues in Global Economy Credit: 3
- POL 205 – American Politics and Government Credit: 3
- POL 347 – Politics of Development Credit: 3
- POL 359 – Nation State and Global Order Credit: 3
- POL 367 – Third World Politics Credit: 3
- POL 387 – Global Environmental Politics Credit: 3

**Philosophy and Politics Track**
Choose four of the following under advisement, with at least two from each area:
- PHL 306 – Business Ethics Credit: 3
- PHL 307 – Philosophy, Public Policy and Public Affairs Credit: 3
- PHL 308 – Medical Ethics Credit: 3
- PHL 322 – Philosophy of Social Sciences Credit: 3
- PHL 348 – Philosophy and Feminism Credit: 3
- PHL 442 – Social and Political Philosophy Credit: 3
- PHL 443 – Philosophy of Law Credit: 3
- POL 205 – American Politics and Government Credit: 3
- POL 303 – Ancient and Medieval Political Thought Credit: 3
- POL 313 – Modern Political Thought Credit: 3
- POL 323 – Post-Modern Political Theory Credit: 3
- POL 333 – Global Political Theory Credit: 3
- POL 343 – Democratic Theory Credit: 3
- POL 345 – American Constitutional Law Credit: 3
- POL 363 – Feminist Social and Political Theory Credit: 3

**Philosophy and Economics Track**
Choose four of the following under advisement, with at least two from each area:
- ECO 320 – Comparative Economic Systems Credit: 3
- ECO 322 – History of Economic Doctrines Credit: 3
- ECO 326 – American Economic History Before 1900 Credit: 3
- ECO 327 – Issues in American Economic History Since 1900 Credit: 3
- ECO 330 – Economic Development Credit: 3
- ECO 378 – Health Economics Credit: 3
• PHL 306 – Business Ethics Credit: 3
• PHL 307 – Philosophy, Public Policy and Public Affairs Credit: 3
• PHL 308 – Medical Ethics Credit: 3
• PHL 322 – Philosophy of Social Sciences Credit: 3
• PHL 442 – Social and Political Philosophy Credit: 3
• PHL 443 – Philosophy of Law Credit: 3

C. Cognate Requirements (0-3 cr)

Any approved General Education computer and information literacy course - OR - passing the computer and information literacy competency exam.