

Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law (PPEL)
Advising Notes for Fall 2021 Registration

1. Minimum Grade for Courses to Count toward the PPEL Major

The usual policy for PPEL is that, with one exception, students may only count courses toward the PPEL major requirements in which they receive a grade of at least “C-” (C minus). The exception is ECON 101 (Principles of Microeconomics”), which requires a grade of “C”. However, under the CR/CRD/NC option which the University has instituted specially for the Spring 2021 semester, any course taken in Spring 2021 that otherwise would fulfill a PPEL requirement (including Principles of Microeconomics) may be counted toward the major so long as the student obtains a grade of “Credit.” Please note that no course in which a student receives a grade of “Credit with D” or “No Credit” may be counted toward the PPEL major.

2. PPEL Core Courses (PPEL 261, 262, 363, and 401)

Students are encouraged to complete the two gateway courses—Theory and Public Policy (PPEL 261) and Law and Social Order (PPEL 262)—at the earliest opportunity. Having completed at least one of the gateways (plus Microeconomics), students are also encouraged to complete Rational Choice and Political Theory (PPEL 363) at the earliest opportunity. The Capstone Seminar (PPEL 401) is required for all seniors. One or more sections of each of the PPEL prefix courses (that is, PPEL 261, PPEL 262, PPEL 363, and PPEL 401) will be offered in Fall 2021, and we expect this to be the case in Spring 2022 as well.

3. Prerequisites for the PPEL Core Courses

Please see below the prerequisites for the PPEL Core Courses:

PPEL 261 and PPEL 262: One course from any two of the following disciplines: Philosophy, Political Science, Economics, or Leadership Studies.

PPEL 363: (1) ECON 101; and (2) PPEL 261 or PPEL 262.

PPEL 401: ECON 101, PPEL 261, PPEL 262, and PPEL 363 (PPEL 363 may be taken concurrently).

4. Prerequisites for Other Courses Counted toward the PPEL Major

As majoring in PPEL is not a waiver from prerequisites, it is vital to plan ahead. Please note, for example, that the prerequisite for American Legal System (PLSC 337) is either PLSC 220 (Introduction to American Government) or PLSC 260 (Introduction to Public Policy). Students are discouraged from seeking exceptions to these prerequisites.

5. Economics Concentration

Specific requirements pertaining to PPEL majors with a concentration in Economics are provided here: <http://ppel.richmond.edu/major/concentrations.html>. Economics concentrators are urged to fulfill the requirement in Microeconomic Theory (ECON 271) as early as possible in their course of study. Please also note that the prerequisites for ECON 271 are: ECON 101 and ECON 102, and either MATH 190 or MATH 211.

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Students should familiarize themselves with the requirements for the PPEL major: see <http://ppel.richmond.edu>. This brief set of reminders is not a substitute for such familiarity.