

College of Public Policy

كلية السياسات العامة
College of Public Policy

جامعة حمد بن خليفة
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY



Prospectus
26/27

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Overview

NBK KU



Excellence

Recognition of Quality Through Achievements

Innovation

Leading Transformation

Partners

Success Through Synergy

People

Shaping Society

Innovating Today, Shaping Tomorrow

Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF), was founded in 2010 to continue fulfilling QF's vision of unlocking human potential. HBKU is a homegrown research and graduate studies university that acts as a catalyst for positive transformation in Qatar and the region while having a global impact.

Located within Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities where inquiry and discovery are integral to teaching and learning at all levels, utilizing a multidisciplinary approach across its focus areas.

The university provides an array of graduate programs through its College of Islamic Studies, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Science and Engineering, College of Law, College of Health and Life Sciences, and College of Public Policy.

HBKU is also home to three research institutes – Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (QBRI), Qatar Computing Research Institute (QCRI), and Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute (QEERI) – which were established in 2011 in line with Qatar National Vision 2030 to seek novel solutions to grand challenges facing Qatar and the region.

Why Study at HBKU?

At Hamad Bin Khalifa University, students join a vibrant community dedicated to excellence and innovation. We cultivate human capacity through enriching academic experiences, unique collaborations with partners, and interdisciplinary education to address global challenges.

HBKU offers students exposure to world-renowned faculty and industry leaders, equipping them with knowledge and skills to excel in their fields. Located in a regional hub, students gain diverse perspectives to contribute positively to their development and communities globally.

Moreover, HBKU thrives with an outstanding student-to-faculty ratio in Education City, a hub that provides abundant opportunities for active participation in a dynamic multicultural setting. As an HBKU student, you can play a pivotal role in an institution dedicated to innovation and shaping the future.





Research

Research is the cornerstone of Hamad Bin Khalifa University’s commitment to building human capacity through interdisciplinary education and innovation that supports Qatar’s journey towards sustainable growth. HBKU’s research and educational environment is distinguished by unique synergy among the colleges and research institutes.

The university’s students, faculty, and researchers work within an ecosystem that addresses challenges of national priority and contributes to outcomes with tangible impacts on society. Collectively, they are achieving breakthroughs in the fields of biomedicine, genomics and precision medicine, information and communications technology, and sustainability, while advancing knowledge across the humanities, Islamic studies, law, and public policy.



A photograph of a modern building with a white, geometric, triangular-patterned facade. The building is curved and features a large glass entrance area at the bottom. The sky is a clear, bright blue. In the foreground, there are several green trees and a set of stone steps leading up to the building. The text "About the College of Public Policy" is overlaid on the right side of the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

About the College of Public Policy



College Overview

The College of Public Policy (CPP) accomplishes HBKU's priority to contribute to effective policy development, evaluation, and dialogue in support of Qatar National Vision 2030. HBKU's CPP is one of the leading public policy schools and knowledge hubs regionally and globally.

Highly dynamic and open to novel ideas and experimentation, the CPP recruits the world's best faculty, builds research capacity, educates future leaders who engage with their communities and acts as a bridge for policy innovations that positively contribute to the global public good.

Research Programs

CPP faculty and students engage in a wide range of nationally and internationally funded and sponsored research projects on various issues: e.g., social cohesion, conflict resolution, sustainability, and digital transformation in the public sector. Additionally, students have the opportunity in capstone and thesis projects to explore research on pressing policy problems, and the college supports the publication and distribution of the results and recommendations.

Community Engagement

The college ensures that in-class teaching is supplemented and enriched by wider engagements with stakeholders and thought leaders. Seminars, workshops, visiting scholars, and special events give students extensive opportunities to broaden their learning and see connections between real-world issues and actors.

Academic Programs

- ▶ Master of Public Policy (MPP)
- ▶ Master of Social Policy and Program Evaluation (MSPPE)
- ▶ Master in Global Health Policy (MGHP)
- ▶ Graduate Certificate in Public Policy (GCPP)

Students

Students in CPP come from a variety of academic backgrounds, bringing different experiences to share and develop in their programs of study. Students are encouraged to participate in college governance, suggest ideas for events and activities, and help shape the teaching and research environment in the college.

Graduates from CPP's programs are currently employed in government agencies, health and social service sectors, and the private sector. Internship opportunities give students experience with a variety of external partners.

CPP values diversity of backgrounds and experiences, and aims to build a rich culture and community with a student body that hails from the region and the rest of the world.



Faculty

The College of Public Policy (CPP) has highly qualified faculty with strong track records in policy research and public management. The college also emphasizes effective and engaged teaching and a rich experience for its students. Faculty are conducting research on sustainable development, global governance, international migration, science policy, family policy, demographic change in Qatar and the MENA region, energy economics, trade, food security, and values and ethics as foundations for public policy.

At a Glance

4 Programs

- ▶ Master of Public Policy (MPP)
- ▶ Master of Social Policy and Program Evaluation (MSPPE)
- ▶ Master in Global Health Policy (MGHP)
- ▶ Graduate Certificate in Public Policy (GCPP)

83

Students

*Qatari students (29%)

96

Alumni

75

Nationalities
across HBKU



Programs



Master of Public Policy (MPP)

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) is a full-time, two-year degree program, delivered in-person by the College of Public Policy at HBKU. The program features a distinctive combination of interdisciplinarity, strong ethical foundations, entrepreneurship in public management, and innovation in policy-making and design.

The MPP provides training to graduate students from a range of disciplines in the skills needed to understand and enrich policy-making in Qatar and the region. The program will offer world-class academic and professional training in public policy analysis, design, implementation, evaluation, and management; as well as specializations in social policy, and in energy and the environment.

Program mission

The mission of the Master of Public Policy is to educate, enlighten, and empower the next generation of ethically grounded public leaders in Qatar and beyond.

We strive to provide critical knowledge and skills to address complex sociopolitical, socioeconomic, and environmental challenges for the public good. Through a rigorous curriculum, students will be equipped to foster equitable and responsible decisions. We seek to provide an inclusive and diverse learning environment to promote a culture of excellence, integrity, respect, and fairness. We experiment with, analyze, design, and evaluate innovative, evidence-informed, and future-oriented policy options and solutions.

The program enhances meaningful contributions to the community through public service and social value. Our graduates aspire to effectively communicate, contribute, and facilitate positive global and local impacts.





Program goals

- ▶ To create a comprehensive curriculum that provides students with a strong foundation in public policy, including an ethical understanding of the political, economic, and social dynamics that shape policy decisions.
- ▶ To cultivate an environment of respect and inclusion where students can explore and debate a wide range of policy issues in a constructive and civil manner.
- ▶ To promote agile and responsive individuals and institutions that foster positive, sustainable change.
- ▶ To encourage multi-disciplinary and evidence-informed scholarship that contributes to advancing public policy knowledge and practice.
- ▶ To empower leaders who are knowledgeable and ethical public policy professionals able to identify, analyze, and develop innovative solutions to complex policy problems.
- ▶ To provide a range of collaborative, participatory, and leadership opportunities that allow students to apply their knowledge and skills to real-world problems.

Program values

- ▶ **Integrity** - Adherence to strong ethical principles, honesty, transparency, accountability, and fairness.
- ▶ **Inclusivity** - Commitment to creating a diverse, equity-oriented, culturally responsive, and inclusive learning environment.
- ▶ **Community** - Fostering collaboration, critical thinking, and civil discourse.
- ▶ **Service** - Dedication to leadership, resilience, and innovation for the public good.
- ▶ **Sustainability** - Encouraging socially responsible environmental stewardship.

Program focus

The MPP program builds on the four pillars of public policy: policy analysis, economics, public management ethics, and research methodology. It is designed to integrate analysis, research, and the practical application of knowledge, from an interdisciplinary perspective. Other distinctive features include a strong focus on ethics in the program design and real-world experiences. The specializations will complement and deepen the core training, and encourage students to work with clients in addressing current policy problems. The program's ambition is to create thinkers who can do, and doers who can think.

Graduates of this program will be equipped to:

- ▶ Articulate and map major multidisciplinary debates, schools of thought, and theoretical approaches in the policy sciences.
- ▶ Critically analyze policy problems by using locally and globally relevant multidisciplinary perspectives with rigorous and appropriate methods.
- ▶ Collaborate effectively via culturally responsive and equity-oriented activities with relevant policymakers, leaders, and other stakeholders.
- ▶ Utilize effective verbal and written skills to encourage community service, public service, policy analysis, and evaluation.
- ▶ Apply ethical standards in policy research, research design, and adaptive policy practice.

Curriculum

A 36 credits program taught in English over two years that includes:

7 Core courses (21 credits)

- ▶ PPO 601 Research Methods for Public Policy
- ▶ PPO 602 Ethics, Law, and Public Policy
- ▶ PPO 611 Policy Analysis and Design
- ▶ PPO 621 Economics for Public Policy
- ▶ PPO 650 Public Management: Innovations and Challenges
- ▶ PPO 652 Comparative Public Policy
- ▶ PPO 653 Analytical Methods for Policy Evaluation

Electives

3 electives (9 credits) if pursuing the Capstone option, or 2 electives (6 credits) if pursuing the Thesis option, selected from the following courses:

- ▶ PPO 651 Global Political Economy
 - ▶ PPO 671 Postwar Reconstruction
 - ▶ PPO 672 Digital Governance
 - ▶ PPO 702 Advanced Seminar in Sustainability and Climate Policy
 - ▶ PPO 703 Advanced Seminar in Social Policy
 - ▶ SPO 650 Leadership in Public Policy
 - ▶ SPO 657 Education Policy
 - ▶ GHP 601 Foundations of Global Health Policy
 - ▶ GHP 604 Data, AI, and Methods in Contemporary Health Policy
- or
- ▶ PPO 690 Capstone Project (6 credits)
 - ▶ PPO 695 Thesis (9 credits)



MPP Graduation and Completion Rates

Enrollment Date	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	Fall 2025
Graduation Date	Spring 2021	Spring 2022	Spring 2023	Spring 2024	Spring 2025	Spring 2026	Spring 2027
Initial Enrollment	11	18	19	20	16	16	18
Transfer	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Dismissal / Withdrawal	1	1	2	1	0	0	0
Effective Enrollment after Transfer, Dismissal, Withdrawal	10	17	16	17	16	16	16
# Effective Enrolled who Graduated, On-Time, Two Years	10 (100%)	15 (88.2%)	16 (100%)	13 (76.4%)	15 (100%)	In Process	In Process
% of Enrolled who Graduated in Three Years	N/A	16 (94.1%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	In Process	In Process
% of Enrolled who Graduated in Four Years	N/A	16 (94.1%)	N/A	15 (93.4%)	N/A	In Process	In Process
# Have Not Graduated in Four Years	N/A	1 (5.9%)	N/A	1 (6.6%)	N/A	In Process	In Process

Master of Social Policy and Program Evaluation (MSPPE)

The Master of Social Policy and Program Evaluation (MSPPE) is a full-time, two-year degree program, delivered in-person by the College of Public Policy at HBKU. The program provides advanced analytic and substantive knowledge of social policy and program evaluation to educate professionals for careers in the public, private, and non-profit sectors on issues of local and global importance.

The program also supports Qatar's national development by providing evidence-based and ethically informed social policies, supporting policy, and program evaluation and building national capacity in social policy and evaluation.

The MSPPE offers students a unique opportunity to develop the evaluation skills needed to inform programs and policies with reliable evidence, support communities and drive organizational change across a range of sectors and activities. The program aims to prepare graduates to shape the strategic direction of social policy and program evaluation in Qatar and beyond.

Program Focus

The MSPPE offers a combination of theory, social policy analysis, and policy research and evaluation methods courses using a variety of analytical methods, as well as the opportunity to gain real-world, practical experience. Since the objective of social policy is ultimately human and societal well-being, students will be challenged to reflect on and assess the ethical foundations of social policy interventions. This interdisciplinary degree draws from multiple fields of study, including economics, political science, sociology, psychology, education, law, applied ethics, and public health. Classroom learning for the MSPPE is supplemented by applied social policy and evaluation research through lab and internship opportunities in public policy.

Graduates of this program will be equipped to:

- ▶ Function effectively as leading practitioners or senior managers, policymakers, policy analysts, and policy and program evaluators in government, private sector, NGOs, and international organizations, who design, improve, lead, and implement efficient social policies.
- ▶ Provide solutions to social problems that account for economic, ethical, and societal considerations as well as professional standards, by applying acquired social policy knowledge.
- ▶ Apply their broad social policy and program evaluation education to effectively evaluate policies and programs to improve outcomes and impact.
- ▶ Acquire knowledge of the approaches for advancing research towards having a social impact and producing original interdisciplinary research and case studies.

Curriculum

A 36-credit program taught in English over two years that includes:

Two foundation courses (6 credits)

- ▶ Foundations of Social Policy
- ▶ Foundations of Evaluation

Two core courses (6 credits)

- ▶ Social Policy Analysis
- ▶ Research Methods

There are two distinct concentrations that enable students to focus on social policy or program evaluation. In addition to the core courses students will take courses from the following two concentrations:

Concentration in Social Policy (9 credits)

- ▶ Welfare of Children and Families
- ▶ Health Policy
- ▶ Education Policy

OR

Concentration in Program Evaluation (9 credits)

- ▶ Advanced Methods for Program Evaluation
- ▶ Benefit-Cost Analysis for Program Evaluation
- ▶ Program Evaluation Planning and Designs

Two elective courses (6 credits)

Students have the option of two elective courses offered within the College of Public Policy, or from other HBKU programs (with approval).

Thesis (9 credits)

All students are required to complete a master's thesis worth 6 credits. All theses must address an appropriate research topic relevant for Qatar, the Middle East, or globally, which includes a defined field of research and a number of researchable questions to investigate. Theses should demonstrate a good knowledge of the literature in the field of social policy or program evaluation; contribute to the study of the field through original research and/or by relating the subject studies to the broader academic literature; and demonstrate analytic ability through the careful and critical use of relevant concepts and approaches.

Master in Global Health Policy (MGHP)

The Master in Global Health Policy (MGHP) is a full-time, two-year degree program, delivered in-person by the College of Public Policy at HBKU. The program connects national health system contexts with international or global challenges in health policy.

Program Focus

The interdisciplinary program introduces students to a wide range of skills, practices, theoretical approaches, and frameworks across disciplines, including health policy and politics, public policy, public health, development studies, and ethics.

The program introduces students to theoretical concepts and analytical approaches to interrogating contemporary challenges in health policy and the opportunity to gain real-world practical experience by working closely with industry partners and international health organizations during their studies.

The MGHP program draws from multiple fields of study:

- ▶ Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- ▶ Data Science
- ▶ Economics
- ▶ Policy Analysis

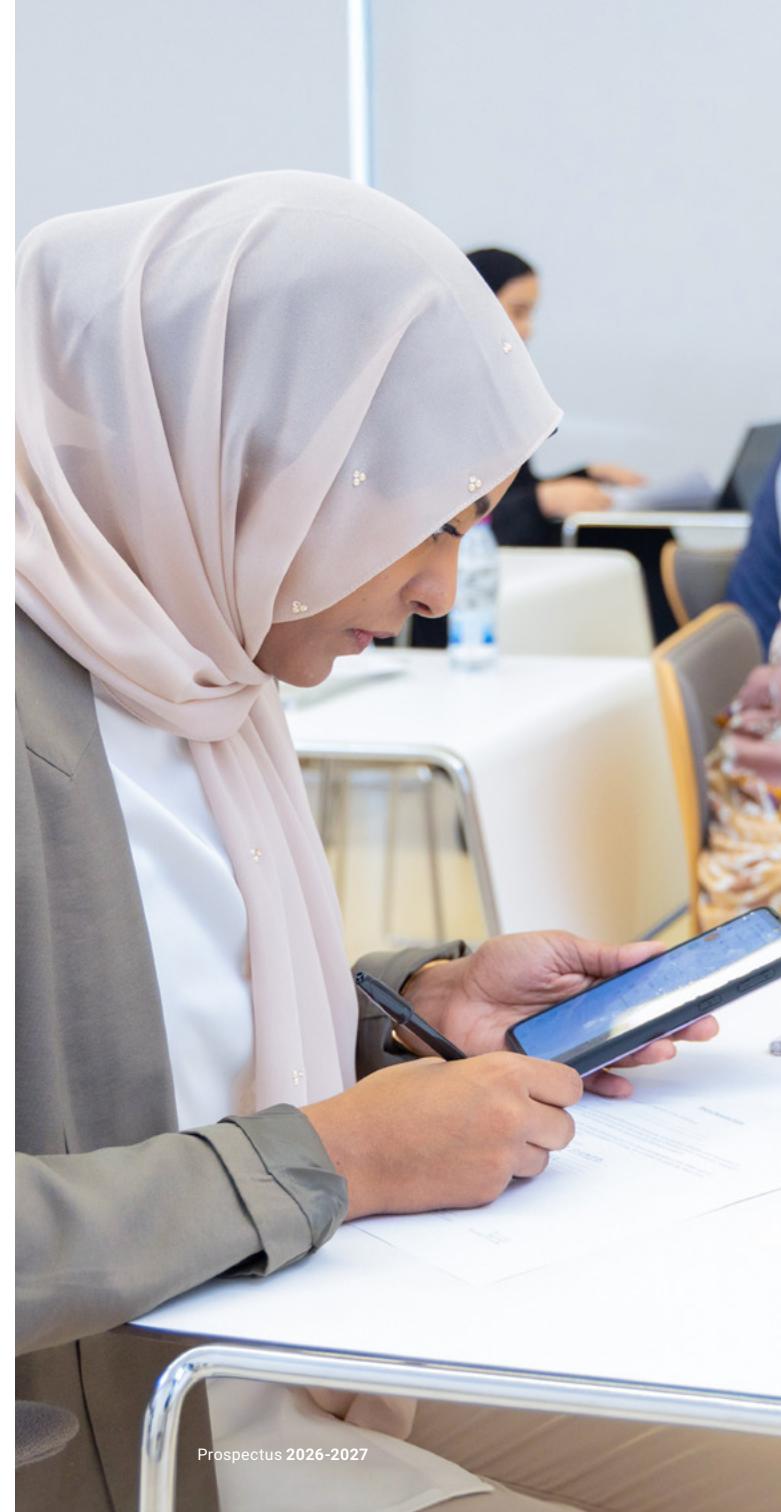
- ▶ Psychology
- ▶ Public Health
- ▶ Research Methodology
- ▶ Sociology

Curriculum

A 36 credits program taught in English over two years that includes:

7 core courses (21 credits)

- ▶ GHP 601 Foundations of Global Health Policy
- ▶ GHP 602 Global Health Economics & Financing
- ▶ GHP 603 Health Systems in the Global South
- ▶ GHP 604 Data, AI and Methods in Contemporary Health Policy
- ▶ GHP 605 Health Policy in Crises & Emergency Settings
- ▶ GHP 606 Global Health Advocacy, Diplomacy and Leadership
- ▶ GHP 609 Research Methods



3 elective courses (9 credits) or 2 elective courses (6 credits) for students pursuing the Thesis option instead of the Capstone.

- ▶ GHP 607 Designing & Implementing Health Policy
- ▶ GHP 608 Global Health and Ecological Resilience
- ▶ PEV 606 Foundations of Evaluation
- ▶ PEV 661 Benefit-Cost Analysis for Program Evaluation
- ▶ PPO 602 Ethics, Law, and Public Policy
- ▶ PPO 621 Economics for Public Policy

Capstone Project (6 credits) or Thesis (9 credits)

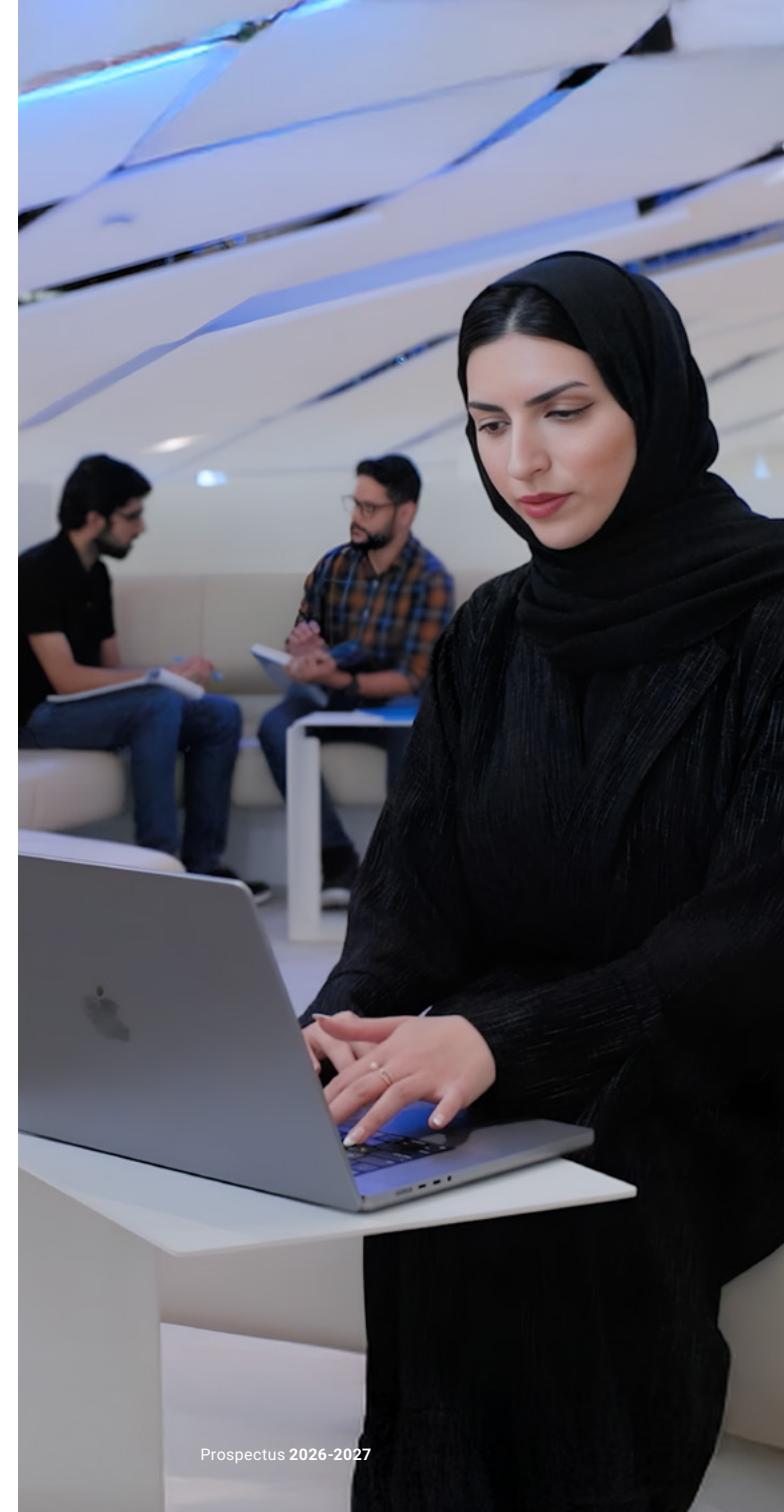
Graduate Certificate in Public Policy (GCPP)

The Graduate Certificate in Public Policy (GCPP) is a graduate-level certificate offered by HBKU's College of Public Policy, designed for working professionals who want structured, university-level training in public policy without committing to a full master's degree. It is delivered in Arabic and completed over one academic year (two semesters).

Program Focus

The program strengthens practical policy capacity for Qatar's public sector and related institutions through the following core courses:

- ▶ **Foundations of Public Policy (PPO 501)** This course introduces the key theories, concepts, and models that define the policymaking process. It builds a practical understanding of how policies are formulated, adopted, and implemented, while examining institutional structures, stakeholder roles, and the broader policy environments that shape decision-making.
- ▶ **Adaptive Leadership in Public Policy (PPO 600)** This course develops the skills and mindset required to lead in uncertain and dynamic policy environments. It covers diagnosing adaptive challenges, managing resistance, and mobilizing teams for change, with a strong emphasis on ethical leadership and emotional intelligence in public-sector contexts.
- ▶ **Contemporary Trends and Innovation in Public Policy (PPO 504)** This course focuses on global and regional shifts shaping modern policymaking, with emphasis on behavioural insights, digital governance, sustainability, and data-driven decision-making. It also explores forward-looking and practice-oriented approaches such as policy labs, foresight analysis, and co-creation with citizens.
- ▶ **Methods and Tools for Policy Analysis and Design (PPO 603)** This course equips participants with analytical methods and practical tools to evaluate policy alternatives and design effective interventions. It covers techniques such as cost-benefit analysis, stakeholder mapping, and impact assessment, enabling participants to translate evidence into actionable policy solutions.



Curriculum

Four core courses (12 credit hours) over two semesters.

Semester Plan

- ▶ **Fall Semester:**
 - ▶ PPO 501 – Foundations of Public Policy
 - ▶ PPO 504 – Contemporary Trends and Innovation in Public Policy
- ▶ **Spring Semester**
 - ▶ PPO 600 – Adaptive Leadership in Public Policy
 - ▶ PPO 603 – Methods and Tools for Policy Analysis and Design

Admissions



Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission to the Master of Public Policy program should have a bachelor's degree with a strong academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA out of 4.0) from a recognized university. Applicants from all fields are welcome to apply, including engineering, natural sciences, and humanities, but preference will be given to those with an academic background in political science, public administration, economics, communications, or other social sciences.

Applicants seeking admission to the Master of Social Policy and Program Evaluation program should have a bachelor's degree with a strong academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA out of 4.0) from a recognized university. Applicants from all fields are welcome to apply, provided they have a strong quantitative background. Applicants with work experience in social policy and/or program evaluation are preferred.

Applicants to the College of Public Policy are required to submit a valid IELTS score of 6.5 or TOEFL score of 79 to demonstrate their proficiency in English.

Further details about the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption (if applicable) are available from admissions.hbku.edu.qa



Application Requirements

Application

A completed online application form

admissions.hbku.edu.qa

Academic transcripts

Official electronic copies of transcripts should be submitted as part of the online application. Final transcripts and graduation statements are required for all previous university studies. All transcripts submitted should include an explanation of the grading system. For those who have not completed their current studies, transcripts must include results from the last completed semester of coursework. Transcripts in languages other than English or Arabic must be accompanied with an official translation. Applicants who are admitted to the program based on copies of or incomplete transcripts will be required to provide original transcripts upon enrollment in order to register for courses.

Standardized test results

Official copies (where required) must be sent directly to HBKU. Please refer to the institutional codes below:

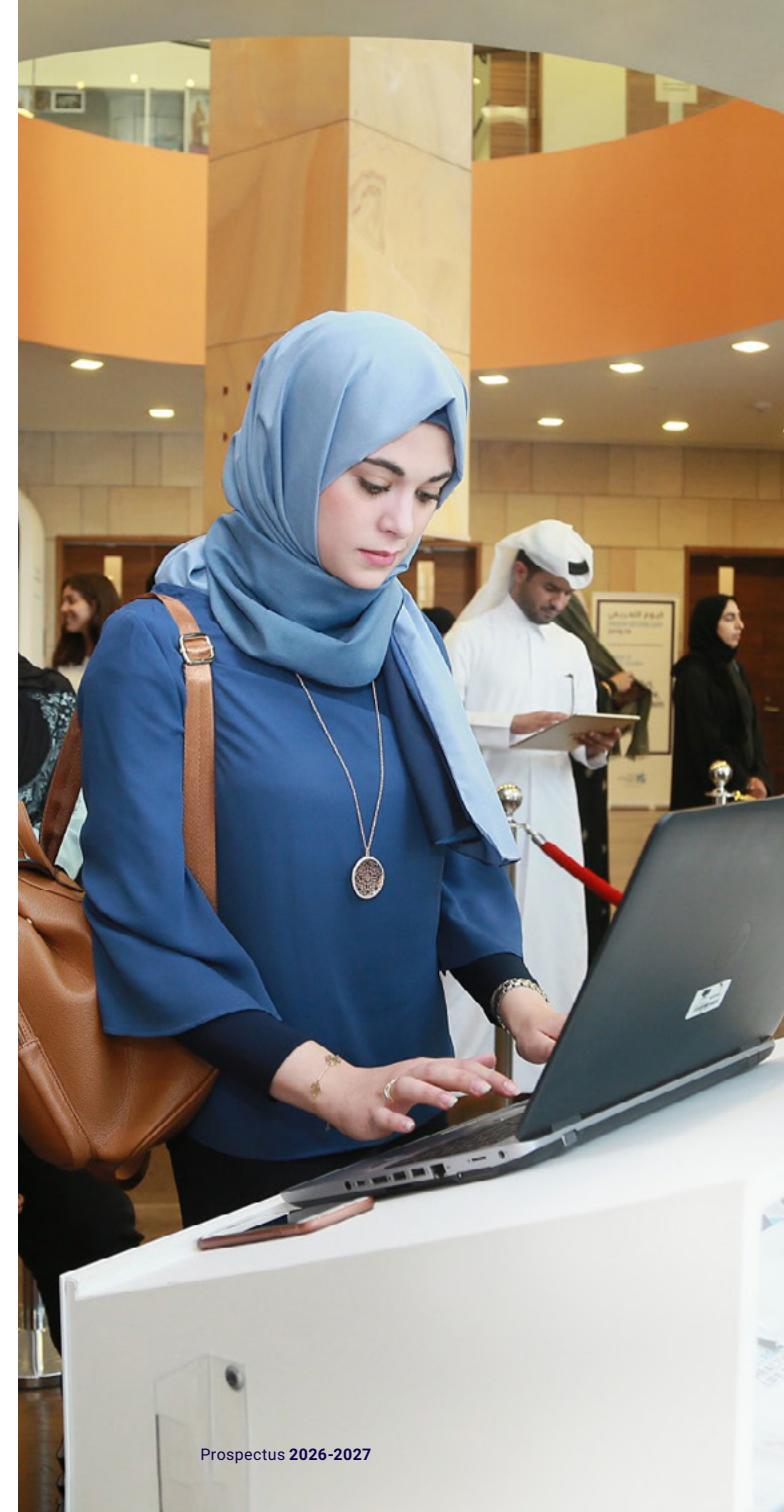
- ▶ TOEFL: 4981
- ▶ IELTS: No code required. Students should ask the IELTS center where they tested to send the IELTS TRF to Hamad Bin Khalifa University

Applicants should also submit copies of their test scores with the online application.

Letters of recommendation

Applicants should submit two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an academic referee.

Please visit admissions.hbku.edu.qa for further information about the submission process.



Personal statement of interest

Applicants should submit a personal statement (300-500 words) as part of the online application. The statement should explain why the candidate is applying to the program, and how their studies will contribute to the achievement of their personal objectives, including information about the applicant's research interests and achievements.

Resume/Curriculum vitae

Applicants should submit a copy of their current resume or curriculum vitae as part of the online application.

Identification document

All applicants should submit an electronic copy of their passport as part of the online application. Nationals and residents of Qatar should also submit their valid Qatari ID.

Tuition and Student Funding

The College of Public Policy provides a limited number of tuition waivers on a competitive basis.

Program	Total Program Tuition Fees	Tuition Fees per Credit Hour	Total Program Credit Hours	Program Duration
Master of Public Policy	QAR 110,000	QAR 3,065	36	2 years
Master of Social Policy and Program Evaluation	QAR 110,000	QAR 3,065	36	2 years
Master in Global Health Policy	QAR 90,000	QAR 90,000	36	2 years
Graduate Certificate in Public Policy	QAR 24,000	QAR 2,000	12	1 year



Contact Information

Admission inquiries:

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 PolicyCollege

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 HBKU (CPP)

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