



- ▶ AYSPS OFFERS A NEW MAJOR IN PUBLIC POLICY ..... 1
- ▶ NEW WITHDRAWAL POLICY ..... 2
- ▶ NEW PLUS & MINUS GRADING SYSTEM ..... 2

# Advising *connection*

AN ADVISEMENT NEWSLETTER  
FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Are you looking for a major? The Andrew Young School of Policy Studies now offers a B.S. with a major in Public Policy.

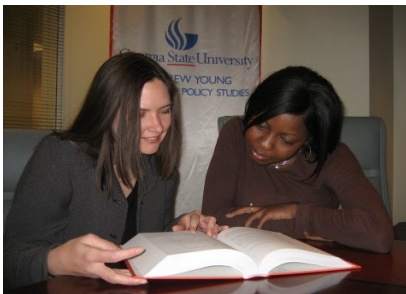
## Majoring in Public Policy

Written by Shannon Omisore, Publications Specialist III &  
Edited by Wanda Cooley, Academic Adviser— Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

If you've ever had an interest in protecting the environment, ending poverty and welfare or changing the world, this could be the program for you. Public policy majors have the freedom to design their major by selecting electives from a variety of policy areas. Classes include such topics as international issues, planning theory, health economics, and how the economy works. Students are prepared to enter the

workforce as government policy analysts, policy specialists and in many innovative professions. Policymakers work on solving problems that affect us all—such as protecting the environment, providing affordable health care, regional planning and improving the quality of life in communities. The program is also great preparation for graduate study in law, public policy and administration, and related fields.

Andrew Young School faculty members encourage students to take advantage of the school's resources and prepare for their futures. "You're connected to this great policy school where things are happening," said associate professor Christine Roch. "There's more of a connection between what's going on in the classroom and in the city."



The Public Policy program gives students the freedom to individualize their programs and work in a variety of areas through their selection of elective courses.



Alicia White (left), Georgia State University student, and Christine Roch (right), AYSPS Associate Professor, in front of the new Andrew Young School of Policy Studies building.

If you're ready to take your academic studies to the next level, consider majoring in Public Policy. For more information, contact the Office of Academic Assistance in the Andrew Young School at 404-651-3504 or email [ayspsacademicassist@gsu.edu](mailto:ayspsacademicassist@gsu.edu).

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INFORMATION ON NEW ACADEMIC POLICIES →

# Announcing New Academic Policies That Will Affect Your Grades

For more information, visit <http://www.gsu.edu/es/>

Starting in the fall semester of 2006, all undergraduate students are allowed to withdraw with a grade of W a maximum of six times. If you exceed your limit of six, you will receive a grade of WF. All withdrawals before the Fall Semester 2006 will not count against you.

You can withdraw from all courses in a term prior to the midpoint twice without being penalized even if you've exceeded the limit of six.

Hardship withdrawals, military withdrawals, withdrawals at other institutions, or withdrawals after the midpoint (grade of WF is given) do not count against your limit.

Students may drop a course during the first week of class using GoSOLAR. Drops are not withdrawals. Courses

Grade	Quality Points	Grade	Quality Points
A	4.00	C+	2.30
A-	3.70	C	2.00
B+	3.30	C-	1.70
B	3.00	D	1.00
B-	2.70	F	0.00
		WF	0.00

dropped do not count against the W limit.

Also starting in the fall semester of 2006, all instructors will have the option to award grades on a plus (+) and minus (-) scale. This applies to both undergraduate

and graduate courses.

Courses that require a grade of a "B" or a "C" will continue requiring the same. A "B-" or "C-" will not fulfill the requirement.

For the purposes of awarding HOPE, all plus and minus grades will be stripped from GPA calculations. For example, if a student has all B-grades at a HOPE audit and a GSU GPA of 2.70, that student will still maintain HOPE with a HOPE GPA of 3.0. Students will have two GPA's; one for HOPE that strips all plus and minus from the grades, and the other for transcripts, academic standing, eligibility for courses that require a specific GPA, and eligibility for graduation.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### QUALITY POINTS



A grade point average is calculated by first multiplying a course's credit hours by the quality points (qp) earned. See the chart to the left. Next, find the sums of all of your quality points and credit hours. Finally, divide your quality points by your credit hours. See the sample schedule below.

Course (Hours), Grade = Hours x QP  
 ENGL 1101 (3), B+ = 9.9  
 SPCH 1000 (2), A = 8.0  
 POLS 1101 (3), B- = 8.1

26 QP / 8 Hours = 3.25 GPA



## Student Government Association

The Student Government Association

(SGA) exists to serve many of the needs of the student body of Georgia State University. Some of the purposes of the SGA, as outlined in the constitution of the student body of Georgia State University, are to provide a responsive forum for student concerns and interests; to actively seek out, investigate and resolve student complaints and concerns; to supply students with services, programs and activities to meet their needs and interests; and to be the official voice of students in academic, institutional and campus affairs. Learn more about how you can become involved by visiting the SGA office in room 370 of the Student Center or visit <http://www.gsu.edu/sga>.

  
**Georgia State University**  
 Student Advisement Center  
 255 Sparks Hall  
 P.O. Box 3997  
 Atlanta, GA 30302-3997

## News

Belinda Payton-Mack, Senior Academic Adviser in the Student Advisement Center, was one of ten individuals awarded the 2006 Sparks Award.

The Sparks Awards were first presented by the Alumni Association in 1985 and were named for Dr. George McIntosh Sparks, the University's president from 1928 to 1957.

The award was designed to recognize the University's unsung heroes - students, faculty and staff who exemplify a willingness to 'go the extra mile' with good humor and perseverance. These were the characteristics of one of the University's most highly regarded presidents, Dr. Sparks.

"EDUCATION IS A SOCIAL PROCESS. EDUCATION IS GROWTH.  
 EDUCATION IS NOT A PREPARATION FOR LIFE;  
 EDUCATION IS LIFE ITSELF."  
 - JOHN DEWEY

### THE ADVISING CONNECTION An Advisement Newsletter For Undergraduates

To make comments, suggestions, & contributions, contact the Student Advisement Center.  
 255 Sparks Hall, 404-463-9500

## IMPORTANT DATES

May 16th - June 5th, 2006  
 Registration for summer semester classes.

May 24th, 2006  
 Maymester '06 midpoint.

May 29th, 2006  
 Memorial Day, no classes.

June 12-15, 2006  
 Late Registration for 6 & 7 week summer classes. \$50.00 Late Fee.

June 15th, 2006  
 Tuition & fees for 6 & 7 week classes due at 5pm.

July 1st, 2006  
 6 & 7 week summer '06 midpoint.

July 4th, 2006  
 Independence Day, no classes.

July 10th & 11th, 2006  
 Regent's Test Offered  
 Register at [www.gsu.edu/testing](http://www.gsu.edu/testing)

August 6th, 2006  
 Summer Commencement

August 14th, 2006  
 Grades available for all may & summer classes after 5pm via GoSolar.