Public Service Minor

OFFICE: Office of the Provost
Thurgood Marshall College
Administration Building

Affiliated Faculty and Staff
Michael S. Schudson, Ph.D., Communications,
Director of Public Service Minor
Linda Feldman, Academic Internship Program,
Director of Public Service Internships

Specialization Chairs
Aurora Zepeda, M.P.A., Teacher Education
Program—Education
Steven P. Erie, Ph.D., Political Science—Government
Lawrence A. Palinkas, Ph.D., Family and Preventive Medicine, School of Medicine—Health
Joel Robbins, Ph.D., Anthropology—Social Issues

The public service minor at UCSD encourages students to understand the history and practices of public service and to participate in the development of civic skills. These skills and practices are essential cornerstones of participation in a democratic society regardless of one’s chosen profession.

The course work for the minor emphasizes the history and emergence of the non-profit sector as a national institution distinct from the private and public sectors. The practicum aspects of the minor coupled with the traditional academic work encourages students to see the connection between the deeds of charitable service and the historic worth of citizen participation in the common public franchise regardless of professional interests or gain.

The minor in public service is open to all UCSD students in good standing. Students first complete TMC 15, Public Service in America, and must choose one area of specialization from education, government, social issues, or health. A list of specific courses has been comprised as appropriate for these specializations and is available through Marshall College Provost’s Office. Approval of the minor is based on completion of TMC 15 and 2 of the 3 upper-division specialization courses with a 2.0 GPA or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 on 90 units. Students approved to complete the minor are placed into specific internships in public service through the Academic Internship Program.

The following 28 units comprise the public service minor:
- TMC 15, Public Service in America
- 3 upper-division specialization courses (education, government, social issues, or health)
- 3 upper-division academic internships in public service
- Capstone seminar in public service

For more information regarding the requirements for the minor, see the Office of the Provost, Thurgood Marshall College, TMC Administration Building.