PUBLIC POLICY

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Public Policy students bring strong analytical and leadership skills to their co-op positions. Their intensive study of the relationship between the policy-making process and the actors and institutions involved makes them critical team members for government departments and units, political parties advocating for change, non-profits persuading policy-makers to support their initiatives, and businesses conducting market research and analysis.

Policy decisions affect how people live, how businesses operate, and how institutions interact with the individuals they serve. Our students leave the program with a solid understanding of the practical implications of policy decisions, the essentials of policymaking in other countries, and how to achieve the intended policy outcomes.

U of T Scarborough’s small class sizes give our students the opportunity to dive deep into specific policy issues under the guidance of world-class instructors, and our focus on experiential education provides our students ample opportunity to use real world tools and techniques to tackle policy issues.

SAMPLE JOB TITLES

Junior Economic Advisor in Government
Policy Research Assistant in NGOs
Foreign Service Officer in Government
Junior Research in Think Tanks
Policy Analyst in Corporations
“I want employers to know that Arts & Science Co-op students will be valuable employees because they can bring a fresh perspective and new knowledge to the workplace. They are also ready to make an immediate impact and are eager to learn.”

PROFILE: LILY CHEE

For Lily Chee, a Client Service Representative role within the Ministry of the Environment meant more than answering calls and emails. It was an opportunity to pick up technical skills to bolster her academic knowledge.

“I never had experience managing databases before in my public policy courses, but I gained those experiences through the course of my work term.”

The work term was a beneficial arrangement for both student and employer. Over Lily’s eight-month period with the Ministry, she applied soft and hard skills to her role, which included processing license applications and managing client inquiries.

“The most enjoyable moments involved applying my conflict resolution skills to successfully address client concerns,” Lily says. “I also found it helpful to draw on the data analysis skills I learned from the statistics and information systems courses I took as part of my program.”

Lily strongly believes in the value Arts & Science Co-op students bring, emphasizing their critical thinking skills, experience with research projects, communication skills, and ability to evaluate both quantitative and qualitative data.

Your next big hire is from the University of Toronto Scarborough Arts & Science Co-op program.

Tap into our full-support team to hire in as few as 10 business days: uoft.me/hirestudents

CO-OP IN ACTION

“We have had the pleasure of participating in UTSC’s Co-op program over the past 4 years. As a health regulator, the students have greatly assisted us in carrying out our mandate to protect the public interest by working on projects that involved governance, communications, policy research and policy development. We highly recommend this program, and want to thank the Co-op office for their tremendous assistance - scheduling interviews and hiring students was efficient and quick every year.”

Judith M. Rigby, CPA, CGA
Registrar and CEO
College of Dental Technologists of Ontario