Graduate Certificate in Public Policy (GCPP)

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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.

▶ **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.

▶ **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.

▶ **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

Admission Requirements

The program is primarily aimed at professionals working in policy and government fields, including ministries, government agencies, public and semi-public bodies, strategy, planning, and performance units, and policy, program, organization, and service delivery teams. It does not require a specific major as a prerequisite and accepts applicants from diverse academic backgrounds.

Application requirements

A completed online application form:
admissions.hbku.edu.qa

Academic transcripts

▸ Minimum GPA: 2.5 in the most recently earned degree.
▸ No IELTS/TOEFL required.

Tuition fees

Program	Graduate Certificate in Public Policy (GCPP)
Total Program Tuition Fees	QAR 24,000
Tuition Fees per Credit Hour	QAR 2,000
Total Program Credit Hours	12
Program Duration	1 year

Admission inquiries

admissions.cpp@hbku.edu.qa