“Just as today’s politics combines all national technology and all social aspirations, so will tomorrow’s politics have to perform the function of collating and coordinating every facet of human behavior and human capability for the greatest good of the greatest number.”


The Tower Scholars Program is a selective, multidisciplinary minor in Public Policy and International Affairs that enables students from a variety of academic backgrounds to combine their academic study of public policy with experience in a policy-making setting. In four exclusive classes, which include a trip to Washington, D.C., to meet with policymakers, Scholars learn how to analyze and craft policy from experienced practitioners and full-time faculty. During their senior year, scholars are placed in a local agency or institution to carry out a directed research project on a relevant policy issue. Highland Capital Management Tower Scholars graduate prepared to transform ideas into action and contribute to the resolution of policy challenges in the public and private sectors.

The Tower Scholars Program is affiliated with the John Goodwin Tower Center for Political Studies in Dedman College. The Tower Center bridges the gap between the world of ideas, scholarship and teaching, and the practice of politics and policy-making.

APPLY THIS SPRING! For more information, visit us at www.smu.edu/TowerCenter/TowerScholars
HCM Tower Scholar applicants must:

- Have a 3.3 GPA and be a first-year student at SMU
- Have taken or plan to take prior to their third year at SMU
  - **One Economics Pre-requisite (or co-requisite)**
    - ECO 1311 or ECO 1312; or a Macroeconomics AP Test score of 4 or better, or a Microeconomics AP Test score of 4 or better
  - **One Quantitative Pre-requisite (or co-requisite)**
    - ITOM 2305; MATH 1309 or MATH 1337; or SOCI 3311 or SOCI 3312; or STAT 2301, or STAT 2331, or STAT 4340; or a Statistics AP Test score of 4 or better
- Submit an application by the deadline; all majors welcome!

**Required Courses**

If selected, HCM Tower Scholars will be invited to enroll in the 15 credit-hour minor in Public Policy and International Affairs (PPIA).

- **Gateway to Global Policymaking** *(PPIA 2380)*
  - Study the interaction of policy problems, policy tools, and organizational structures at the local, national, and international levels
  - Meets UC Proficiencies and Experiences W & IL, Depth HFA, and Breadth IIC
  - Taken spring of the second year

- **Junior Year Policy Seminar** *(Semester 1: PPIA 3301 & Semester 2: PPIA 3302)*
  - **PPIA 3301**: Students develop critical skills in policy analysis, writing and presentation
    - Meets UC Proficiencies and Experiences IL and OC and Depth HSBS
    - Taken fall of the third year
  - **PPIA 3302**: Students are tasked with a real world policy problem, work on solving that problem, and finally report back to the client
    - Meets UC Proficiencies and Experiences OC and CE, and Foundation KNW
    - Taken spring of the third year

- **Directed Research Project** *(PPIA 4306)*
  - Students are placed with a Dallas-based client to carry out research and solidify the practical experience gained in the two-semester junior year policy seminar
    - Students may apply to have this course as an Engaged Learning credit
    - Taken fall of the fourth year

- **Principles of Public Policy** *(PLSC 3320)*
  - Offered through Political Science and is open to all students
  - Subject to course offering, may be taken at any time during a student’s college career

*These courses are open only to HCM Tower Scholars admitted to the PPIA minor.*