



Criswell College PPE Degree (Philosophy, Politics, and Economics)

Effectively a double major: PPE *and* Bible, although your official degree will be B.A. in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.

42 hrs. Biblical Studies, Theology, and Ministry

33 hrs. PPE (which includes 3 hrs. Intro to Philosophy, required for all students)

Philosophy: 12 hrs. Introduction to Philosophy (required for all Criswell students) Introduction to Ethics
Critical Thinking
Metaphysics and Epistemology

Politics: 12 hrs. Government of the United States
State and Local Government
The U.S. *Constitution* Political
Economy

Economics: 6 hrs. Microeconomics
Macroeconomics

Humanities: 3 hrs. Politics and Law in Western Civilization

While minors are not officially declared, students also have 15 hours available for the equivalent of a minor or for electives. Or students may take 15 extra hours to add to the 15 elective hours, and use all 30 hours for a second major (total degree with double major will then be 135 hours).

Students should probably take electives in one of the three PPE areas, depending on what they hope to do upon graduation.

What can students do with the Criswell College PPE degree?

Go into vocational ministry:

With the Criswell College core curriculum, graduates might immediately begin work as evangelists, missionaries, or on staff at a local church. They might also pursue an M.Div. before doing this sort of work (see below). The PPE degree will help them understand the world around them, and how to help church members think rightly about such things.

Go into the business world:

Graduates who are already skilled or interested in working for a company or starting a

business will have a much better grasp of these three important areas (philosophy, politics, and economics).

Do business as mission or community development:

Graduates will understand the value of entrepreneurship *and* ministry for developing Communities.

Pursue a Master's degree :

M.A. in Philosophy (to prepare, take 2 more Philosophy electives during undergrad)

M.A. in Politics, Government, Public Policy, or Political Science (to prepare, take 2 more Politics electives during undergrad)

M.A. in Economics (to prepare, take 3 or 4 more Economics electives and/or Mathematics electives during undergrad)

Master's degrees in several other areas are viable options as well

Communication

Leadership

Theology

Biblical Studies

J.D. ("Juris Doctor"; i.e. a Law degree)

M.Div. at a Seminary or Divinity School

Ph.D. in one of the PPE areas. Of course, a master's degree will be required first

What is required for an advanced degree?

High GPA

High GRE (for most graduate schools) or LSAT score (for law school) Quality writing sample(s)

3 good academic references

Pastoral/church reference(s) (for M.Div.)

Know specifically what you want to study, and with whom (for Ph.D.)

Vocations *after* a master's degree:

Master's graduates may become staffers for elected officials.

Master's graduates also may go on to do Ph.D. studies

Ph.D. graduates typically go on to teach college and/or graduate school or seminary, or work for think tanks.

Law School graduates typically take the Bar exam, go to work for a law firm, often first interning for a judge.

Work for an elected official: often a Master's degree is also desirable.

During the bachelor's program, get to know staffers, organizations, and representatives. Volunteer and become acquainted with the issues, people, and protocol.

Apply for summer internships, and internships upon graduation, which often turn into staff positions.

Advice:

Think at least 2 or 3 steps ahead!

For example, if you know you want to do a Master's or Ph.D. at a certain school, find out what that specific school requires for the specific program you are interested in. Then "work your way backward," figuring out which electives to take (so you have the required hours for that program), and which other activities/connections would be helpful.

Every school is different, so students should learn specific requirements for each school at least by the end of their sophomore year of PPE undergrad if possible.

If you can procure an internship in your area of interest, you should do so.

Travel, attend conferences, get to know people, and work and take courses in your areas of interest.

