

Graduate Certificate in Policy and Data (386JA.2)

Please note these are the 2025 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	0.5 years
Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
Discipline	Canberra School of Politics, Economics and Society
UAC code	
English language requirements	An IELTS Academic score of 6.5 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent).
View IELTS equivalences	

International students

Academic entry requirements	To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our academic entry requirements page.
View UC's academic entry requirements	

Delivery mode	
Location	
Duration	0.5 years
Faculty	Faculty of Business, Government & Law
Discipline	Canberra School of Politics, Economics and Society
CRICOS code	
English language requirements	An IELTS Academic score of 6.5 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent). View IELTS equivalences

About this course

The Graduate Certificate in Policy and Data aims to enhance the policy and data analytic skills of public servants to help meet present and future governance and policy challenges. The course responds to a present skills deficit in the APS, and other Australian public services, all of which are eagerly seeking to enhance their policy analytic capability. This course aims to enhance the students' understanding of current societal and governance challenges, to provide a fundamental understanding of Australian governance and policy theory and practice, to teach skills of policy and data analysis, and to encourage students to develop critical thinking and judgement skills that will help them on their path to becoming future public service leaders. Students are given a firm grounding in the context of Australian governance, and the thinking behind it, the skills of policy analysis, challenges presented by the budget process, the ideas underpinning Australia's economic approach, the technical skills of data analysis, and the skills of communicating complex data driven analysis to non-specialists.

Admission requirements

Admission is restricted to staff of the Australian Public Service, through contract arrangements with particular agencies.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or equivalent as approved by the Academic Quality and Standards Committee OR hold two or more years of relevant work experience, and be currently employed in an Australian Commonwealth, State, or Territory Government Department.

Assumed knowledge

Essential: Some basic understanding of the functions of Australian Government. This is assumed, given that the course is only open to

APS students. Desirable but not essential: Familiarity with fundamental theories and concepts underpinning effective public policy development. Familiarity with basic statistics and statistical concepts.

Periods course is open for new admissions

Year	Location	Teaching period	Teaching start date	Domestic	International
2025	Bruce, Canberra	Period 1	28 January 2025	✓	
2025	Bruce, Canberra	Period 2	31 March 2025	✓	
2025	Bruce, Canberra	Period 3	03 June 2025	✓	
2025	Bruce, Canberra	Period 4	04 August 2025	✓	
2025	Bruce, Canberra	Period 5	29 September 2025	✓	
2025	Bruce, Canberra	Period 6	01 December 2025	✓	
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Period 1	27 January 2026	✓	
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Period 2	30 March 2026	✓	
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Period 3	02 June 2026	✓	
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Period 4	03 August 2026	✓	
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Period 5	28 September 2026	✓	
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Period 6	30 November 2026	✓	
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Period 1	25 January 2027	✓	
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Period 2	30 March 2027	✓	
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Period 3	01 June 2027	✓	
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Period 4	02 August 2027	✓	

2027	Bruce, Canberra	Period 5	27 September 2027	✓	
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Period 6	29 November 2027	✓	

Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current [course rules and university policy](#).

Course requirements

Graduate Certificate in Policy and Data (386JA) | 12 credit points

Required - Must pass 12 credit points as follows

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

Public Policy PG (6268) | 3 credit points – Level P

Public Administration G (8556) | 3 credit points – Level G

Economic Policy Analysis G (9800) | 3 credit points – Level G

Understanding, Utilising and Evaluating Government Statistics G (10337) | 3 credit points – Level G

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you must meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the [inherent requirements statement](#) applicable to your course

Typical study pattern

UC - Canberra, Bruce

Standard Full Time, Period 2 Commencing

Year 1

Period 2

[Public Administration G \(8556\)](#)

Period 3

[Public Policy PG \(6268\)](#)

Period 4

[Economic Policy Analysis G \(9800\)](#)

Period 5

Course information

Course duration

Standard 0.5 years full time. Maximum 3 years from date of enrolment to date of course completion.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
2. To be able to accurately use, interpret and draw inference from information gathered as evidence to support both routine and strategic decision-making.	<p>UC graduates are professional: Communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development.</p> <p>UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways; apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.</p>
3. Ability to design, model and craft policy options for simple issues.	<p>UC graduates are professional: Use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways; apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.</p>
4. Understanding of and capacity to apply basic	UC graduates are professional: Communicate effectively; use creativity, critical

statistical concepts, and basic data analytic techniques relevant to Australian public policy.	<p>thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development.</p> <p>UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.</p>
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1. Understanding of Australia's political and governance context and how this affects policy-making.

UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems.

UC graduates are global citizens: Make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development.

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Graduate Certificate in Policy and Data	GradCert PD

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Prospective Students	-

Current and Commencing Students

Email: BGLstudent@canberra.edu.au

Download your course guide



Scholarships

Find the scholarship that's the right fit for you

[Explore Scholarships](#)

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CRICOS 00212K

TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12003 (Australian University)

UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.