

**GLOBAL
POVERTY &
PRACTICE**
MINOR



HANDBOOK

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS

Established in the Fall of 2007, the Global Poverty & Practice (GPP) Minor gives students an opportunity to examine contemporary forms of poverty, wealth, and inequality through academic coursework and practical experience. Through GPP, students from across academic disciplines come together to think critically about issues of poverty and inequality, and investigate the ways in which the minor can supplement their major field of study.

Central to the minor is a six-week fieldwork opportunity—the Practice Experience (also known as the PE)—in which students connect theory with action by partnering with nongovernmental or community organizations, government agencies, or other development programs domestically or abroad. The Blum Center offers funding support for students' Practice Experiences through a competitive fellowship.

ABOUT THE GPP MINOR

Students graduating with a minor in Global Poverty & Practice will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the following:

- 1** Scholarly approaches to understanding poverty, wealth, and inequality in a historical and global context.
- 2** Knowledge of international development and domestic poverty alleviation policies, programs, institutions, and social movements.
- 3** An ability to critically engage in public debates about poverty and poverty action through written texts as well as through the use of social, digital, and visual media.
- 4** Knowledge of the history and contemporary politics of poverty and inequality in a particular place or world region, in preparation for the practice requirement of the minor.
- 5** Analytical and practical skills gained through the Practice Experience in a particular sector of poverty action, at various scales and in various forms.
- 6** An understanding of different modalities and relations of power involved in poverty action, developed through historically informed analytical skills, the practice experience, and critical reflection.

DECLARING THE MINOR

Students interested in pursuing the Minor must:

- Submit a Declaration of Intent Form to the GPP Advising office. There are two declaration deadline dates (early-October and mid-March)
- Attend a mandatory GPP Orientation to complete the declaration process.

There are no prerequisites to declaring the Minor. The Minor is also not a capped academic program and is open to all students who are able to demonstrate that they are committed to fulfilling the requirements by the time they graduate.



A GPP student interviews a client at The Bread Project, a Berkeley non-profit which trains and prepares individuals for careers in the food industry.

Declaring the Minor allows students to:

- Have priority enrollment for GPP 115 (the introduction class) and gain admission to the rest of the courses
- Access numerous resources that assist students in selecting a practice experience
- Receive information on events and opportunities relevant to addressing global poverty and inequality

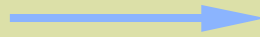


As a volunteer in the Philippines, a GPP student conducts media and arts programming for urban poor youth.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

3 CORE COURSES

all courses taken must be



2 DIRECTED ELECTIVES

■ UPPER DIVISION

■ AT LEAST 2 UNITS

■ TAKEN FOR A LETTER GRADE

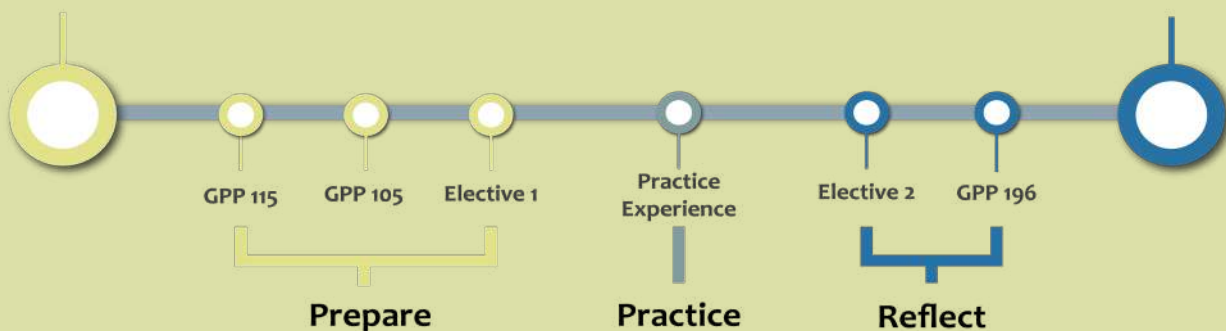
The GPP Minor is a part of the College of Letters and Science - students must abide by the following L&S Guidelines:

- No more than one upper-division course may be included in both your minor and major program
- Courses required for minor programs may be applied to the L&S Seven-Course Breadth requirement.
- A minimum 2.0 grade point average is required for courses included in minor programs.
- All major and minor requirements must be completed by the last day of finals of the semester the student graduates. If the student cannot finish all courses required for their minor by that time, they need to visit a College Adviser. The minor will be added to the student's transcript only after all of the required course work has been completed, and all minor requirements are satisfied.
- Minors must be completed within the unit ceiling.
- Completion of a minor program is posted on the transcript alongside your major. Minor programs are not noted on diplomas.

SAMPLE COURSE TIMELINE

**Declare the
Minor**

**Complete the
Minor**



CORE COURSES

GPP 115 - Global Poverty: Challenges and Hopes

This class seeks to provide a rigorous understanding of 20th century development and thus 21st century poverty alleviation. Students will take a look at popular ideas of poverty alleviation, the institutional framework of poverty ideas and practices, and the social and political mobilizations that seek to transform the structures of poverty.

Enrollment:

**This course is open to all students except 1st semester freshmen. Students do not need to declare the minor prior to taking GPP 115, but declared students will receive priority enrollment into the course.*

GPP 105: The Ethics, Methods, and Pragmatics of Global Practice

This course will expose students to a diversity of methodological frameworks and techniques and will also allow students to discuss, reflect upon, and debate the ethics of global citizenship. Students will work on projects and assignments that support preparation for their Minor Practice Experience.

Enrollment:

- Students must have declared the GPP Minor to enroll in GPP 105 and it must be taken after or concurrently with GPP 115.

- Students may enroll in GPP 105 during phase 1 or 2. However, since this class will help prepare for the practice experience, students must have a confirmed practice experience set up in order to stay enrolled in the class. A practice approval form must be submitted to gppminor@berkeley.edu by the deadlines (usually mid-August for Fall GPP 105 and mid-January for Spring GPP 105). Students who do not submit this form by the deadlines set may be dropped from the course.

GPP 196: Capstone Reflection Course

Students reflect on their Practice Experience and explore how issues of global poverty and inequality will shape their future academic, personal, and career paths. The course challenges students to as op-eds, and through an organizational report.

Thesis Option:

Students who are completing a thesis seminar for their major can petition to use this course to fulfill the GPP Minor capstone in place of GPP 196. To pursue this option, the thesis needs to meaningfully integrate a scholarly, pragmatic, or personal reflection of the student's Practice Experience in his/her major field of study. Students who use their major thesis to fulfill the Capstone Reflection requirement for the minor may not overlap any additional courses between their major and minor. Students must submit the [Thesis Approval form](#) to gppminor@berkeley.edu to receive permission to utilize this option.

GPP DIRECTED ELECTIVES

Directed Elective 1: Global and Area Studies

The intent of this directed elective is to train students in the geographical context in which poverty and poverty action must be understood. Known as 'Area Studies,' such a framework encourages students to select a world-region/country in which they may wish to gain deep knowledge.

An Area Studies elective must have a geographical connection to the location of a student's practice experience.

However, a course from the 'Global Studies' category may also be taken if the themes of the course are relevant to the students' practice experience. This category includes courses focused on transnational and global processes.

Directed Elective 2: Sectors and Methods

The intent of this directed elective is to train students in the specific issues and skills that are associated with different domains of poverty analysis and poverty action. Such knowledge is an integral component of both the theoretical understanding of poverty and inequality, and of the ability to act in the domain of global development. **This elective must relate to the sector/method focus of a student's practice experience.**

The electives do not need to be taken in any particular sequence (but will benefit most if taken prior to the Practice Experience). Approved electives taken before declaring the GPP minor are eligible.

SELECTING DIRECTED ELECTIVES

The list of approved courses by semester can be found here: ["Requirements."](#) New lists are released approximately one week before phase 1 enrollment begins. Students are encouraged to consult with a GPP Advisor when selecting their elective courses.

Students may also submit a [course substitution](#) form to:

*Take an elective course, related to your practice experience, that is **not** listed on the approved elective course lists*

OR

*Take an elective course that is listed on the GPP approved elective course lists, but is **not** related to your practice experience (approved under exceptional circumstances)*

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLANS

SAMPLE PLAN 1

FALL 2020

- GPP 115

SPRING 2021

- GPP 105

- Global and Area Studies Elective

SUMMER 2021

- Practice Experience

FALL 2021

- GPP 196

- Sectors and Methods Elective

SAMPLE PLAN 2

FALL 2020

- GPP 115, GPP 105

- Global and Area Studies Elective

- Begin Practice Experience

SPRING 2021

- GPP 196

- Sectors and Methods Elective

- Complete Practice Experience

SAMPLE PLAN 3

SUMMER 2020

- GPP 115

FALL 2020

- GPP 105

- Global and Area Studies Elective

- Begin Practice Experience

SPRING 2021

- GPP 196

- Sector and Methods Elective

- Complete Practice Experience

CAN BE FULFILLED CONCURRENTLY:

- GPP 115 and GPP 105
- GPP 105 and 1st half of Practice Experience (local)*
- GPP 196 and 2nd half of Practice Experience (local)*

**Note: If the PE is completed in the Bay Area during the academic year, the 240 hours requirement is typically spread out over the course of two semesters. At least half of the students' PE hours must be completed before starting GPP 196. Students may only count hours towards the Practice Experience starting from the first day of GPP 105 course instruction.*

Students should have no more than a one-semester gap between completing GPP 105 and beginning their practice experience. The summer is counted as a semester.

*As stated earlier in the L&S guidelines, **one course may overlap between each major-minor combination.** Students may overlap one course between two minors, but should verify that their other minor doesn't have a restriction on this.*

Students must receive a letter grade/clear any incompletes in the GPP core courses in order to continue to the next course in the sequence.

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

About the Practice Experience

The "Practice Experience" (PE) is the signature element of the GPP Minor, providing an opportunity for students to connect the theory and practice of poverty action. The intention is for students to gain valuable learning experiences through working with non-governmental organizations, government agencies, social movements, and community projects that focus on various dimensions of poverty action – from community health and food security to economic justice and grass-roots political power. GPP Minor students have completed practice experiences in a variety of poverty action sectors in over 70 countries around the world.



PRACTICE EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

- Can take place domestically or internationally with a single organization or initiative
- The minimum time expected is 240 hours over the course of at least six consecutive weeks

Many students engage in Practice Experiences much longer than this minimum. The Practice Experience must have continuity over time, as this is important both for the overall learning experience and for the benefit of the organization the student is working with.

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE RESTRICTION

PRACTICE EXPERIENCES CANNOT INVOLVE...

1 Religious Instruction or Proselytization

Students should note that campus policy requires students in the Global Poverty and Practice Minor abide by applicable Federal and State laws, including those establishing the separation of church and state. As a result, eligible field experiences must not involve engaging in religious instruction, conducting worship services, providing instruction as part of a program that includes mandatory religious instruction or worship, constructing or operating facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship, or maintaining facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship. Furthermore, students may not complete their practice experience with organizations that include religious proselytization as part of their mission. Students may volunteer with a faith-based organization as long as the work for the organization does not involve the above activities.

2 Teaching English Abroad

Out of respect for local languages and cultures, we ask that students avoid teaching English in areas where English isn't the primary language of instruction. However, exceptions have been made on a case-by-case basis, given the specific organization, context and the scope of the work. If you have questions about this restriction, please speak with a GPP Advisor.

3 Carrying out work which the student is not officially qualified to do (e.g. engaging in certain medical procedures, providing counseling, etc.)

If a Practice Experience involves doing medical/clinical work, the student must provide documentation from the organization certifying that they will only be permitted to perform tasks for which they are officially trained.

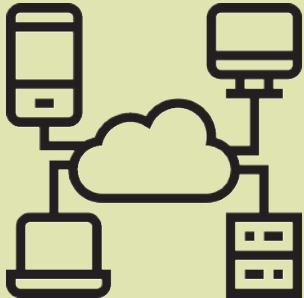
FINDING A PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

The process of selecting and arranging a Practice is considered a significant learning experience in itself. Therefore, Blum Center staff do not place students into pre-selected Practice Experience sites. Instead, the GPP staff and peer advisors provide substantial support to students in finding a meaningful Practice Experience. GPP Peer Advisors, all of whom hold regular drop in advising hours, provide students with resources and guidance on how to go about identifying and developing a Practice Experience that suits the individual student's interests and needs. The GPP minor declaration orientation, mandatory for all students who declare the minor, also provides essential information and resources for this process.



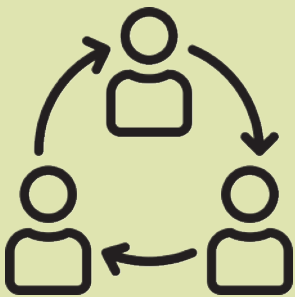
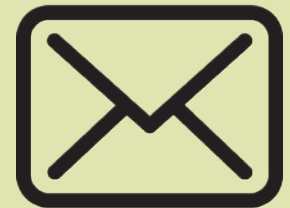
RESOURCES

FOR FINDING A PRACTICE EXPERIENCE



The GPP Orgs [database](#) contains information on where past GPP students completed Practice Experiences, organized by sector and location. Students are given access to this database after declaring the minor. Prospective GPP students are welcome to visit peer advising office hours to use this tool for brainstorming PE interests.

Declared students will also be added to the GPP Weekly Announcements email list, which includes several PE opportunities.



Cal faculty and graduate students with expertise in your field of interest or region are also a helpful resource to learn about potential organizations to work with.

Departments on campus such as the [UC Berkeley Public Service Center](#) and UC Berkeley Study Abroad share opportunities that can fulfill the PE requirement. For international PEs, there are a few opportunities via the UC Education Abroad Program to simultaneously study abroad and complete a PE in Latin America (more information [here](#)).



Students engage in practice experiences internationally and domestically with a wide variety of organizations committed to some dimension of poverty action. When students are in the process of determining their practice experience, it is essential to reflect deeply on what sector of poverty action the student wants to learn more about at this stage in their life (public health, education, food security, economic development, housing, and so forth). Likewise, we advise students to think deeply about where they want to do your practice experience (locally, domestically, internationally) and what kind of organization (community based, government, private sector, non-profit).

GETTING STARTED

1 GPP Practice Experiences – Critical Questions, Challenges, and Opportunities

While students have some flexibility to choose their site, scale, and form of poverty action, each choice raises distinct social, political, and logistical challenges and opportunities for the student. This document—organized around 11 common types of PEs—highlights some questions to engage with when considering these PEs.

2 How do I identify a PE site?

This document provides helpful tips for finding an organization and criteria for choosing fulfilling practice experiences

3 Preliminary Questions for Organizations

This sheet outlines specific questions students may want to consider when contacting organizations for the practice experience.

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE FORMS & APPROVAL

In order to ensure that the Practice Experience follows the requirements, and will be a meaningful learning experience, the following forms are submitted to GPP Minor advisors to officially approve the PE. Students are encouraged to regularly visit advising as they are figuring out their PE site before submitting their forms. Students will be reminded about submitting the necessary forms when declared.

■ Practice Approval Form

This form indicates initial details about the practice experience the student has secured. This form must be submitted to a GPP Advisor to receive a Course Entry Code to enroll in GPP 105, the second core course for the Minor. If the practice experience meets the minimum time requirements and the student can articulate how it will help them further learn about a particular approach to poverty action, it likely satisfies the minor requirement. If the approval form is not submitted, or the PE is not approved, the student may be dropped from GPP 105.

■ Practice Agreement Form

This form indicates final details of the practice experience. This form must be signed by both the student and the student's supervisor at the practice experience organization. This form must be submitted at least six weeks prior to beginning the practice experience.

■ Liability Waiver

All students must complete a liability waiver prior to beginning their practice experience, acknowledging the risks that may arise during their PE. Most students will complete this during their attendance at the GPP Pre-Departure Orientation.

■ Travel Insurance

All students completing PEs outside of the Bay Area are required to enroll in UC Travel insurance, which is free for all UC students.

■ Travel Profile

All students completing PEs outside the Bay Area are required to submit a profile with information on their travel plans for the practice experience. This includes information on flights (arrival, departure), housing and emergency contacts. This form is kept on file by Blum staff and the student is required to have a copy of it during their travels.

FUNDING



The GPP Minor offers a fellowship to help cover the costs associated with students' practice experiences. Additionally, many students receive funding from other grants and scholarships at UC Berkeley and elsewhere.

All GPP students are eligible to apply for the GPP Fellowship to receive **up to \$4,000** for their practice experience. This fellowship is meant to help financially support students as they complete their practice experience as well as cover specific expenses they expect to incur as part of their practice. Recipients of the Fellowship will be determined by the strength of the student's application and financial need. Students are also encouraged to attend a fellowship workshop to receive guidance on how to put together a strong fellowship application. The application can be found under the ["Funding"](#) section on the GPP website.

There are two application cycles per year for the GPP Fellowship. Students may apply in September for fall or spring practice experiences. There is also an application deadline in January for spring and summer practice experiences.

CO-CURRICULAR SUPPORT

The GPP minor strives to create a close-knit community by organizing events for students to meet one another, to prepare and reflect on the practice experience, as well as to sustain these personal connections after graduation.

■ New Student Welcome Reception

Every Fall, this reception serves as a venue to formally welcomes newly declared students into the GPP minor. This is a great opportunity for students to get to know each other, as well as GPP faculty and alumni.

■ Pre-Departure Orientation (mandatory attendance)

Every March, the GPP Minor holds a full day orientation to prepare students for being safe and healthy during their practice experience. This involves general presentations on travel health and security, as well as discussions about cultural norms, respect, safety, etc. based on specific regions students will be working in. These region-specific discussions are led by faculty and graduate students who have extensive experience working in the regions they are asked to speak about.

■ Post-Practice Retreat (mandatory attendance)

Each fall, the GPP Minor hosts a "Post-Practice Retreat" for all students who completed their practice experience over the past year. This retreat is an opportunity for students to reflect upon and process the more personal aspects of their practice experience outside of a classroom setting. Students are also given the chance to reflect on how their experience in the Minor can inform their personal, academic, and career paths. Select alumni of the Minor are invited to facilitate this retreat.

MINOR COMPLETION

To complete the GPP Minor, students must submit a Minor Completion Form by RRR week of their final semester. After completing the form, students must first obtain their major advisor's signature on the form before submitting it to the GPP Advising office.

Additional forms that are required for completion of the Minor are:

- Practice Agreement Form (submitted before beginning practice experience)
- Liability Waiver (submitted before beginning practice experience)
- Capstone Assignment (Submitted as part of GPP 196 or Major Thesis for students who received permission to use thesis seminar as their capstone)

DROP-IN ADVISING

GPP Staff Advisors and Peer Advisors are available to meet with students to discuss any questions they have regarding the GPP Minor. The GPP Peer Advisors are undergraduate students who have completed a majority of the requirements for the GPP Minor, including the Practice Experience. They are a great resource to seek information about what the Minor entails, selecting a Practice Experience, course planning, and much more.

We encourage prospective students to meet with GPP Advisors before they apply to declare the Minor. Students declared in the Minor should check in regularly with the Advisors for guidance on ensuring regular progress towards completing the Minor.

Email gppminor@berkeley.edu to set up a Zoom or phone advising appointment if you're not available for Drop-In Advising Hours.

Drop-in Advising hours are:

Monday & Wednesday: 10:00am – 12:00pm; 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Friday: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Access Via Zoom: <https://berkeley.zoom.us/j/94484262186>

