

Policy Areas

In addition to choosing a concentration, students specialize in one of five areas of policy interest:

Environmental Health

(Professor James Hammitt, chair). This area is designed for students whose interests relate to environmental pollution. Examples of topics for study include community right-to-know laws, marketable pollution permits, effluent fees, technology-forcing regulation, and mass toxic tort litigation.

Health Care Services

This area is designed for students whose primary interests are access to health care, medical technology assessment, quality of health care, and the costs and financing of health care services.

International Health

(Professor David E. Bloom, chair). This policy area focuses on the economic determinants and consequences of health and health care in countries other than the US, especially less developed countries.

Mental Health

(Professor Richard G. Frank, chair). This area is designed for students who wish to specialize in mental health policy, including the financing of services, the roles of public and private sectors, and the links between mental health and human services.

Public Health

(Professor Sue J. Goldie, chair). This area is designed for students who are interested in policies directed at the rates of disease and injury in the population. Major topics include smoking behavior, control of alcohol abuse, mental health, traffic accidents, dietary and nutritional recommendations, occupational safety, gun control, control of infectious diseases including AIDS, and food and drug regulation.