

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC FINANCE FIELD 2024-2025

### COURSE OFFERINGS

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#### Fall 2024

262P. *Health & Government*  
Professor Adriana Lleras-Muney

262F. *Contracts and Insurance*  
Professor Bernardo Silveira

#### Winter 2025

253A. *Taxes, Transfers, and Development*  
Professor Juliana Londoño-Vélez  
[cross-listed with Development]

262A. *Topics in Labor & PF: Labor, PF, and Applied Econometrics*  
Professor Yotam Shem-Tov  
[cross-listed with Labor]

#### Spring 2025

253B. *Taxation*  
Professor Patrick Kennedy

### FIELD REQUIREMENTS

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- **Course work:** Students must pass a total of 3 courses with a grade of a B or better.
  - We strongly recommend that students take all the PF courses that are offered, these can be taken for a P/F grade. Courses in PF taken for P/F will require very minimal work.
  - We also encourage students to take courses in other applied fields, such as labor, development, economic history, and IO. These courses can be taken in the third year.
  - **Courses cannot be double counted across fields.** A student taking PF and labor, or PF and development is required to take at least 6 different courses for a letter grade.
- **Second year paper:** Every student must write an empirical paper by the end of the second year and receive a passing grade. Detailed paper guidelines are given below.
- **Proseminar presentation:** Each student must present their second-year proposal in the Applied Proseminar. The presentation will be a 20-minute presentation, with students presenting for 15 minutes and faculty giving feedback for 5 minutes.
- **Seminar Attendance:** Students are expected to attend the proseminar, the applied seminar and any conference organized by the PF faculty starting in the second year and until they graduate.
- **Field exams:** There is no final field exam. However each course will include a final Pass/Fail examination that will be administered at the end of each quarter. In addition to passing three courses with at least a B, students must pass at least 3 final exams. Students must obtain a 75% score or greater in each exam to receive a passing grade in the exam.
- **ATC:** Students who have not completed all of their field requirements successfully will not be allowed to pass their ATC. In other words, you must have received a passing grade in the second-year paper and in 3 second-year courses and exams before the ATC. Faculty in PF will not advise students who do not pass the PF requirements.

### PAPER GUIDELINES

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- The paper can be cross-listed with another field, but students must receive faculty approval before doing so.
- Each paper must be approved by two faculty members from the PF field (listed below), or at least one if the paper is cross-listed.

- The final draft of the paper must include: a review of the relevant literature and a statement of the paper’s contribution, a description of the data, details on the empirical approach, results and a discussion of the implications of the paper. The work must be original, use primary data sources, and include substantial empirical work.
- Paper deadlines
  - **January 2025:** Students should identify at least one advisor and start to discuss their ideas with their advisor(s) by January of their second year.
  - **Spring quarter:** An approved research plan must be presented at the proseminar in the spring quarter. This research plan must be approved by your two paper advisors before the presentation. If space allows it, students can present more than once or can present for more than 20 minutes, with the approval of their two advisors.
  - **May 30, 2025:** A final research plan detailing the work that the student will do over the summer will be submitted. Students will receive approval and feedback for their research plan by June 15.
  - **August 30, 2025:** The final paper will be due.
  - **September 15, 2025:** Students who do not pass the paper requirement will have to resubmit their paper.
  - **There will be no extensions** without documentation of extenuating circumstances. Papers that are not submitted on time will be given an automatic F.

## **FIELD ACTIVITIES**

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- **Quarterly lunch:** PF faculty and students are invited to have lunch together once a quarter at the faculty club. Dates TBD. This is voluntary. Students will not pay for lunch.
- **Annual get-together:** An informal, voluntary, end-of-the-year event will be organized. Details TBD.

## **PUBLIC FINANCE FACULTY**

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Felipe Goncalves, Patrick Kennedy, Adriana Lleras-Muney, Juliana Londoño-Vélez, Kathleen McGarry, Bernardo Silveira, Yotam Shem-Tov, Till von Wachter.