



LSA

PROGRAM IN  
PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



## Program in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

### THE POWER

Philosophy, Political Science and Economics (PPE) is an interdisciplinary concentration program in political economy that stresses analytic rigor and critical reasoning, and is unique in combining normative inquiry, empirical methods, and formal tools of analysis. It integrates the study of the relationships of government, political processes, property, production, markets, trade, and distribution from the standpoint of assessing these arrangements with respect to the interests and progress of humanity. The establishment of PPE sends a clear message that Michigan's response to difficult economic and political times includes taking a leadership role in challenging the nation to informed discussion about the relationship between the individual and the State. A Michigan PPE – via its training of students for key roles in the public and private sectors, student and faculty research, and associated speakers and special events – will reverberate widely, impacting a broad spectrum of decision-makers as well as influencing public discussion for generations to come.



## THE OPPORTUNITIES

A PPE concentration at U-M will provide students with an integrated and interdisciplinary program of study that brings together three major approaches to understanding individual rights and social and political interactions. PPE will expose students to classical documents in political economy and political philosophy. After completing foundational courses, some students will want to investigate a specific problem with substantial moral, policy, or economic dimensions (e.g., health care, global warming, poverty, agriculture, market organization, and globalization). Others might wish to emphasize overarching themes, such as the bases and reach of international law, freedom and liberty, rights and the justification for and limits of state power.

## THE IMPACT

In order to reach its full potential, PPE must aggressively build on its unique interdisciplinary approach to the fields of philosophy and political economy through a variety of initiatives that strengthen its foundation. By attracting scholars from around the world and across the nation through a visiting scholar program, we can raise our profile while offering our students new perspectives. A Seminar Series will also allow us to draw leaders in their fields to our campus, encouraging intellectual exchange. To attract the very brightest graduate students, we must be able to offer assistantships and financial support to attend graduate school without the added burden of severe debt.

### Named Center

***\$10M endowed***

An endowment to fund a cluster of faculty positions and program support would enable the PPE to establish a leadership status among universities across the nation. According to Dr. Louis Loeb, the Michigan PPE is distinctive in the field. “Not a mere collection of existing courses, it integrates questions and subject matter across three areas. Political economy originated in the 18th century as the integrated study of the relationships of government, political processes, property, production, markets, trade and distribution. At that time, economics, political science, and philosophy were not yet distinct disciplines. Although philosophy, economics, and political science have since taken divergent paths, they have continued to pursue common interests in developing the themes, methods, and concerns of political economy.” A Named Center in PPE will bring top scholars together to tease out ideas and bring together knowledge and methods from all three disciplines to create new synergies and learning. Graduate fellowships will train tomorrow’s educators in this critically important interdisciplinary work.

- Three faculty positions: **\$2.5M endowed each**
- Program support: **\$500,000 endowed**
- Two graduate fellowships: **\$1M endowed each**



## Named Professorship

***\$2.5M endowed***

Endowed professorships, or chairs, have long been recognized as both a hallmark of academic quality and a means by which a university honors its most esteemed scholars and teachers. Professorships are reserved for scholars of national, or even international, stature, with highly distinguished records of teaching, research, and publication. They constitute a time-honored way to recruit or retain highly distinguished scholars with exceptional records of achievement.

## Named Visiting Scholar Fellowship

***\$1M endowed / \$50,000 annually***

Funding is needed to host a visiting distinguished scholar for one semester each year to expand and bring fresh perspectives to PPE. We envision a highly prestigious fellowship awarded to a distinguished scholar in Philosophy and Political Economy, who would spend a semester on campus, teach a course in the area of her/his specialization and meet with students and faculty. Bringing renowned scholars to campus is a critical priority to establish PPE as a thought leader that stimulates and advances intellectual discussion and learning about the relationship of the individual, the economic environment, and the State.

## Co-Curricular Enrichment

***\$500,000 endowed / \$25,000 annually***

Donor support is needed for a wide range of activities that will attract bright undergraduate students and enhance the undergraduate curriculum. This fund will also support undergraduate programs, travel funds for students attending conferences and national meetings, and participation in international summer internships. Support is also needed to fund civic activities that enhance learning and research about political economy.

### ***WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT***

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

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### CONTACT INFO

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