STEP
Science, Technology & Engineering in Policy

An initative of Virginia Tech's Policy Destination Area

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Today's social, environmental, and economic challenges demand solutions that draw on expertise from multiple disciplines and take the interests and knowledge of affected stakeholders into account. In the spirit of *Ut Prosim*, Virginia Tech students, faculty and staff are leaders in using their technical expertise to tackle complex problems.

The Science, Technology and Engineering in Policy (STEP) program builds on that excellence and commitment to service, teaching science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and health care (STEM-H) graduate students how to be effective participants and collaborators in public policy processes. The program develops participants' abilities to engage with complex public problems, recognizing that they are social and technical in nature.

Program goal: Enhance the collaborative capacities of students to work in multi- and interdisciplinary teams to achieve more effective, efficient and equitable policies and policy outcomes.

Target audience: Graduate students from non-policy (primarily STEM-H) disciplines.

Courses:

Policy Gateway: Policy and Decision Making in Scientific Domains (PSCI 5104)

Decision Making, Reflective Practice, and Engagement in STEM-H Domains (SPIA 5124)

Tools and Approaches for Policy-Making in STEM-H Domains (STAT 5134)

Science, Technology, & Engineering in Policy Seminar (STS 5154)