



# School of Public Affairs and Civic Engagement

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# School of Public Affairs and Civic Engagement (PACE)

## Mission Statement

PACE is a collaborative interdisciplinary school of public affairs oriented scholars that delivers degree programs in Criminal Justice Studies, Environmental Studies, Gerontology, Public Administration, and Urban Studies and Planning. Students in these programs are immersed in a problem-oriented learning environment that extends beyond the classroom and into the community, the public arena, and the world. Building on an ethos of social justice and sustainability, faculty prepare PACE graduates with critical and analytical skills necessary to understand and address the issues and challenges of the twenty-first century.

## School-wide learning outcome

Students use critical thinking, communication, collaboration, ethical reasoning, and outward engagement to study/research, challenge structures and assumptions, change/create/innovate for advocacy and advancement of social justice and sustainability with passion, dedication, commitment, and leadership.



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## Curricular redesign goals

- Common public affairs curriculum in three undergraduate majors
- Forward looking curricula—beyond disciplinary approaches
- Faculty integration across 5 programs



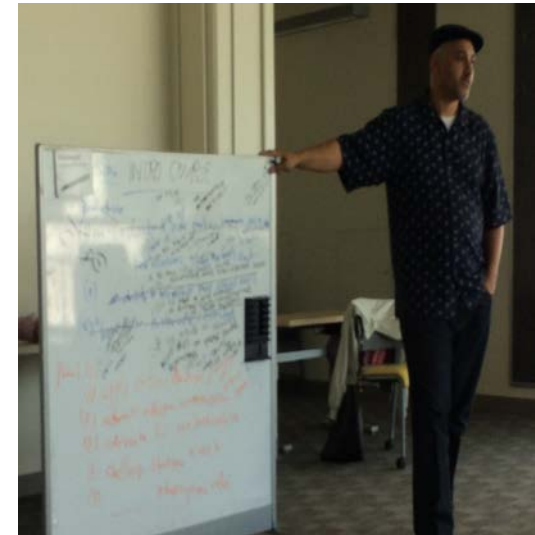
## Resources and tools

- Workshop based retreats
- Strategic groupings
- Direct democracy
- Collaborative course design

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### Lessons learned

- Push forward
- Confront hard questions
- Structure conversations
- Faculty before curriculum



### Results

- Creation of 3 core courses (intro, research methods, capstone)
- Proposed integration into CJS curriculum
- Creation of civic engagement curriculum in the School