



Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School of Public Policy – Capstone Opportunities for Partner Organizations

In the Carter School of Public Policy, we offer capstone project opportunities across various degree programs aimed at connecting students with external partners to tackle real-world challenges in public policy, sustainability, and more. These projects provide valuable insights for sponsoring organizations while giving students hands-on experience in applied research and consulting.

B.S. in Public Policy (BSPP) – Task Force Capstone



Project Dates:

- **Duration:** Mid-August – Late April
- **Key Milestones:**
 - Kickoff Meeting: Late August / Early September
 - Design Review: Late November / Early December
 - Final Presentation: April
- **Proposal Submission Deadline:** Ideally by early August



Scope:

- Year-long team project (typically 5 teams of 5-6 undergraduates)
- Focused on complex policy problems for public, nonprofit, or private clients with an emphasis on research, benchmarking, and strategic recommendations
- Student deliverables include a sponsor-facing product (e.g. technical report, presentation) and an academic research paper
- Clients participate in 3 scheduled meetings, provide data, and designate a point of contact
- A small participation fee is requested to support program costs



Past Project Examples:

- **City of Atlanta, Office of Sustainability:** Identified programs to support climate-resilient affordable housing
- **Georgia Dept. of Behavioral Health:** Benchmarked mobile crisis response systems across U.S. states
- **Atlanta Regional Commission:** Developed strategies for artist-based affordable housing and regional coordination
- **The Nature Conservancy:** Evaluated solar rooftop potential and dam removal policies in Georgia



Contact:

Dr. Christopher Hayter – chayer3@gatech.edu

Interested? Send a short email describing project; **Subject line:** “BSPP Task Force Proposal”



Georgia Institute of Technology

School of Public Policy

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M.S. in Sustainable Energy & Environmental Management (MSEEM) – [Summer Capstone](#)



Project Dates:

- **Duration:** May – August
- **Deliverables Due:** August
- **Proposal Submission Deadline:** Ideally by early Spring



Scope:

- Individual graduate-level project with faculty oversight
- Data-driven, analytical work in sustainability, environmental management, or energy policy
- Student deliverables include a sponsor-facing product (e.g. technical report, presentation) and an academic research paper
- Sponsors can offer support via internships, stipends, or modest program donations
- NDAs may be signed to ensure confidentiality



Past Project Examples:

- **Midcontinent ISO (MISO):** Capacity market analysis for decarbonization planning
- **Sierra Club & Drawdown Georgia:** Assessed energy burden among Black households in Georgia
- **Private Manufacturer:** Conducted waste audit and life cycle analysis for improved recycling
- **City Client:** Evaluated smart irrigation options for water conservation
- **Tech Company:** Assessed feasibility of on-site solar and carbon offset strategies



Contact:

- Dr. Daniel Matisoff – matissoff@gatech.edu
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M.S. in Public Policy (MSPP) – Spring Capstone



Project Dates:

- **Duration:** January – May
- **Key Milestones:**
 - Kickoff Meeting: Mid-January
 - Midpoint Check-In: Late February
 - Project Draft Due: Mid-April
 - Final Deliverable/Presentation: May
- **Proposal Submission Deadline:** Ideally by end of November



Scope:

- Client-based capstone completed individually or in small teams in the final semester of the MSPP curriculum under faculty supervision



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