Carnegie Mellon University invites students to major in Behavioral Economics, Policy and Organizations (BEPO) the first and only major of its kind, with SDS offering the largest selection of behavioral economics courses anywhere in the world. The interdisciplinary field of Behavioral Economics integrates perspectives from Economics and Psychology, to understand and predict human behavior in economic contexts. The core includes courses in economics, psychology, and behavioral economics and students will receive a solid grounding in quantitative methods. Applied projects in courses will teach students how to collect original data, design field and laboratory experiments, analyze data using a wide variety of methods, and develop interventions to improve economic outcomes and decisions. Students will be well equipped to enter a wide range of professions and graduate degree programs upon completion of the curriculum.

This major prepares students for positions in organizations interested in understanding human behavior, especially in marketing, consulting, organizational design and public policy sectors. SDS faculty have strong relationships with the “Nudge Units” (the behavioral insights units) in governments all over the world and in newly created non-profits. Our BEPO students would be excellent candidates for positions in these organizations.

This is a recommended schedule for the first 2 years for a Primary Major. It is also available as an Additional Major. The remainder of the Major and GenEd can be completed in the junior and senior year.

1st semester
• 36-200 or 36-201, Statistics
• Complete 1:
  76-101, Interpretation & Argument
  79-104, Global Histories
  Freshman Seminar
• 99-101, C@CM
• 21-120, Diff. & Integral Calculus*
• 88-120, Reason, Passion & Cogn.
• 73-102, Principles of Microeconomics***

2nd semester
• Complete 2:
  76-101, Interpretation & Argument
  79-104, Global Histories
  Freshman Seminar
• 36-202, Statistical Methods
• 73-160 Foundations of Microeconomics****
• xx-xxx, Elective**

3rd semester
• 88-251, Empirical Res. Methods
• 88-360, Behavioral Economics
• xx-xxx, Elective**
• xx-xxx, Elective**
• xx-xxx, Elective**

4th semester
• 88-252, Casual Inference in the Field
• 88-302, Behavioral Decision Making
• 88-367, Behavioral Economics in the Wild
• xx-xxx, Elective**
• xx-xxx, Elective**

*If required to start with 21-111, complete 21-112.

**Elective: This space can be used for a pre-requisite course, another GenEd course, major course, or for a course you are interested in.

***If 73-100, Principles of Economics OR 88-220, Policy Analysis 1, has been taken this can serve as a substitute for 73-102, Principles of Microeconomics

****73-230: Intermediate Microeconomics is accepted as a substitute for 73-160

Academic Advisory Center (6/9/2017)