

# **Public Policy Administration, Master**

## **Admissions Requirements**

Applicants must meet the following program admission requirements in addition to the general requirements of the Graduate School.

By the time of enrollment, prospective students must have obtained a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent from an accredited college or university. A minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale is required to be considered for regular admission. This GPA is higher than the minimum for the Graduate School. An undergraduate GPA below 3.0 will be considered on an individual basis for restricted admission. Applicants must demonstrate proficiency in college algebra or the equivalent. Graduate coursework also will be taken into consideration.

Applicants must obtain three letters of recommendation. The letters should be from those who are familiar with your professional and/or academic skills. At least one of the letters must be from a current or former college-level instructor. Written letters of recommendation must accompany the downloadable recommendation forms from the Graduate School. These materials should be sent by the letter writer directly to the MPPA program.

Applicants are required to submit a 2-3 page personal statement to demonstrate competence in writing. The statement should explain how the MPPA program fits in with the applicant's educational and professional goals. This personal statement should be sent directly to the MPPA program; the statement of purpose in the web-based admission application is not sufficient.

Applicants must submit official transcripts to the graduate admissions office documenting the baccalaureate degree and all other prior college and graduate-level coursework completed.

## Degree Requirements

The MPPA degree consists of 40 credit hours, ~~28~~ 25 of which are taken as part of the core curriculum and ~~12~~ 15 that are electives. Students who complete the degree must demonstrate the following:

- Design, research, write, and defend analyses of substantive public policy problems and/or potential solutions
- Use data and sophisticated analytic tools (qualitative and quantitative) to conduct research in public policy and administration
- Understand the policy and internal/external environments of public and nonprofit organizations
- Develop expertise in a substantive area of public policy administration

## Curriculum

All candidates for the MPPA degree must complete ~~28~~ 25 hours in the core curriculum sequence composed of the following public policy administration courses:

<b>Policy Analysis and Economics</b>		
P P ADM 6000	Introduction to Policy Analysis	3
<del>P P ADM 6080</del>	<del>Microeconomics for Policy Analysis</del>	<del>3</del>
<del>P P ADM 6210</del>	<del>Public Sector Microeconomics</del>	<del>3</del>
	ECON 5550: Economics for Public Policy Analysis	3
P P ADM 6900	Cases in Public Policy	3
<b>Public Administration and Budgeting</b>		
P P ADM 6400	Proseminar in Public Administration	3
<del>P P ADM 6600</del>	<del>Managing People in Organizations</del>	<del>3</del>
P P ADM 6490	Human Resources in the Public	3

P P ADM 6180	Governmental Budgeting and Financial Control	3
<b>Statistics, Research Methods, and Information Technology</b>		
P P ADM 6010	Introduction to Policy Research	3
P P ADM 6750	Introduction to Evaluation Research Methods	3
P P ADM 6850	Information Technology and the Public and Nonprofit Sectors	1
Total Hours		<del>28</del> 25

A thesis is not required to complete the program. However, writing is an important component of the degree, and students will complete written analyses as part of their coursework and/or internship.

P P ADM 6000 should be taken at the beginning of the program. It is strongly recommended that P P ADM 6010 and ~~P P ADM 6080~~ **ECON5550** be taken early in a student's course plan. P P ADM 6900 is a capstone course and must be taken toward the end of the program.

Students may select one of ~~four~~ **three** emphasis areas in which to concentrate their advanced studies:

- ~~Managing Human Resources and Organizations,~~
- Policy Research and Analysis,
- Local Government Management,
- Nonprofit Organization Management.

Students may also select an individualized emphasis area in consultation with their advisor and with approval of the Director.

Prior to the completion of 15 hours in the MPPA program, students should identify an emphasis area. In each of the emphasis areas students may be able to substitute another course for a specified elective, with the MPPA

Director's approval. Specific requirements for each emphasis area are as follows:

Sign-offs from other departments affected by this proposal

None

Rationale                      Streamlining curriculum and introducing flexibility by reducing the core and increasing number of electives