

Master of Public Administration

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) offers you the knowledge required to handle the difficult administrative environment that is government service today. This online degree program is ideal if you are currently in public management or public service, or are looking to enter this field from a different discipline. Your classmates will bring their own wealth of knowledge from many fields, and through the use of case studies, facilitated discussion, and other exercises, we build on this shared experience to produce a new generation of administrators ready to serve the public. This MPA degree promotes the core values of service, ethics, knowledge, competence, and diversity. Working across silos, networking among and between agencies and stakeholders, and strategically addressing the issues at hand is a fundamental theme of this online master's program. The culminating goal is to teach you how to competently tackle hard questions, creatively solve them, and communicate your solutions through diverse public, private, and nonprofit networks.

Degree Program Objectives

In addition to the institutional and degree level learning objectives, graduates of this program are expected to achieve these learning outcomes:

- Assess the leading approaches to managing public organizations
- Evaluate the moral, legal, and ethical aspects of decision-making in the public sector
- Evaluate the government budgeting process and funding of government programs and organizations
- Appraise the role of government organizations in public policy development and implementation
- Develop solutions to a public issue that take into account multiple stakeholders and decision-makers
- Implement the core concept of public service by providing evidence of service to the public or nonprofit sector
- Critique a difficult political situation and offer creative and innovative solutions that take into account multiple stakeholders and decision-makers
- Assess the part diversity, or lack thereof, plays in public administration

Degree at a Glance

Code	Title	Semester Hours
	Core Requirements	18
	Major Requirements	6
	Select one of the following Concentrations:	9

Coaching and Conflict Resolution (p. 2)	
Disaster Management (p. 2)	
Environmental Policy (p. 2)	
Health Policy (p. 2)	
Human Resources (p. 2)	
National Security (p. 3)	
Organizational Management (p. 3)	
Public Policy (p. 3)	
Security Management (p. 4)	
Final Program Requirements	3
Total Semester Hours	36

Degree Program Requirements

Core Requirements (18 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Core Requirements		
PADM520	Public Administration in Society ¹	3
MAPP502	Public Writing	3
PADM505	Ethics in Government	3
PADM530	Public Policy	3
PADM610	Public Management	3
PADM612	Public Finance	3
Total Semester Hours		18

¹ Required as the first course in this program.

Major Requirements (6 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 2 courses from the following:		
PADM510	Administrative Theory	
PADM611	Law and Public Policy	
PADM615	Program Appraisal	
PADM620	Local Political Administration	
Total Semester Hours		6

Students must choose a concentration for this degree program and may select from a Concentration in Coaching and Conflict Resolution, Concentration in Disaster Management, Concentration in Environmental Policy, Concentration in Health Policy, Concentration in Human Resources, Concentration in National Security, Concentration

in Organizational Management, Concentration in Public Policy, or Concentration in Security Management.

Concentration in Coaching and Conflict Resolution (9 semester hours)

Introduces the concepts and methods of coaching and conflict resolution necessary to successfully manage a diverse, global workforce. Topics include conflict analysis, negotiation (individual, across sectors and internationally) and mediation along with skills, methods and strategies required to be an effective coach. This concentration requires a high degree of interaction and role play.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
PADM617	Negotiation and Conflict Resolution	
EDUC536	Foundations of Coaching	
EDUC633	Emotional Intelligence and Coaching Assessments	
EDUC635	Coaching Groups and Teams	
IRLS613	International Negotiation	
IRLS611	Conflict Analysis and Resolution: Theory and Practice	
Total Semester Hours		9

Concentration in Disaster Management (9 semester hours)

Introduces the concepts of emergency management. Topics covered include the history of the field, hazard analysis, mitigation, planning, communication, and terrorism. Looks at the interaction, coordination, and facilitation between federal, state, and local agencies during preparation, response, and recovery operations. An historical viewpoint of emergency response organizational development is also covered.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
EDMG502	Emergency and Disaster Theory	
EDMG503	Emergency and Disaster Planning and Management	
EDMG509	Interagency Disaster Management	
EDMG530	Economics of Disaster	
Total Semester Hours		9

Concentration in Environmental Policy (9 semester hours)

Evaluates the major legal, regulatory, and policy framework that encompasses environmental programs and projects in the U.S. and with international political, commercial, and non-governmental institutions. Examines global environmental change, potential impacts on environmental policy and society, and the public and private economic costs and effects of environmental programs.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
EVSP501	Environmental Management	
EVSP502	Environmental Economics	
EVSP503	Environmental Policy, Regulation, and Law	
EVSP628	Global Environmental Change	
Total Semester Hours		9

Concentration in Health Policy (9 semester hours)

Introduces the role of public health systems in America, including federal, state, and local public health agencies, as well as current political, environmental, epidemiologic, legal, and ethical issues impacting the public health field. Covers the skills necessary to be an effective health care administrator.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
PBHE501	Public Health in America	3
PBHE502	Health Policy	3
PBHE601	Health Care Administration	3
Total Semester Hours		9

Concentration in Human Resources (9 semester hours)

Offers an advanced study of human resource management with particular emphasis on the strategic planning process. Explores current practices in the workplace, including policy development with an emphasis on the interdependence of human resource and organizational operating functions. Additional topics include employment law, discrimination in the workplace, and practices used by companies to leverage their human capital.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
HRMT600	Human Resource Management	
HRMT602	Employment Law and Labor Relations	
HRMT603	Human Resource Policy	
HRMT605	Strategic Human Resource Management Practices	
Total Semester Hours		9

Concentration in National Security (9 semester hours)

Assesses the major concepts of strategic thinking that underpin the national security decision-making process in the U.S, including current challenges to national security interests, especially terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. Also examines contemporary globalization, its links to emergent threats, and potential U.S. responses, as well as the implications of rising worldwide economic interdependence upon national security policy.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
NSEC501	Institutions of National Security	
NSEC503	U.S. National Security	
NSEC610	National Security and Globalization	
NSEC612	National Security and Diplomacy	
NSEC613	Current and Emerging Threats to U.S. National Security	
Total Semester Hours		9

Concentration in Organizational Management C (9 semester hours)

Focuses on the concepts and methods of managing an organization, including techniques for structuring and resolving managerial problems in public and private organizations. Topics include human behavior principles in individual, group/team, and organizational settings; interpersonal relations, motivation, and decision-making in organizations; and the variables involved in crisis planning, communication, and management.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
MGMT600	Organizational Management	
MGMT601	Organizational Behavior	

MGMT603	Organizational Development	
MGMT604	Organizational Crisis Management	
Total Semester Hours		9

Concentration in Public Policy (9 semester hours)

This concentration is designed to provide you with a comprehensive overview of essential leadership skills required for sound research and data analysis, judgment, communication, action, and creative and critical thinking. This concentration helps prepare you to solve real-world problems at local, state, and national levels. Knowledge gained is useful preparation for senior-level management positions in government agencies, corporations, research institutes, advocacy or non-profit organizations, and other associations where the ability to analyze and evaluate information is a required skill.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Evaluate the multi-disciplinary nature of the major theories underlying the discipline of public policy.
- Extrapolate the processes by which public policies are designed, implemented, and evaluated.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of existing (or the impact of proposed) public policies.
- Demonstrate appropriate analytical skills to analyze contemporary policy issues.
- Design public policies to solve strategic or social problems.
- Deconstruct contemporary policy case studies using an ethical framework.
- Communicate policy recommendations to diverse audiences.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
MAPP501	Foundations of Governance and Policy	
POLS640	Judicial Politics, Process, and Policy Making	
MAPP503	Digital Government	
MAPP504	Economics and Public Policy	
PADM611	Law and Public Policy	
Total Semester Hours		9

Concentration in Security Management (9 semester hours)

Probes contemporary issues in security management, such as background checks, budgeting, security liability, human resources issues, and equal opportunity rights. Topics include: the 9/11 Commission Report on terrorist attacks upon the U.S.; relevant security programs in the public and private sectors; and the tools necessary to effectively plan for, implement, monitor, and administer a security organization.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
SCMT507	Assets Protection & Loss Prevention Management	
SCMT508	Evaluation of Security Programs	
SCMT509	Contemporary Issues in Security Management	
SCMT553	Security Program Administration	
Total Semester Hours		9

Final Program Requirements (3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
PADM697	Creative Project Capstone in Public Administration ¹	3
Total Semester Hours		3

¹ Taken once all other degree requirements have been met.