PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION - M.P.A.

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Political Science
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Description
The Master of Public Administration degree in Public Administration is designed for students wishing to become policy analysts, managers and executives within public and nonprofit organizations. The curriculum provides students with a broad foundation in public and nonprofit management, including the scope and history of public administration, administrative theory, ethical behavior in public management, public financial management, program evaluation, methods, personnel management and information technology management.

The M.P.A. degree can be completed in two years by taking two courses each term, including summers. Courses are offered in an asynchronous online format in back-to-back seven-week sessions. Courses utilize a mix of web-based instruction supported by audio and video technologies direct to the respective student’s home.

Fully Offered At:
• Online

Accreditation
The M.P.A. degree in Public Administration is accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA).

Admission Requirements
• Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university for unconditional admission
• Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale\(^1\) for unconditional admission
• Official transcript(s)
• GRE, LSAT, MCAT or GMAT scores\(^2\) (Effective Spring 2020, GRE scores will no longer be required)
• Goal statement
• Current résumé
• Writing sample (single-authored paper or manuscript completed in undergraduate or graduate school that exemplifies the applicant’s critical thinking skills)
• Three letters of recommendation from faculty or individuals familiar with the applicant’s ability to do graduate-level work
• English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
  • Minimum 550 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
  • Minimum 79 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
  • Minimum 77 MELAB score
  • Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
  • Minimum 58 PTE score

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website.

\(^1\) In some cases, applicants with a GPA below 3.0 may be admitted to the program conditionally provided other supporting materials are strong.

\(^2\) Applicants with five or more years of applied experience working in the nonprofit or public sector may apply to the program without taking the GRE (or other) exam. In some cases, applicants with low scores may be admitted to the program conditionally provided other supporting materials are strong. (Effective Spring 2020, GRE scores will no longer be required)

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PADM 60371</td>
<td>GRADUATE INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PADM 60375</td>
<td>PUBLIC PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PADM 60377</td>
<td>PUBLIC BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PADM 60379</td>
<td>PROGRAM EVALUATION I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PADM 60381</td>
<td>METHODS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PADM 60386</td>
<td>PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PADM 60392</td>
<td>INTERNSHIP IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION(^1)</td>
<td>0-3</td>
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<td>PADM 60470</td>
<td>PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>PADM 60475</td>
<td>CAPSTONE SEMINAR</td>
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<td>PADM 60574</td>
<td>STRATEGIC PLANNING</td>
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<th>Major Electives(^2)</th>
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Minimum Total Credit Hours: 36

\(^1\) Students without substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization ("pre-service students") must complete minimum 3 credit hours of internship; they will earn the M.P.A. degree with a total 39 credit hours. Students with substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization ("in-service students") may be waived from the internship requirement with the approval of the M.P.A. coordinator. Pre-service students or students wishing to gain experience in a new area will also be placed in an agency for at least 300 hours of experience.

\(^2\) Student chose elective courses in consultation with an academic advisor. Elective coursework outside of the program may be developed based upon the student's needs and advisor approval.