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 is designed for students wishing to become policy analysts, managers and executives within public and nonprofit organizations. The M.P.A. 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 Only

Accreditation
Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA)

Admission Requirements
• Official transcript(s)
• Minimum 3.00 undergraduate GPA¹
• GRE, LSAT, MCAT or GMAT scores²
• Goal statement
• Current résumé
• Three letters of recommendation from faculty or individuals familiar with the applicant’s ability to do graduate-level work
• Writing sample (single-authored paper or manuscript completed in undergraduate or graduate school that exemplifies the applicant’s critical thinking skills)
• English language proficiency for international students:
  • Minimum 550 TOEFL (paper-based)
  • Minimum 79 TOEFL (internet-based)
  • Minimum 6.5 IELTS
  • Minimum 80 MELAB

English Language Proficiency Requirements for International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 550 TOEFL score (79 on the internet-based version), minimum 77 MELAB score, minimum 6.5 IELTS score or minimum 58 PTE Academic score. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website. Effective spring 2018.

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies 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 non-profit 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.

Program Requirements
Major Requirements
[AS-MPA-PADM]

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Major Electives ² 9

Minimum Total Credit Hours when the internship requirement is waived: ¹, ² 36

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 39

¹ Students without substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization (“in-service students”) must complete minimum 3 credit hours of internship. Students with substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization (“pre-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. Designated electives that may be selected include courses in public and nonprofit financial management, municipal management, nonprofit management, justice management and nursing management. Elective coursework outside of the program may be developed based upon the student’s needs and advisor approval.

³ Students who are waived from the internship requirement may graduate with minimum 36 credit hours.