

Master of Public Policy and Management

The Master of Public Policy and Management (MPPM) is designed to provide accessible, affordable, high-quality graduate education to prepare students for, or advance them in, careers in leadership and management in public service. The MPPM has a dual-purpose mission: to conduct research into pressing policy issues and then to share the findings with leaders and citizens in an effort to find viable solutions. Graduates will be skilled public managers with specific expertise in one of several policy areas. Current specializations include Community and Economic Development, Health Care Policy, Criminal Justice, Environmental Policy, International and Development Policy, and Non Profit Management.

Admission Requirements

Evidence of academic achievement and potential for advanced study and research is required for graduate admission. Specific criteria for Unconditional Admission for Master's degree seeking students in Public Policy are:

- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0
- GRE Verbal score of 450
- GRE Quantitative score of 550
- GRE Analytical score of 4.0
- Satisfactory letters of recommendation: 2, one of which should be academic
- Satisfactory essay: 750 words briefly analyzing a public policy issue of their choice and discussing what insights into that issue they expect to gain in the pursuit of the MPPM
- Resume

Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of at least 2.5 and/or GRE scores lower than those specified are also encouraged to apply.

Notification of decisions on graduate admission is made by the office of Graduate Studies based on the admission criteria and recommendation of the academic department. Information related to application procedures and deadlines is available through the Office of Graduate Studies.

Required Courses: 36 hour Professional Report option or Thesis option

The Master of Public Policy and Management is composed of 30-33 credit hours in core and elective (policy, management and cognate) courses. In addition, students must complete a thesis (6 hours) or a professional

report (3 hours) to gain credit for this 36 hours program. Graduation from this program, therefore, is contingent on the completion of required core courses, elective (policy analysis/public management, related cognate area) courses, and professional report or thesis courses.

Required Courses: 18 hours:

PPAM 6301 Principles of Public Administration
PPAM 6302 Public Policy and Economics
PPAM 6303 Public Budgeting and Finance
PPAM 6305 Leadership and Ethics
PPAM 6306 Public Human Resource Management
PPAM 6307 Research Methods and Information Technology

Electives: Professional Report option: 15 hours

Thesis option: 12 hours

Policy Analysis and Public Management Courses

PPAM 6308 International & Comparative Policy & Management
PPAM 6310 Seminar in Community & Economic Development
PPAM 6311 Urban Policy, Planning and Management
PPAM 6312 Intergovernmental Relations
PPAM 6320 Environmental Policy and Management
PPAM 6340 Seminar in International and Developmental Policy and Management
PPAM 6341 Cases in Public Policy & Management
PPAM 6360 Non-Profit Policy & Management
PPAM 6361 Non Profit Governance
PPAM 6363 Financial & Strategic Planning Issues for Non Profits
PPAM 6369 Legal Issues of Non Profit
PPAM 6380 Current Issues in Public Policy & Management
PPAM 7311 Internship
PPAM 7312 Internship

Cognate area elective courses are available, as approved by the MPPM Advisor, including courses from cognate disciplines offering studies in concentration areas such as Government, Health Care Policy and Management, International and Developmental Policy and Management, Community and Economic Development, and Criminal Justice Policy and Management.

Professional Report/Thesis: 3-6 hours

PPAM 7303 Professional Report

or

PPAM 7301 & 7302 Thesis



ADVISOR

Careers:

These can vary much by specialization, generally, a professional career in public service, whether working for local, state or federal government agencies, or working for international, national or state non-profit organizations.

Private Sector: Consultant, management consulting firm Project Manager, Administrator, private business Mental Health Specialist, consulting firm Analyst, private research and consulting firm Staff Writer, newspaper .

Public Sector: City/Borough Manager, or Planner, local government Analyst, Program Analyst, Budget Examiner, state or federal government agencies Project Manager, state or local government agencies Mental Health Specialist, public agency.



Nonprofit Sector and Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs) : Development Director/ Grants Administration, charity organization Program/ Community/Grants Coordinator, non-profit organization Program Officer, non-profit organization Community Organizer, non-profit organization

Graduate Courses in Public Policy and Management

PPAM 6301 Principles of Public Administration

This course is an introduction and overview of the field of public administration. It examines the historical background and contemporary issues and problems in the subject areas of public administration. Special emphasis is placed upon organizational theory and behavior as related to theoretical foundations and substance of public management.

PPAM 6302 Public Policy and Economics

This course examines public policy and program formulation, implementation and evaluation including the politics and history of fiscal and monetary policy. The theories, framework, approaches and analytical tools to perform policy analysis including how microeconomic theories and concepts can be used in the analysis of public policy is also covered. Prerequisite: PPAM 6307

PPAM 6303 Public Budgeting and Finance

This course provides an introduction to the use of financial information in organizational decision-making in the public and nonprofit sector including the politics and history of the budgetary process. It teaches the theory and practice of how accounting information is generated, recorded, presented and how it can be used to provide meaningful conclusions about the financial position and performance of a public service organization. It also teaches the use of principles of financial management to make operating and capital budgeting decisions and to analyze long-term financial alternatives. Emphasis is placed on the practice of budgeting, accounting, revenue generation, capital budgeting and debt management.

PPAM 6305 Leadership and Ethics

This course delves into the historical, theoretical, behavioral, political, and administrative perspective of leadership and its impact on decision-making and problem solving with special emphasis on the application and enforcement of ethical standards for public servants.

PPAM 6306 Public Human Resource Management

This course is an examination of the history, theory and practice of human resource management in public and nonprofit organizations, including the legal, economic, political and social factors shaping human resource policies in the public and nonprofit sector. Particular attention is given to the policies and management practices associated with cultural, ethnic, and gender differences in the workplace. Emphasis is placed on identifying effective techniques for managing diversity.

PPAM 6307 Research Methods and Information Technology

This course covers the quantitative aspects of analysis and decision-making and the role and application of technology and information systems in data management. The quantitative aspect covers research methods including research design and the use of inferential and descriptive statistics, univariate through multivariate analysis with computer applications will be covered.

PPAM 6308 International & Comparative Public Policy & Management

This course studies the similarities and differences in the organization, management, and public policy making among countries. It examines paradigms, theories and models along with the practical application to provide information for real management and policy problems.

PPAM 6310 Seminar in Community and Economic Development

This course is an introduction and overview of community and economic development. It encompasses zoning, transportation, comprehensive planning, community development and other activities as well as the political realities related to community and economic development. Prerequisite: PPAM 6301

PPAM 6311 Urban Policy, Planning and Management
This course covers the development and evolution of urban policy, planning and management. It examines the major economic, social and political processes and the major concepts and procedures involved in urban policy, planning and management. Prerequisite: PPAM 6310

PPAM 6312 Intergovernmental Relations
This course covers the administrative and political effects of the division of authority among coordinate units of government Federal-state, state-local, local-federal, state-state, local-local, and governmental nongovernmental relations are examined.

PPAM 6320 Environmental Policy & Management
This course is an introduction and overview of environmental policy and management at the local, state, national, and international level. It is designed to help students develop a working knowledge of the basic concepts of environmental policy and management. This includes its history, theories, methods, institutions, and issues and the guidelines and rules that establish goals and standards regarding the use and preservation of the physical environment, including soil, water, air, wildlife and vegetation. Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 6340 Seminar in International and Development Policy & Management
Focuses on the changing roles and functions of different public and private international organizations and the services they provide. Provides an understanding of the way intergovernmental organizations work and specific responsibilities of the various bodies and organizations such as the U.N., Security Council, General Assembly, ECOSOC, and regional economic commissions. Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 6341 Cases in Public Policy and Management
This course focuses on applying knowledge to cases addressing public policies and management issues. This course can be repeated for up to 9 credit hours as long as the set of cases varies. Sets of cases are selected from subfields of policy and management. Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 6360 Nonprofit Policy and Management
This course is an overview of nonprofit policy and management sector on a national and international scope. It covers the historical, descriptive, theoretical, and ethical issues relevant to the sector. It also covers the application of managerial concepts and techniques to the management, problems and concerns of nonprofit institutions and enterprises. Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 6361 Nonprofit Governance
This course provides an overview of the characteristics and leadership of boards in nonprofit organizations. The course will cover the structure, functions, and composition of boards; the relation of boards to management; the board's role in strategic planning; and improving boards performance and accountability. Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 6363 Financial and Strategic Planning Issues for Nonprofits
This course provides an in-depth examination of successful financial management and strategic planning applications for nonprofit organizations. It provides an understanding of practical uses of positioning an organization in the community and service or advocacy arena; developing an integrated and diversified financial plan and creative strategy; and strategic and long-range planning. Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 6369 Legal Issues in Nonprofits

This course provides an in-depth examination of the legal context and issues facing nonprofit organizations. This includes an understanding of the federal and state laws governing the organizational, tax, and political and legislative activities of nonprofit organizations; legal risk management for boards, employees and volunteers; and other related legal issues for nonprofit organizations; Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 6370 Seminar in Health Care Policy & Management
This course provides a comprehensive overview of healthcare programs and policies in the United States. Students will make use of case studies to understand the major stakeholders involved in healthcare and introduce them to current public health issues, healthcare delivery systems, and factors that determine health policy, and managerial practice. Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 6380 Current Problems in Public Policy and Management
This course focuses on current issues in public policy and management. This course can be repeated for up to 9 credit hours as long as the topic varies. Current problems are selected from international development, environmental, nonprofit, economic development, health care, criminal justice policy, and management issues. Lec. 3, Cr. 3.

PPAM 7301-7302 Thesis
This course requires a student to work on/complete a thesis under the direction of a thesis committee. The thesis will be defended publicly and approved by a majority of the committee. See Graduate Catalog for more details. Prerequisite: Approval of the advisor.

PPAM 7303 Professional Report
This course requires the student to develop an applied project and professional report that focuses on the practice of public administration or public policy making or on related management/planning practices in government, non profit, or private agency servicing the public interest. May be repeated until successful professional report defense.

PPAM 7311-7312 Internship
This course is a practical public management experience through an arranged internship in a governmental, non-profit or private agency serving the public interest. Periodic seminars, supervision and a final administrative report are required. Prerequisite: Approval of the Department Chair. Pass/Fail Grade