

Public Policy

Contact Information

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- Master Degree
- Concentrations (5)

Departmental goals and objectives:

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) program provides students with analytical skills, decision-making frameworks, and subject matter expertise to address complex policy questions. Students graduate with the following knowledge, skills, and abilities:

- Skills in using economic and statistical analysis to improve public policy
- A deeper understanding of policy development
- The ability to engage stakeholders to affect change

Our location in Illinois' capital city and our Chicago connections will provide you with many opportunities to engage directly with policymakers. These opportunities will expose you to the legal and institutional structures in which policies are developed. You will graduate prepared for leadership, advocacy, and public policy design and evaluation roles in the governmental, nonprofit, and private sectors.

The Master's Degree

Requirements for the Master of Public Policy are listed below. Students may select one of the following concentration options for study:

- Child Advocacy and Policy Concentration
- Education Policy Concentration
- Health Policy Concentration
- Policy Analysis Concentration
- Social Policy Concentration

Students must complete 36 semester hours, including the Capstone course in which they will complete the master's closure exercise.

Students will complete 12 hours of Public Administration and Public Policy electives or approved graduate course work from another department. These 12 hours may be used to complete a concentration or Graduate Certificate. (Note: if a student elects to pursue the Graduate Geographic Information System Certificate, they will exceed the typical MPP 36 hours and take 39 hours).

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the MPP program will be able to understand and demonstrate knowledge and skills in the following competencies:

1. Lead and manage in public governance
 - a. Identify public problems, research the background of the issues, and identify and evaluate alternatives to address these problems
2. Participate in and contribute to the public policy process
 - a. Describe the public policy process and the role of the various participants and stakeholders
 - b. Apply relevant theories, knowledge, and skills to lead in developing, implementing effectively, and evaluating public policy
3. Analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems, and make decisions
 - a. Demonstrate the ability to collect, analyze, and interpret data for use in decision-making, and drawing conclusions
 - b. Critically read and apply findings from peer-reviewed and grey literature
4. Articulate and apply a public service perspective
 - a. Articulate the importance of and operate in a manner that facilitates democracy, equity, transparency, efficiency, and ethics
5. Communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.
 - a. Communicate in a clear and concise manner
 - b. Demonstrate a sensitivity to and respect for different cultures and perspectives
 - c. Identify differential policy impacts on diverse populations and develop policy alternatives to address these

Requirements

Core courses

PAD 503	Analytical Tools	3
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Analysis - Select one

PAD 525	Informatics for Public Policy	3
PAD 526	Advanced Analytical Tools: Forecasting, Time Series Analysis, and Predictive Analytics	

Policy and Economics

PAD 504	Budget And Finance	15
PAD 506	Public Policy for Managers	
PAD 508	Economics and Public Policy	
PAD 531	Public Policy Analysis	
PAD 533	Program Evaluation	

Closure Exercise

PAD 573	Capstone in Public Policy	3
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Public Administration and Public Policy electives or approved graduate course work from another department

Total Hours		36
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Online Degree

- Child Advocacy and Policy Concentration
- Education Policy Concentration
- Health Policy Concentration
- Policy Analysis Concentration
- Social Policy Concentration