

M.P.A. Requirements

Curriculum

The MPA program is comprised of course work totaling 36 hours: 18 hours of core (required) courses and 18 hours of concentration courses and electives. In addition, the program requires an Internship (3 credit hours) for students with limited professional experience in the public sector.

In order to complete the program, students must choose between taking comprehensive exams (joint degree JD-MPA) or completing a capstone project

Required Courses

POLS 5020 - Advanced Topics in Research Methods
POLS 5300 - Law and Regulatory Policy
POLS 5310 - Issues in American Public Administration
POLS 5325 - Introduction to Public Sector Budgeting
POLS 6320 - Organizational Theory and Behavior
SOC 6200 - Urban Social and Political Theory

Elective Courses

Elective course work is available in a variety of areas. Students have taken classes in business, social work, American studies, communication and more. Of course, many also take classes offered by Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology, and Public and Social Policy Analysis. Typical focus areas for Public Administration students include:

- Nonprofit Management
 - Community Development
 - Housing Policy
 - Criminal Justice Policy
 - The Policy Process
 - Finance
 - Organizational Psychology
 - Health Care Policy
 - Social Work
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Internships

The internship program has been developed in cooperation with numerous governmental, nonprofit and private sector agencies, serving both the St. Louis region and various governmental units throughout the country.