COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE (M.A.)

https://carsey.unh.edu/community-development-policy-practice-ma

Description

The online MA in Community Development Policy and Practice program (MCD) prepares you for a career in community and economic development. While earning this online, cohort-based community development degree, you will tackle real-world situations through a capstone community project and engage with leading experts and academics in a program designed for working professionals just like you. Through coursework and experiential opportunities, you will learn from seasoned practitioners in subjects ranging from economics and community financing to community organizing and public health.

- The MCD program is fully online and is ideal for working professionals
- Gain effective community development skills and tools through an applied four-term capstone project in your community
- Connect with respected field experts across disciplines, including faculty and peers
- Start in the fall or spring and graduate in 14 to 24 months
- The GRE is not required to apply to this degree program.

Program Delivery & Location: *Core academic courses for the MCD degree are offered online with choices for taking optional elective courses online or in person on UNH campuses. Students are free to carry out their capstone projects in their chosen community.*

Requirements

Students enrolled in the Carsey School's MA in Community Development Policy and Practice program (MCD) are required to complete a **36-credit** program, consisting of 12 courses including a four-term capstone project:

- Five (5) CORE Curriculum Courses
- Four (4) EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING Courses
- Three (3) ELECTIVE Courses

These provide the applied foundational community and economic development skills in strategy, practice, and analysis for a successful career in community development. In this program, students will examine each of the core interdisciplinary areas within the cross-cutting lenses of public policy, data collection, and analysis as students directly apply what they learn in the classroom through a capstone project centered on community engagement for sustainable development. Further opportunities for depth and specialization are provided through a variety of elective courses which vary each year as well as the opportunity to conduct independent studies to delve deeper into a specific aspect of a student's community or capstone project.

Code	Title	Credits
CORE Required Courses (5 Courses)		
DPP 901	Integrative Approaches to Development Policy and Practice	3
DPP 902	Economic Analysis for Development	3
DPP 905	Fiscal Management for Development Organizations	3
DPP 906	Organizational Management and Leadership	3
DPP 908	Policy Seminar	3

Code	Title	Credits
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING Courses (4 Courses) [1]		
DPP 980	Introduction to Community Development Projects	3
DPP 981	Project Design and Planning	3
DPP 982	Project Implementation and Monitoring	3
DPP 983	Project Evaluation	3
ELECTIVE Courses: Choose Three (3) 3-Credit Courses [2]		9
DPP #911	Environmental Factors in Development Practice	
DPP #951	Nuts and Bolts of Microfinance	
DPP #953	Community Medicine and Epidemiology	
DPP 956	Housing Development	
DPP #960	Social Enterprise	
DPP #961	Community Development Finance	
DPP 962	Public Safety and Community Development	
DPP 990	Independent Study	
Total Credits		**36**

[1] With full faculty support, students carry out a four-term capstone project in their communities by completing actionable assignments throughout the series of four (4) applied project courses.

[2] A variety of elective courses are offered throughout the program. This can also include DPP 990 Independent Study. Students wishing to pursue elective courses outside of the MCD program should consult with their MCD Graduate Academic Advisor for guidance and approval.

Degree Plan

SAMPLE DEGREE PLAN: *Fall Start (Typical)*

First Year

Fall		Credits
Term 1		
DPP 901	Integrative Approaches to Development Policy and Practice	3
DPP 980	Introduction to Community Development Projects [1]	3
Term 2		
DPP 906	Organizational Management and Leadership	3
DPP 981	Project Design and Planning [1]	3
	Credits	**12**
Spring		
Term 3		
DPP 902	Economic Analysis for Development	3
DPP 982	Project Implementation and Monitoring [1]	3
Term 4		
DPP 905	Fiscal Management for Development Organizations	3
DPP 983	Project Evaluation [1]	3
	Credits	**12**
Summer		
Term 5		
DPP 908	Policy Seminar	3
MCD Elective Course [2]		3
	Credits	**6**

Second Year

Fall

Term 1		
MCD Elective Course [2]		3
MCD Elective Course [2]		3
Credits		**6**
Total Credits		**36**

MCD SAMPLE DEGREE PLAN: *Spring Start*

First Year

Spring		Credits
Term 3		
DPP 902	Economic Analysis for Development	3
MCD Elective Course [2]		3
Term 4		
DPP 905	Fiscal Management for Development Organizations	3
MCD Elective Course [2]		3
Credits		**12**

Summer

Term 5		
DPP 908	Policy Seminar	3
MCD Elective Course [2]		3
Credits		**6**

Fall

Term 1		
DPP 901	Integrative Approaches to Development Policy and Practice	3
DPP 980	Introduction to Community Development Projects [1]	3
Term 2		
DPP 906	Organizational Management and Leadership	3
DPP 981	Project Design and Planning [1]	3
Credits		**12**

Second Year

Spring		
Term 3		
DPP 982	Project Implementation and Monitoring [1]	3
Term 4		
DPP 983	Project Evaluation [1]	3
Credits		**6**
Total Credits		**36**

NOTES:

[1] With full faculty support, students carry out a four-term capstone project in their communities by completing actionable assignments throughout the series of four (4) applied project courses.

[2] A variety of MCD electives and other Carsey graduate courses are offered each term. This includes the MCD Independent Study course (DPP 990) taken under the guidance of an MCD faculty member. Students wishing to pursue elective courses outside of the MCD program should consult with their MCD Academic Advisor for guidance and approval.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Develop interdisciplinary knowledge and skills to integrate theory, policy, data collection, and analysis.
- Acquire an understanding of complex development issues and problems.
- Apply learning to real-world situations.
- Effectively communicate findings to various audiences both verbally and in writing.