

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (M.P.A.)

<https://carsey.unh.edu/program/mpa/online-master-public-administration>

Description

The Online Master of Public Administration program (MPA) offers you the opportunity to learn the skills you need in all aspects of public and nonprofit management including leadership, program evaluation, budgeting, planning, personnel management, collective bargaining, and policy analysis. Professionals with five or more years of relevant work experience can enroll in the 12-month Executive MPA program with reduced degree requirements and lower tuition cost.

Our MPA graduates are prepared to engage with their communities, ensure accountability, and have the administrative skills to achieve their organization's mission in an effective and sustainable manner.

- The MPA program is fully online and is ideal for working professionals
- Study with public service professionals and professors who bring strong analysis and best practices to your learning
- Start in the fall or spring and graduate in as little as 12 months (Executive MPA) or 16 months (MPA)
- Choose your MPA Capstone Experience Track: Management and Leadership or Program Planning and Development
- The GRE is not required to apply for this degree program

Program Delivery & Location: Core academic courses for the MPA program are offered entirely online with choices for taking optional elective courses in person on the UNH campuses.

Requirements

Executive MPA Requirements

Students enrolled in the Carsey School's **Executive Master of Public Administration** program are required to complete a thirty (30) credit program, consisting of:

- **Three (3) BASIC Core** Curriculum Courses
- **Three (3) ADVANCED Core** Curriculum Courses
- **MPA CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE Track:**
 - **Management and Leadership Track:** Two (2) Capstone Project Courses + Two (2) Elective Courses
OR
 - **Program Planning and Development Track:** Four (4) Capstone Project Courses

These provide students with a strong foundation in theory and the applied skills necessary to foster democratic involvement, accountability and administrative competency in the provision and delivery of public services in towns, cities, state agencies, and a wide range of nonprofit and non-governmental organizations. Further opportunities for depth and specialization are provided through a broad range of ADVANCED Core and ELECTIVE courses which vary by semester. For a culminating graduate experience, students choose an MPA capstone experience to match their interests in Management and Leadership or Program Planning and

Development, enabling students to directly apply what they've learned throughout their MPA program.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|-----------|
| MPA BASIC Core Curriculum Courses (3 Courses) | | |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| PA 805 | Introduction to Statistical Analysis | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Curriculum Courses (3 Courses) | | |
| Select three courses from the following: | | 9 |
| PA 802 | Grant-writing for Public and Non-profit Sectors | |
| PA 808 | Administrative Law | |
| PA 812 | Leadership Theory and Practice | |
| PA 813 | Human Resource Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | |
| PA 814 | Financial Management and Budgeting in the Public Sector | |
| PA 816 | Public Management Techniques | |
| PA 818 | Non-Profit Management | |
| PA 819 | Managing Conflict and Change in Nonprofit and Public Organizations | |
| PA 820 | Strategic Communications for Public and Non-profit Sectors | |
| PA 821 | Effective Change Management in Nonprofit and Public Organizations | |
| DPP 902 | Economic Analysis for Development | |
| DPP 905 | Fiscal Management for Development Organizations | |
| DPP 908 | Policy Seminar | |
| DPP #956 | Housing Development | |
| DPP 961 | Community Development Finance | |
| DPP #962 | Public Safety and Community Development | |
| MPA CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE Track | | |
| Select a track from the following: | | 12 |
| <i>Management and Leadership Track:</i> ² | | |
| PA 804 | Policy and Program Evaluation | |
| PA 908A | Capstone in Public Administration | |
| Two (2) MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Courses ¹ | | |
| <i>Program Planning and Development Track:</i> ³ | | |
| DPP 980 | Introduction to Community Development Projects | |
| DPP 981 | Project Design and Planning | |
| DPP 982 | Project Implementation and Monitoring | |
| DPP 983 | Project Evaluation | |
| Total Credits | | 30 |

¹ A range of MPA ADVANCED Core courses are offered each term and vary each year. ADVANCED Core courses can also be taken as ELECTIVE courses. Students may also propose relevant ELECTIVE courses based upon their interests. Consult with your Graduate Academic Advisor for guidance and course selections.

² As a culmination of their graduate work, students in the Master of Public Administration's **Management and Leadership Track** are tasked with reflecting upon the professional applicability of their MPA skillset and drawing from the ePortfolio that they built throughout the program. Students are presented with a real-world problem in public administration and asked to write a paper exploring the problem and proposing recommended solutions.

³ Students in the Master of Public Administration's **Program Planning and Development Track** complete a four-term capstone project as the culmination of their graduate work. This capstone experience is designed to provide an opportunity to directly apply theories learned in the classroom to a major applied project within a community.

MPA Requirements

Students enrolled in the Carsey School's **Master of Public Administration** program are required to complete a thirty-six (36) credit program, consisting of:

- **Three (3) BASIC Core** Curriculum Courses
- **Three (3) ADVANCED Core** Curriculum Courses

- **MPA CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE Track:**
 - **Management and Leadership Track:** Two (2) Capstone Project Courses + Four (4) Elective Courses
OR
 - **Program Planning and Development Track:** Four (4) Capstone Project Courses + Two (2) Elective Courses

These provide students with a strong foundation in theory and the applied skills necessary to foster democratic involvement, accountability and administrative competency in the provision and delivery of public services in towns, cities, state agencies, and a wide range of nonprofit and non-governmental organizations. Further opportunities for depth and specialization are provided through a broad range of ADVANCED Core and ELECTIVE courses which vary by semester. For a culminating graduate experience, students choose an MPA capstone experience to match their interests in Management and Leadership or Program Planning and Development, enabling students to directly apply what they've learned throughout their MPA program.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|-----------|
| MPA BASIC Core Curriculum Courses (3 Courses) | | |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| PA 805 | Introduction to Statistical Analysis | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Curriculum Courses (3 courses) | | |
| Select three courses from the following: 9 | | |
| PA 802 | Grant-writing for Public and Non-profit Sectors | |
| PA 808 | Administrative Law | |
| PA 812 | Leadership Theory and Practice | |
| PA 813 | Human Resource Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | |
| PA 814 | Financial Management and Budgeting in the Public Sector | |
| PA 816 | Public Management Techniques | |
| PA 818 | Non-Profit Management | |
| PA 819 | Managing Conflict and Change in Nonprofit and Public Organizations | |
| PA 820 | Strategic Communications for Public and Non-profit Sectors | |
| PA 821 | Effective Change Management in Nonprofit and Public Organizations | |
| DPP 902 | Economic Analysis for Development | |
| DPP 905 | Fiscal Management for Development Organizations | |
| DPP 908 | Policy Seminar | |
| DPP #956 | Housing Development | |
| DPP 961 | Community Development Finance | |
| DPP #962 | Public Safety and Community Development | |
| GCHS 810 | Conflict & Human Security | |
| GCHS 820 | Global Governance | |
| GCHS 830 | International Development & Human Security | |
| GCHS 840 | Sustainable Development: Gender-Environment Nexus | |
| PPOL 812 | Strategies for Policy Impact | |
| PPOL 822 | Media Strategy and Skills | |
| MPA CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE Track | | |
| Select a track from the following: 18 | | |
| <i>Management and Leadership Track:</i> ² | | |
| PA 804 | Policy and Program Evaluation | |
| PA 908A | Capstone in Public Administration | |
| Four (4) MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Courses ¹ | | |
| <i>Program Planning and Development Track:</i> ³ | | |
| DPP 980 | Introduction to Community Development Projects | |
| DPP 981 | Project Design and Planning | |
| DPP 982 | Project Implementation and Monitoring | |
| DPP 983 | Project Evaluation | |
| Two (2) MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Courses ¹ | | |
| Total Credits | | 36 |

¹ A range of MPA ADVANCED Core courses are offered each term and vary each year. ADVANCED Core courses can also be taken as ELECTIVE courses. Students may also propose relevant ELECTIVE courses if they make sense in terms of the student's interests and

academic plan. Discussion with your MPA Graduate Academic Advisor should inform this choice.

² As a culmination of their graduate work, students in the Master of Public Administration's **Management and Leadership Track** are tasked with reflecting upon the professional applicability of their MPA skillset and drawing from the ePortfolio that they built throughout the program. Students are presented with a real-world problem in public administration and asked to write a paper exploring the problem and proposing recommended solutions.

³ Students in the Master of Public Administration's **Program Planning and Development Track** complete a four-term capstone project as the culmination of their graduate work. This capstone experience is designed to provide an opportunity to directly apply theories learned in the classroom to a major applied project within a community.

Degree Plan

EXECUTIVE MPA Sample Degree Plan (30 Credits)

CAPSTONE TRACK: MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

First Year

| Fall | | Credits |
|----------------|---|-----------|
| Term 1 | | |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| | MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | 3 |
| Term 2 | | |
| | MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | 3 |
| | MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |

Spring

| | | |
|----------------|--|-----------|
| Term 3 | | |
| PA 804 | Policy and Program Evaluation ² | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| Term 4 | | |
| PA 805 | Introduction to Statistical Analysis | 3 |
| PA 908A | Capstone in Public Administration ² | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |

Summer

| | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| Term 5 | | |
| | MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course ¹ | 3 |
| | MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course ¹ | 3 |
| Credits | | 6 |
| Total Credits | | 30 |

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² As a culmination of their graduate work, students in the Master of Public Administration's **Management and Leadership Track** are tasked with reflecting upon the professional applicability of their MPA

skillset and drawing from the ePortfolio that they built throughout the program. Students are presented with a real-world problem in public administration and asked to write a paper exploring the problem and proposing recommended solutions.

EXECUTIVE MPA Sample Degree Plan (30 Credits)

CAPSTONE TRACK: program planning AND development

| First Year | | Credits |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Fall | | |
| Term 1 | | |
| DPP 980 | Introduction to Community Development Projects ² | 3 |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| Term 2 | | |
| DPP 981 | Project Design and Planning ² | 3 |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |
| Spring | | |
| Term 3 | | |
| DPP 982 | Project Implementation and Monitoring ² | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| Term 4 | | |
| DPP 983 | Project Evaluation ² | 3 |
| PA 805 | Introduction to Statistical Analysis | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |
| Summer | | |
| Term 5 | | |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Credits | | 6 |
| Total Credits | | 30 |

¹ A range of MPA ADVANCED Core courses are offered each term and vary each year. ADVANCED Core courses can also be taken as ELECTIVE courses. Students may also propose relevant ELECTIVE courses based upon their interests. Consult with your Graduate Academic Advisor for guidance and course selections.

² Students in the Master of Public Administration's **Program Planning and Development Track** complete a four-term capstone project as the culmination of their graduate work. This capstone experience is designed to provide an opportunity to directly apply theories learned in the classroom to a major applied project within a community.

MPA Sample Degree Plan (36 Credits)

CAPSTONE TRACK: MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

| First Year | | Credits |
|-------------|---|---------|
| Fall | | |
| Term 1 | | |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |

| | | |
|---|--|-----------|
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Term 2 | | |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |
| Spring | | |
| Term 3 | | |
| PA 804 | Policy and Program Evaluation ² | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| Term 4 | | |
| PA 805 | Introduction to Statistical Analysis | 3 |
| MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |
| Second Year | | |
| Fall | | |
| Term 1 | | |
| MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course ¹ | | 3 |
| MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Term 2 | | |
| PA 908A | Capstone in Public Administration | 3 |
| MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |
| Total Credits | | 36 |

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MPA Sample Degree Plan (36 Credits)

CAPSTONE TRACK: PROGRAM PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

| First Year | | Credits |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Fall | | |
| Term 1 | | |
| DPP 980 | Introduction to Community Development Projects ² | 3 |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| Term 2 | | |
| DPP 981 | Project Design and Planning ² | 3 |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |
| Spring | | |
| Term 3 | | |

| | | |
|---|--|-----------|
| DPP 982 | Project Implementation and Monitoring ² | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| Term 4 | | |
| DPP 983 | Project Evaluation ² | 3 |
| PA 805 | Introduction to Statistical Analysis | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |
| Second Year | | |
| Fall | | |
| Term 1 | | |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| MPA ADVANCED Core Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Term 2 | | |
| MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course ¹ | | 3 |
| MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course ¹ | | 3 |
| Credits | | 12 |
| Total Credits | | 36 |

¹ A range of MPA ADVANCED Core courses are offered each term and vary each year. ADVANCED Core courses can also be taken as ELECTIVE courses. Students may also propose relevant ELECTIVE courses based upon their interests. Consult with your Graduate Academic Advisor for guidance and course selections.

² Students in the Master of Public Administration's **Program Planning and Development Track** complete a four-term capstone project as the culmination of their graduate work. This capstone experience is designed to provide an opportunity to directly apply theories learned in the classroom to a major applied project within a community.

Accelerated Master's

This graduate program is approved to be taken on an accelerated basis in articulation with certain undergraduate degree programs.

General Accelerated Master's policy, note that some programs have additional requirements (e.g. higher grade expectations) compared to the policy.

Please see the Graduate School website and contact the department directly for more information.

Accelerated Master's Program Eligible: Yes-MPA Only (not applicable for the Executive MPA program)

The Master of Public Administration program allows eligible undergraduate seniors to enroll in graduate level courses which can fulfill requirements for both their undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Students can apply to the Accelerated MPA program during their junior or senior year. Please review details on eligibility requirements for admission.

Eligible students who are admitted to the Accelerated Master's program may complete up to 12 credits at the 800-level during their undergraduate senior year, earning dual credit toward both their undergraduate and MPA degree. Accelerated Master's students should always consult with their Graduate Academic Advisor for guidance.

The MPA program is approved to be taken on an accelerated basis with the following undergraduate programs. The listed MPA courses have been approved for credit in these undergraduate programs:

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------|
| Cybersecurity Policy Minor | | |
| <i>Required Course for the minor</i> | | |
| CPRM 810 | Foundations of Cybersecurity Policy (Fall/Spring) | 3 |
| <i>Minor approved electives:</i> | | |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| PA 812 | Leadership Theory and Practice | 3 |
| PA 818 | Non-Profit Management | 3 |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|---------|
| Global Studies Minor (Manchester) | | |
| <i>Minor (Economics and Interdependence pillar) approved electives:</i> | | |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| PA 812 | Leadership Theory and Practice | 3 |
| PA 818 | Non-Profit Management | 3 |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---------------------------------|--|---------|
| Political Science (B.A.) | | |
| <i>Approved electives:</i> | | |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| PA 818 | Non-Profit Management | 3 |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|---------|
| Public Administration (B.S.) & Minor | | |
| <i>Approved electives:</i> | | |
| GCHS 810 | Conflict & Human Security | 3 |
| GCHS 820 | Global Governance | 3 |
| GCHS 830 | International Development & Human Security | 3 |
| GCHS 840 | Sustainable Development: Gender-Environment Nexus | 3 |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| PA 818 | Non-Profit Management | 3 |
| PPOL 806 | Fundamentals of Policy Analysis | 3 |
| PPOL 810 | Policy Across Borders | 3 |
| PPOL 822 | Media Strategy and Skills | 3 |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|---------|
| Public Service and Nonprofit Leadership (B.S.) | | |
| <i>Approved electives:</i> | | |
| PA 800 | Foundations and Theories of Public Administration | 3 |
| PA 809 | Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors | 3 |
| PA 812 | Leadership Theory and Practice | 3 |
| PA 818 | Non-Profit Management | 3 |

Student Learning Outcomes

- Develop in-depth understanding of the structure of public sector organizations and common issues faced by public and nonprofit managers
- Communicate effectively with public managers, policymakers, and the general public
- Manage organizations, processes, and people in the public and nonprofit sectors
- Apply critical thinking skills to address public issues and solve problems
- Collect and analyze data to inform public decision-making