

PUBLIC POLICY (M.P.P.)

<https://carsey.unh.edu/master-public-policy>

Description

The Master in Public Policy degree (MPP) offers you the opportunity to learn the skills you need to succeed in today's public policy jobs—analytical expertise, strategic vision, clear and compelling communications, and the tools of leadership. This master's in public policy program is ideal whether you will be completing your bachelor's degree in the near future or are currently working in a policy-related field. Choose a track focused on public policy analysis or strategy and communications—and select from a broad range of electives to personalize your degree plan. Built into the unique curriculum are a variety of experiential learning opportunities to deepen and broaden what you learn in the classroom, such as:

- **Colloquium in Washington, DC:** Immerse yourself in the capital scene – meeting with leaders in Congress, the White House, government agencies, political parties, advocacy groups, think tanks, and more
- **Policy Internship:** Work in a policy-focused organization to gain practical, real-world experience and a valuable perspective on careers in public policy
- **Capstone Project:** Employ the MPP skills you have gained to delve deeply into a specific policy area to produce a comprehensive written report and oral presentation

Earn your MPP degree in as little as 14 months (or 12 months for UNH Accelerated Master's students). You can also choose to earn your MPP degree over a longer period by attending part time.

Program Delivery & Location: Academic courses are offered in person on the UNH Durham campus with a portion of the experiential learning taking place offsite: in Washington, DC, for the Colloquium and at the Internship site location during the MPP Internship experience.

Accelerated Masters Eligible: Yes

Requirements

Students enrolled in the Carsey School's Master in Public Policy program (MPP degree) are required to complete a forty (40) credit program, consisting of:

- Five (5) CORE Curriculum Courses
- Four (4) EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING Activities
- Two (2) PUBLIC POLICY TRACK Courses (Strategy and Communication Track or Policy Analysis Track)
- Four (4) ELECTIVE Courses

These provide the foundational analytical, strategic, and communication skills for a successful career in the world of public policy making. Students focus their public policy studies by choosing either the Strategy and Communication Track or the Policy Analysis Track and complete two courses in one of the tracks. Courses in both tracks can also be taken as open electives. Further opportunities for depth and specialization in substantive policy areas are provided by open elective courses which vary by semester. As culminating graduate experiences, students apply what they've learned through an MPP internship at a

policy-oriented organization as well as conducting a capstone project by delving deeply into a policy area of interest. Both of these experiences are provided with guidance from faculty mentors.

Students are advised to have taken an introductory level economics class prior to starting the MPP program such as a "principles of economics" (macro or micro). Students should consult with their MPP Graduate Academic Advisor to confirm that the course(s) previously taken are sufficient or for suggestions of which courses could be taken prior to starting the MPP program.

Code	Title	Credits
MPP CORE Curriculum Courses (5 Courses):		
PPOL 806	Fundamentals of Policy Analysis	3
PPOL 902	Strategy and Practice of Public Policy	3
PPOL 904	Economics for Public Policy	3
PPOL 908	Quantitative Methods for Policy Research	3
PPOL 910	Policy Across Borders	3
MPP EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING Activities (4 Courses):		
PPOL 950	Washington DC Colloquium	3
PPOL 990A	Policy Capstone Planning	1
PPOL 990	Policy Capstone	3
PPOL 998A	Policy Internship ¹	0
or PPOL 998	Policy Internship	
PUBLIC POLICY TRACK (2 Courses): ²		
Two (2) courses are selected based upon the chosen track: Strategy and Communication Track or Policy Analysis Track		
ELECTIVE Courses (4 Courses): ^{1, 3}		
Four (4) open elective courses are selected in substantive areas approved by the MPP program (or 3 open elective courses if the Policy Internship is taken for credit, PPOL 998) ¹		
Total Credits		40

Notes:

¹ In special cases and with your MPP Academic Advisor's permission, the Policy Internship may be taken for credit (PPOL 998, 3 credits), supervised by a faculty member who will provide the academic structure to parallel the applied experience. If this is the case, the required number of MPP-approved elective courses is reduced to three (3) courses.

² Students choose two (2) courses from either the Strategy and Communication Track or the Policy Analysis Track. Courses in both tracks can also be taken as open elective courses.

³ MPP-Approved elective courses are available in many substantive areas. Students may also propose additional electives if they make sense in terms of the student's interests and academic plan. Discussion with your MPP Graduate Academic Advisor should inform this choice.

Degree Plan

SAMPLE 16-MONTH FULL-TIME DEGREE COMPLETION PLAN

Fall Start (Typical)

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
PPOL 806	Fundamentals of Policy Analysis	3
PPOL 904	Economics for Public Policy	3
PPOL 908	Quantitative Methods for Policy Research	3

MPP Public Policy Track Course ²	3
Credits	12
January Term	
PPOL 950 Washington DC Colloquium	3
Credits	3
Spring	
PPOL 902 Strategy and Practice of Public Policy	3
PPOL 910 Policy Across Borders	3
PPOL 990A Policy Capstone Planning	1
MPP Public Policy Track Course ²	3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved Elective Course) ^{2,3}	3
Credits	13
Summer	
PPOL 998A Policy Internship ¹ or PPOL 998 or Policy Internship	0
Credits	0
Second Year	
Fall	
PPOL 990 Policy Capstone	3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved Elective course) ^{2,3}	3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved Elective course) ^{2,3}	3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved Elective course) ^{2,3}	3
Credits	12
Total Credits	40

Spring Start

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Spring		
PPOL 902	Strategy and Practice of Public Policy	3
PPOL 910	Policy Across Borders	3
MPP Public Policy Track Course ²		3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved elective course) ^{2,3}		3
Credits		12
Summer		
PPOL 998A	Policy Internship ¹ or PPOL 998 or Policy Internship	0
Credits		0
Fall		
PPOL 806	Fundamentals of Policy Analysis	3
PPOL 904	Economics for Public Policy	3
PPOL 908	Quantitative Methods for Policy Research	3
PPOL 990A	Policy Capstone Planning	1
MPP Public Policy Track Course ²		3
Credits		13
January Term		
PPOL 950	Washington DC Colloquium	3
Credits		3

Second Year

Course	Title	Credits
Spring		
PPOL 990	Policy Capstone	3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved elective course) ³		3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved elective course) ³		3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved elective course) ³		3
Credits		12
Total Credits		40

Sample ACCELERATED MASTER'S Degree Completion Plan (Fall Start)

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
PPOL 806	Fundamentals of Policy Analysis ⁴ or PPOL 706 or Fundamentals of Policy Analysis	3
MPP Public Policy Track Course ^{2,4}		3
Credits		6
Spring		
MPP Public Policy Track Course ^{2,4}		3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved Elective course with 700/800-levels) ⁴		3
Credits		6
Summer		
PPOL 998A	Policy Internship ¹ or PPOL 998 or Policy Internship	0
Credits		0
Second Year		
Fall		
PPOL 904	Economics for Public Policy	3
PPOL 908	Quantitative Methods for Policy Research	3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved elective course) ³		3
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved elective course) ³		3
Credits		12
January Term		
PPOL 950	Washington DC Colloquium	3
Credits		3
Spring		
PPOL 902	Strategy and Practice of Public Policy	3
PPOL 910	Policy Across Borders	3
PPOL 990A	Policy Capstone Planning	1
Elective Course (choose an MPP-Approved elective course) ³		3
Credits		10
Summer		
PPOL 990	Policy Capstone	3
Credits		3
Total Credits		40

NOTES:

¹ In special cases and with your MPP Advisor's permission, the Policy Internship may be taken for credit (PPOL 998, 3 credits), supervised by a faculty member who will provide the academic structure to parallel

the applied experience. If this is the case, the required number of MPP-approved elective courses is reduced to three (3) courses.

² Students choose two (2) courses from either the Strategy and Communication Track or the Policy Analysis Track. Courses in both tracks can also be taken as open elective courses.

³ MPP-Approved elective courses are available in many substantive areas. Students may also propose additional electives if they make sense in terms of the student's interests and academic plan. Discussion with your MPP Academic Advisor should inform this choice.

⁴ Undergraduates enrolled as Accelerated Master's students will enroll in both the 700-level course (for credit in their undergraduate program) and the 800-level course (for graduate credit in the Master in Public Policy program).

Student Learning Outcomes

- Apply basic methods of policy development and analysis to design and evaluate public policy
- Demonstrate competency in public speaking and writing related to public policy
- Demonstrate competency in strategic and tactical skills for achieving policy objectives
- Utilize data and research to inform policy design and advocacy
- Understand policy profession norms and ethics
- Apply critical thinking skills to address policy-relevant questions