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. You can also choose to earn your MPP degree over a longer period by attending part time. Note that the GRE is not required to apply for this degree program.

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.

Requirements

Degree 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.

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.

Students may also propose additional electives if they make sense in terms of the student’s interests and academic plan. Discussions with your MPP Academic Advisor should inform this choice.

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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 806</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Policy Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPOL 904</td>
<td>Economics for Public Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPOL 908</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods for Policy Research</td>
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MPP Public Policy Track Course 2 3

January Term
PPOL 950 Washington DC Colloquium 3
Credits 12

Spring
PPOL 810 Policy Across Borders 3
PPOL 902 Strategy and Practice of Public Policy 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 or PPOL 998 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

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.

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.

The Master in Public Policy program (MPP) allows eligible undergraduate seniors to enroll in graduate level courses which can fulfill requirements for both their undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Students must apply to the MPP program and be accepted as an Accelerated Master’s student. 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 Bachelor’s and MPP degree. Accelerated Master’s students should always consult with their Graduate Academic Advisor for guidance.

Accelerated Master’s students may register for a maximum of 12 credits of graduate-level courses prior to completing their bachelor’s degree.

The MPP program is approved to be taken on an accelerated basis in articulation with the following undergraduate programs:

Cybersecurity Policy Minor & MPP:

Code Title Credits
CPRM B10 Foundations of Cybersecurity Policy (Fall/Spring) 3
MPP/Minor approved electives:
PPOL 806 Fundamentals of Policy Analysis (Fall) 3
Global Studies Minor (Manchester) & MPP

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<td>Policy Across Borders (Spring)</td>
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<td>PPOL 822</td>
<td>Media Strategy and Skills (Spring)</td>
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Global Studies Dual Major, Global Studies Minor (Durham) & MPP

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Political Science (B.A.) & MPP

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Public Service and Nonprofit Leadership (B.S.) & MPP

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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