

Master of Public Administration

Program Mission

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) program (<https://www.apu.edu/clas/programs/mpa-degree/>) equips graduate students to become competent, confident, and ethical leaders who implement public policy effectively, efficiently, and responsively. Our goal is to develop Christ-centered difference makers in the public-sector environment promoting justice through scholarship and leading transformative practice.

The MPA prepares students to become leaders of change in their communities and government agencies by providing a comprehensive degree program that meets the demands of today's public administration agencies. The program's rigorous focus is on research, writing, and managerial decision making using data and cultural awareness to achieve the public good. Students are able to customize their degree by selecting a concentration. The degree requirement is 36 units.

Our vision is to:

- Prepare preservice and midcareer professionals to manage and make evidence-based decisions.
- Develop skills in critical thinking, analysis, data use, and research evaluation for meaningful real-world applications.
- Equip future leaders to think creatively and innovatively to solve problems and transform public, nonprofit, and private organizations.
- Prepare culturally confident public sector leaders who nurture collaborative relationships with diverse groups and lead in work, home, and community contexts.

Highlights

- The MPA program equips students with strong moral character and the leadership and analytical skills needed to lead change in today's public-sector environment.
- Relevant coursework and real-world projects guided by faculty with business experience allow students to immediately apply learning at work.
- Focused certificates and credentials provide in-demand skills, know-how, and experience, verifying and showcasing students' skills and abilities to potential employers.
- Students learn from Fulbright Scholars and world-renowned professors with real-world experience.
- Flexible course scheduling allows students to advance their academic and professional goals at their own pace.

Flexible Course Schedules

To accommodate busy schedules, classes are offered during the evening, in person, and online. Students may take advantage of the multiple delivery formats to customize their education experience. **Students are admitted to and can start the MPA program in any of the eight terms during the academic year.**

Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Core Courses		
PADM 501	Origin of Public Administration	3
PADM 503	The Policy Process	3
PADM 504	Economic and Urban Development	3
PADM 505	Public Sector Research Methods	3
PADM 518	Public-Private Partnerships	3
PADM 600A	Community Engagement	3
PADM 600B	Public Administration Capstone	3
MGMT 516	High-Performance People Management	3
MGMT 581	Ethical Leadership	3
Concentration		9
Choose one of the following:		
Data Analytics		
BUSI 511	Big Data and Business Analytics	
BUSI 515	Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) for Business	
BUSI 594	Emerging Trends in Information Technology	
Government Budgeting		

FIN 502	Business Finance for Managers
ACCT 550	Accounting for Nonprofit Entities
ACCT 551	Government Financial Management
Health Policy and Public Administration	
PADM 510	U.S. Healthcare System
PADM 512	Healthcare Administration
PADM 513	Community Health and the Built Environment
Marketing	
MKTG 502	Marketing Principles
MKTG 565	Integrated Marketing Communications
MKTG 580	Strategic Digital Marketing
Administrative Science ¹	

Total Units
36

¹ This concentration is designed for students who for personal and/or career reasons need to create an individualized concentration. Three courses are typically chosen from existing concentration courses, but students with unique needs may propose concentrations that include up to 12 units of graduate study offered by the School of Business and Management. The degree requirement is 36 units. All concentrations must be approved in advance by the SBM Graduate Business Admissions Committee.

Admission

University graduate admission and program-specific requirements must be met before an application is complete (see Admission to the University (<http://catalog.apu.edu/admissions/>)). **Program-specific application requirements are available online (<https://tracking.cirrusinsight.com/74647a2d-e9a2-412f-9b55-9959c7aac4ec/apu-edu-graduateprofessionalcenter-admissions-requirements-program/>).**

International students should contact Graduate and Professional Admissions (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessionalcenter/admissions/>) for application procedures.

Program Learning Outcomes

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Students who successfully complete this program shall be able to:

1. Evaluate leadership and management techniques reflecting theories and practices of public administration.
2. Analyze effective strategies to manage policy programs reflecting the global professional standards and ethics of Network Schools of Public Policy Affairs and Administration (NASPAA).
3. Formulate innovative and value-based decisions to manage the political-administrative policy process and solutions for effective public service and program outcomes.
4. Communicate using a Christ-centered worldview and technologies (e-commerce, e-governance, e-learning) helpful to manage intergovernmental relations with diverse groups.
5. Differentiate the function of budgeting and financial planning approaches used by public sector organizations for economic and community development.
6. Develop personal and professional skills to make positive changes at work and in the community as honorable public servants.