

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

<http://www.uvm.edu/~mpa/>

OVERVIEW

The Master of Public Administration Program at the University of Vermont joins vigorous study of the foundations of public administration with the practice of public administration in the real world. Vermont's small size, open local and state government, and wealth of nonprofit organizations make for an ideal environment in which to directly engage with the public administration field. More information on the M.P.A. program can be found on the Master of Public Administration website.

DEGREES

- Public Administration AMP (<http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/publicadmin/publicadministrationamp/>)
- Public Administration M.P.A. (<http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/publicadmin/publicadministrationmpa/>)

FACULTY

Conner, David S.; Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, Cornell University
Farley, Joshua C.; Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, Cornell University
Heiss, Sarah Noel; Associate Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, Ohio University
Koliba, Christopher J.; Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, Syracuse University
Kolodinsky, Jane Marie; Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, Cornell University
McMahon, Edward; Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; EDD, University of Vermont
McRae, Glenn; Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, The Union Institute & University
Reynolds, Travis; Assistant Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics, PHD, University of Washington
Shrum, Trisha R.; Assistant Professor; Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, Harvard University – John F. Kennedy School of Government
Tobin, Daniel; Assistant Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, Pennsylvania State University
Zia, Asim; Professor, Department of Community Development and Applied Economics; PHD, Georgia Institute of Technology

Courses

PA 206. Intro Cont Public Affairs. 3 Credits.

Contemporary policy issues including government and the economy, the role of leadership, ethical and moral issues in public policy, and other contemporary issues impacting society. Prerequisites: CDAE 100 level course.

PA 260. Smart Resilient Communities. 3 Credits.

Focus on social ecological systems integration framework to determine community resilience, enable smart design processes at the nexus of food, energy and water systems and learn practical skills, such as early warning systems, ubiquitous computing and interactive scenario planning techniques. Prerequisites: CDAE 102 or Graduate standing. Cross-listed with: CDAE 260.

PA 301. Foundations of Public Admin. 3 Credits.

Survey of major elements of management in the public and nonprofit sectors with special attention given to problems arising from political imperatives generated by a democratic society.

PA 302. Org Theory & Behavior. 3 Credits.

Examination of basic classical and contemporary theory, research on human relations, internal structures, environments, types, diverse workplaces, general properties of complex organizations and bureaucracies.

PA 303. Research & Evaluation Methods. 0 or 3 Credits.

Conceptualization, collection and analysis of primary and secondary data; interpretation, and communication of results of applied research and/or evaluation studies for decision makers. Separate lab required.

PA 305. Public and Nonprofit Budgeting. 3 Credits.

A focus on the budget as the primary policy and planning document in public and nonprofit organizations.

PA 306. Policy Systems. 3 Credits.

The study and application of system-level public policy frameworks, theories and models to contemporary policy problems and solutions.

PA 308. Decision Making Models. 3 Credits.

Explores and analyzes normative, descriptive and prescriptive decision making models. Focuses on systems-level thinking to impart problem-solving skills in complex decision-making contexts. Emphasis placed on imparting cutting edge skills, enabling students to design and implement multiple criteria decision analysis models.

PA 311. Policy Analysis&Program Eval. 3 Credits.

A seminar providing hands-on knowledge in policy analysis and program evaluation using case studies of current analysis projects and problems. Specific techniques include planning, survey administration, forecasting, cost benefit analysis, and impact assessment.

PA 317. Systems Only & Strategic Mgmt. 3 Credits.

Students will be introduced to systems thinking and network dynamics with a particular focus on managing across organizational and sectoral boundaries, including public-private partnerships, intergovernmental arrangements, and strategic alliances. Tools to undertake strategic analysis and planning will be explored.

PA 323. Non-Profit Administration. 3 Credits.

Course reviews the history of, and managerial challenges inherent to, the non-profit sector in the United States and explores sector's relationship to the governmental and business sectors.

PA 326. Community Economic Development. 3 Credits.

Examines how rural and urban communities address poverty, unemployment and other economic problems through job creation and retention, workforce training and support, and other development strategies. Cross-listed with: CDAE 326.

PA 375. Public Administration Capstone. 3 Credits.

The Capstone is designed to provide MPA students with a summative experience that ties learning competencies to evidence drawn from their course of study. Pre/co-requisites: Core MPA courses either prior to Spring semester or simultaneously.

PA 380. Internship. 3-6 Credits.

Supervised administrative experience culminating in a written report.

PA 391. Master's Thesis Research. 1-6 Credits.

Thesis topic must be approved by faculty advisor.

PA 395. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.

For advanced students within areas of expertise of the faculty. Varied course offerings. Contemporary topics. Instructor Permission.

PA 397. Readings & Research. 1-6 Credits.

Readings, with conferences, term paper, to provide graduate students with specialized knowledge in an area in which an appropriate course is not offered.