

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Program of Study

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) is a nationally accredited broad based program to prepare students for a variety of management and executive careers in government and nonprofits. The MPA program of study consists of 24 hours of required courses, 12 hours of electives and a six hour internship or waiver for professional work experience for a total of 42 credit hours.

Required Courses (18 credit hours)

PAA 516 Information Technology and Public Policy
 PAA 540 Seminar in Public Financial Management I
 PAA 550 Seminar in Public Personnel Management
 PAA 610 Methods of Analysis in Public Administration and Public Policy
 PAA 630 Administrative Theory

Students must take at least one course in each of the two areas (six credit hours) listed below.

A. **Management of States and Localities.** Possible courses include:

PAA 505 Intergovernmental Relations
 PAA 560 State Administration
 PAA 580 City and Regional Planning
 PAA 605 Community Power, Leadership and Administration
 PAA 640 Seminar in Public Financial Management II
 PAA 670 Regional Governance

B. **Public Policy Analysis.** Possible courses include:

PAA 520 Policy Studies
 PAA 615 Advanced Methods of Analysis in Public Administration and Public Policy
 PAA 620 Program Analysis and Evaluation
 PAA 625 Health Care and Human Services Policy and Administration
 PAA 627 Environmental Policy and Management

Electives (12 credit hours) Students take twelve hours of electives in courses offered by the Department or other units of the University. Not more than three credit hours may be taken at the 400-level (in addition to the internship PAA 493, PAA 495, or PAA 696).

Internship (six credit hours) Students without significant public or nonprofit organizational experience must complete a six-credit internship. A waiver of three or six credits for prior public sector/nonprofit work experience is possible. Students are matched to internships of their interest. Internships are arranged within and outside the state. Competitive internships in Maine State government are available.

Students may choose to organize their electives in the following optional concentrations: planning, development and environmental sustainability; health care policy and nonprofit management; state and local administration; or public policy. (See our website www.umaine.edu/pubadmin for specific courses in the four concentrations.)

Financial Aid

Teaching assistantships provide a stipend and cover tuition, including up to six credits in the summer. Research assistantships in the Department are frequently advertised and become available throughout the year. University wide assistantships and scholarships are also available. All students who are full-time students are eligible to apply.

Research Facilities

Classes are taught in Orono, on the flagship campus, and in Augusta at locations near the state offices. Students may complete their degree on a part-time basis, a full time basis or take courses in both locations. A computer lab is available in the D.P. Corbett Business Building. The Department cooperates with other departments on campus such as Resource Economics and Policy, Business, and Education. Public Administration students can access the library on the Orono campus or remotely.

Applying

The Department encourages applications from individuals with diverse backgrounds who presently work in government or in nonprofits or plan a career in these fields. Representative undergraduate degrees are in (but not limited to) political science, public administration, economics, business, the social sciences, social work, health, and engineering.

Preparation should include an introductory course or its equivalent in American government, statistics and economics. Students who lack one or more of these prerequisites may be admitted on a provisional basis. Assistance in locating appropriate courses is provided. The GRE or GMAT is required in the application process, as well as three letters of recommendation, copies of transcripts, a resume, a brief essay, and two copies of the University application.

Application Deadlines

The Department uses a rolling admissions process. Students are admitted fall, spring, and summer semesters. Those interested in assistantships and scholarships should have their applications completed by Feb. 1st.

Correspondence

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Graduate Faculty

G. Thomas Taylor, Ph.D. (Colorado, 1973), Professor, and Department Chair. Municipal government, local public management, urban public policy, sub-state regionalism, and community planning and development.

Carolyn Ball, Ph.D. (Purdue University, 1990), Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Programs in Public Administration. Human resource management, public management, labor relations, community policing, public policy, and methodology.

Edward B. Laverty, Ph.D. (State University of New York, Albany, 1980), Associate Professor. Environmental policy, economic development, policy analysis and evaluation, administrative law and the regulatory process, and bureaucratic politics.

Kenneth L. Nichols, DPA (George Mason University, 1993), Associate Professor. Information technology and public policy, methods of analysis, strategic planning, and futuristics.

Adjunct Faculty

Stephen R. Aylward, Ph.D. (Maryland, 2005), Leadership, urban governance, political economy, and nation security policy.

Andrew C. Fisk, Ph.D. (Rutgers, 1995), Director of the Bureau of Land and Water Quality at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. City and regional planning, environmental planning, land use policy and administration.

Mark Jackson, M.D. (Boston University, 1979), Director of Cutler Health Center. Healthcare and human service administration, total quality management in healthcare, occupational safety, and health policy and administration.

Michel Lahti, Ph.D. (University of Maine, 1998), Visiting Instructor, Muskie School of Public Service, Institute for Public Sector Innovation, University of Southern Maine. Research design, program evaluation, research methods, and performance measurement in government-nonprofit sectors.

John F. Mahon, Ph.D. (Boston University, 1982), John M. Murphy Chair of International Business Policy and Strategy. Professor of Management. Management policy and strategy, global strategy, negotiations.

Jonathan Shenkin, D.D.S. (Columbia University, 1996), Associate in Dental Private Practice, Bangor Maine. Issues in public health, health care finance and management.

Seth Singleton, Ph.D. (Yale University, 1968), Visiting Professor of Political Science and Public Administration. Comparative administration, culture, human rights, and globalization, management and policy.

Thomas L. Welch, J.D. (Harvard University, 1975), Chair, Maine Public Utilities Commission. Administrative law, regulation and deregulation of essential services, telecommunications and electricity policy.