

Master of Public Administration

Program of Study

The curriculum consists of 12 required graduate courses. To ensure an appropriate foundation of professional field experience, students lacking full-time work experience with a government agency or a nonprofit organization also must complete an internship. The content of all courses is relevant both to administrators in government agencies and to managers in nonprofit organizations.

Required Courses

PA601 Organizational Behavior
PA603 Technology Issues in Public Administration
PA606 Public Personnel Administration
PA609 Budgeting
PA611 Leadership Skills
PA614 Interpersonal Communications within Organizations
PA615 Legal Aspects of Public Administration
PA618 Research Methods in Public Administration
PA631 Fundraising and Volunteer Administration
PA632 Public Administration
PA644 Process Analysis
PA653 Ethics in Public Administration

Internship

PA695 Internship in Public Agency

About the internship

If a student is not already employed in the public sector, an internship is an essential element to a graduate student's success in the competitive job market after graduation. Internships are available in local government offices, nonprofit organizations, and other community service agencies. Placement is arranged by a faculty member in the MPA program.

Program Objectives

Graduates of the program acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to be creative, ethical, analytical, and visionary leaders. Specific competencies that will be mastered by students earning the MPA degree follow:

- Become knowledgeable of the laws, rules, norms, and traditions that shape the internal structure, efficiency, and innovativeness of public sector organizations.
- Be able to formulate creative solutions to problems confronting government agencies and not-for-profit organizations.
- Obtain knowledge of how institutions in the public sector shape and are shaped by economic, social, and political environments.
- Master an understanding of how key concepts and theories can be used to formulate practical solutions to problems associated with public and non-profit administration.
- Gain knowledge of data bases, Web sites, printed material, and other information-based resources pertaining to the management of public sector organizations.
- Understand the ethical consequences of decisions made by managers in the public sector.

Admission Requirements

In order to be unconditionally admitted to the program, an applicant must hold a bachelor's degree (any major is acceptable) with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.7. If an applicant's background suggests that he or she is capable of doing graduate work, a student with a GPA below 2.7 may be conditionally admitted.

The program is administered by the USI Political Science Department in the College of Liberal Arts, but faculty members are drawn from a number of disciplines: political science, communications, management, and computer information systems.

For application materials or further information, contact:

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Evansville, IN 47712
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FAX: 812/464-1956

Graduate Studies e-mail: gssr@usi.edu
Graduate Studies Web site: www.usi.edu/gradstud
MPA Web site: www.usi.edu/libarts/philpolsci/MPA/

University of Southern Indiana is an affirmative action/equal employment opportunity institution.



www.usi.edu/libarts/philpolsci/MPA/



Who should seek a Master of Public Administration degree?

The Master of Public Administration degree is the primary graduate degree sought by current and future administrators in government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and heavily regulated private corporations. It is a degree for individuals seeking to:

- Improve management-related job skills and performance
- Obtain leadership positions within their current organization
- Begin a new career in a public sector organization
- Strengthen academic credentials and knowledge of the public sector in preparation for law school

Program's Accessibility to Working Professionals

Since the majority of MPA degree-seeking students are working professionals attending school part-time, most courses have only four or five on-campus classes during the semester. These classes are held in the evenings. Most courses have a strong distance education component that allow students to complete assignments online. Students may complete the program at their own pace, and enter the program at the beginning of any semester. Up to four courses may be transferred from other MPA programs.



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Administration

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For Individuals
Who Want To:

- begin or enhance a career in the public sector
- improve management-related job skills
- obtain leadership positions
- strengthen knowledge for entry into professional schools

