Graduate Information Session
Masters of Public Administration
Masters of Public Policy

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Why earn an MPA / MPP?
Focus of ASU’s MPA / MPP

Master’s of Public Administration Degree
- Focus is on government and nonprofit organizations and public policy issues.
- Manage people, projects and money in a wide variety of organizations including nonprofits, government agencies, international NGOs, social enterprises, and private businesses.
- Identify and solve problems of democratic governance in public administration at the local, state and national levels. Implement and manage programs.
- Serve the public through their work in neighborhoods and communities, in urban regions, nationally, and globally.
- Specific skills: Problem analysis, successful collaboration leading to comprehensive solutions, clear communication of those solutions, and the ethical and effective management of public institutions.

Master’s of Public Policy Degree
- Create policy analysts who can evaluate a problem, analyze and interpret data, and take creative action.
- Emphasizes public finance, research methodology, policy analysis and design, statistics, microeconomics, management of public organizations, and research ethics.
- Learn analytical techniques and conceptual frameworks for understanding policy issues and identifying potential solutions and applying these skills to real-world issues—especially relating to the needs of cities/counties in the central Arizona area.
- Gain an understanding of policies addressing issues such as poverty, education, the environment, and public safety.
From the employers who hire our interns and graduates

- “Today’s public and nonprofit sectors need leaders who are ready to innovate, address challenges, and create meaningful change in public policy. To be effective, you must be skilled in both policy analysis and managerial know-how.”

- “Graduates need skills, perspectives, and nuanced understanding of analysis of public policy to be effective leaders in solving public problems.”

- “An MPA is like an MBA for people who are truly passionate about enacting social change.”
“The lessons learned about the day-to-day workings of the federal government have been invaluable.”

“I learned economics and budgeting from my professors. I am now able to make arguments for the sorts of programs necessary to do my job well.”

“My studies in public finance, public policy and organizational theory provided me with the ability to understand the bigger picture. I studied grant-writing during my MPA program and have written grants and contributed to grant-writing and program design/development in all of my positions.”

“There have been countless times where the tools I acquired through the MPP helped me to work through challenging projects and difficult situations. I have also been portrayed as a policy resource within my department.”
Career Progression of alumni

- Research Associate → Manager of Institutional Research
- Program Coordinator → Operations Director
- Account Executive → Foundation Director
- Legislative Assistant → Policy Director
- Project Coordinator → Senior Housing Developer
- Sales Coordinator → Policy Project Associate
- Ecologist → AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow
- AmeriCorps Member → Project Coordinator
# MPA or MPP?

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<tr>
<th>MPA</th>
<th>MPP</th>
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<tr>
<td>Create and Implement Programs</td>
<td>Research Intensive</td>
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<td>Involve social interaction and group management</td>
<td>Statistics-heavy and focus on analysis</td>
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<td>Prepares graduates for leadership roles</td>
<td>Prepares graduates for policy expert and study roles</td>
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<td>Program management</td>
<td>Program and policy analysis</td>
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The School of Public Affairs is one of the nation’s premiere graduate schools in public administration and policy. According to the *U.S. News and World Report*, the School is ranked 13th overall in the nation. The School is highly ranked in a number specialty areas:

- 4th City Management & Urban Policy
- 5th Information Technology
- 7th Environmental Policy & Management
- 9th Nonprofit Management
- 11th Public Finance & Budgeting
- 11th Public Management
The School: Rigorous Degree Programs

- Master’s degrees
  - Master of Public Administration (MPA)
  - Master of Public Policy (MPP)

- Concurrent Master’s degrees
  - American Indian Studies (Tribal Leadership and Governance) - MPA
  - Criminology and Criminal Justice – MPA and MPP
  - Social Work – Standard Program - MPA
  - Sustainable Solutions – MPA and MPP
  - Urban and Environmental Planning – MPA and MPP

- Certificates
  - Policy Informatics
  - Participatory Governance
  - Emergency Management

Public Administration
Public Policy
Who We Are: Faculty

- 29 full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty
- Expertise in a diverse range of fields
  - Environmental Policy: Nicole Darnall & Lily Hsueh
  - Science & Technology Policy: Barry Bozeman & Elizabeth Corley
  - Public Budgeting & Finance: Gerald Miller & Akheil Singla
  - Urban Policy: Joanna Lucio, David Swindell & Karen Mossberger
  - Social Policy: Chris Herbst, Spiro Maroulis & Yushim Kim
  - Public Management: Justin Stritch, Linda Williams & Stu Bretschneider
- 11 national and international awards since 2011
  - Best Dissertation: Justin Stritch, Linda Williams & Herbst
  - 2014 NASPAA/ASPA Distinguished Researcher: Barry Bozeman
  - 2011 Aaron B. Wildavsky (lifetime achievement): Gerald Miller
Who We Are: Students

- MPA program: 209 students
- MPP program: 45 students
- Student characteristics:
  - 50% Female
  - 50% Male
  - 35% International
MPA Curriculum

- 42 credit hours
  - 27 credit hours in the core curriculum
  - 15 credit hours in electives

- Core curriculum
  - PAF 501 Public Service Research I
  - PAF 502 Public Service Research II
  - PAF 503 Public Affairs
  - PAF 504 Microeconomics of the Public Sector I
  - PAF 505 Public Policy Analysis
  - PAF 506 Public Budgeting & Finance
  - PAF 507 Public Human Resource Management
  - PAF 508 Organization Behavior
  - PAF 509 Public Affairs Capstone
MPP Curriculum

- 42 credit hours
  - 30 credit hours in the core curriculum
  - 12 credit hours in electives

- Core curriculum
  - PAF 501 Public Service Research I
  - PAF 502 Public Service Research II
  - PAF 504 Microeconomics of the Public Sector I
  - PAF 505 Public Policy Analysis
  - PAF 540 Advanced Policy Analysis
  - PAF 541 Program Evaluation
  - PAF 570 Microeconomics of the Public Sector II
  - PAF 573 Applied Econometrics
  - PAF 574 Diversity, Ethics & Leading Public Change
  - PAF 509 Public Affairs Capstone
Tailoring Your Program

- MPA concentration areas
  - Nonprofit Administration
  - Urban Management
  - Emergency Management
  - Public Finance

- MPP concentration areas
  - Policy Informatics
  - Science and Technology Policy
  - Environmental Policy
  - Urban Policy

- Create your own concentration
Certificate Programs

- 15 credit hour program of study
- Two ways to complete a certificate program
  - Stand-alone
  - While enrolled in a graduate degree program
- Certificate programs include
  - Emergency Management
  - Participatory Governance
  - Policy Informatics
  - Public Administration
  - Public Policy
Program Prerequisites

- Requirements for the MPA and MPP programs
  - American Government (at any time)
  - Statistics (within the past two years)

- Requirements for the certificate programs
  - No prerequisites
Concurrent Degrees

- Concurrent MPA degree options
  - Social Work
  - Criminology and Criminal Justice
  - Sustainability
  - Urban and Environmental Planning
  - American Indian Studies

- Concurrent MPP degree options
  - Criminology and Criminal Justice
  - Sustainability
  - Urban and Environmental Planning

- Create your own concurrent degree program
Modes of Instruction

- Flexibility in terms of **when** courses are offered
  - Fall, Spring and Summer sessions
  - In the evening and on the weekend

- Flexibility in terms of **how** courses are offered
  - In person
  - Online
  - Hybrid
  - Weekend Intensives
Hybrid Online MPA

- Earn your MPA in 16 months
  - Program can be completed part-time as well

- Courses are offered online with two exceptions
  - PAF 502 and PAF 503 are offered as weekend intensives

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<tr>
<th>Fall Term</th>
<th>Spring Term</th>
<th>Summer Term</th>
<th>Fall Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>PAF 501 (online)</td>
<td>PAF 506 (online)</td>
<td>PAF 505 (online)</td>
<td>PAF 502 (weekend)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAF 503 (weekend)</td>
<td>PAF 508 (online)</td>
<td>PAF 507 (online)</td>
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- Same tuition as regular MPA program
For the most current cost of attendance, please see [https://students.asu.edu/costs](https://students.asu.edu/costs)

- Funding options
  - FAFSA
  - SPA grants
  - Scholarships (including SPA) and other resources: [spa.asu.edu/content/scholarships](http://spa.asu.edu/content/scholarships)
Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis
  - The earlier you apply, the sooner you receive a decision

Overview of admission criteria
  - Grade point average of 3.0 or higher for the last two years of coursework leading to a bachelor’s degree
  - GRE scores on the verbal, quantitative and analytical components
    - LSAT/GMAT scores can be substituted
    - GRE waived for (1) Previous Masters; (2) undergrad GPA of 3.4 or higher or (3) if admitted into another graduate program in the College of Public Service and Community Solutions
How to Apply

- An official ASU Graduate application and application fee
  - Please visit: http://graduate.asu.edu

- Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions
How to Apply

- Requirements from the School of Public Affairs
  - Three letters of recommendation
    - At least two should be from faculty (current or former)
    - There is no form required for the letters of recommendation
    - On the graduate application, you will list the names and email addresses of your recommenders and they will be contacted directly by ASU. Recommenders will then submit letters via online form.

- Written statement of education and career goals
  - Used, in part, to evaluate the applicant’s writing ability
  - Statement should be one to two pages in length
Questions?

- Mark Reed
  - mbreed@asu.edu
  - (602) 496-0450
  - Office location is UCENT 400, Downtown Phoenix Campus
  - Read more at spa.asu.edu