

MPA/MPP Preview

Masters of Public Administration
Masters of Public Policy



Mark Reed, Graduate Academic Advisor
Dr. Stuart Bretschneider, MPA/MPP Program Director

Who are YOU?

- Name
- Where you're from
- Undergrad degree/major
- Why you're here, career goals

We're # 9 !!



Focus of ASU's Master of Public Administration (MPA)

Would you prefer to work with people?

- Focus is on public policy issues in the government or nonprofit sectors.

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. **Create** and **manage** programs and services.

Serve the public through their work in neighborhoods and communities, in urban regions, nationally, and globally.

Specific skills: Problem analysis and solving, coordination, collaboration, communication, leadership, management, and program evaluation

Focus of Master of Public Policy (MPP)

Would you prefer to work with data?

Create policy analysts who can **evaluate** a problem, **analyze** and **interpret** data, and take creative action.

Emphasizes policy analysis and design, statistics, research methodology, research ethics, microeconomics, public finance, and management of public organizations.

Learn analytical techniques and conceptual frameworks for understanding policy issues.

Gain an understanding of policies related to poverty, housing, education, the environment, science and technology, sustainability, emergency management, and public safety.

Identifying potential solutions and applying analytical skills to real-world issues—especially relating to the needs of cities/counties in the central Arizona area.

Defining problems	Understanding the dimensions of complex problems
Assessing needs	Developing research designs and models
Relating theory to practice	Interpreting data
Understanding research findings	Understanding policy reports
Interpreting issues and evidence	Evaluating proposed policy solutions

MPA or MPP?

MPA

Create and Implement Programs

Involves social interaction and group management

Prepares graduates for leadership roles

Program management

MPP

Research Intensive

Statistics-heavy, focus on analysis

Prepares graduates for policy expert and study roles

Program and policy analysis

The School: National Reputation

The School of Public Affairs is one of the nation's premiere graduate schools in public administration and policy.

Per the *U.S. News and World Report* annual rankings, the School is ranked 9th overall in the nation.

The School: National Reputation

- The School is highly ranked in a number specialty areas:
- 2nd in Local Government Management
- 3rd in Homeland /National Security and Emergency Management
- 4th in Information and Technology Management
- 5th in Urban Policy
- 7th Public Management and Leadership
- 8th in Environmental Policy and Management
- 9th in Nonprofit Management
- 10th in Public Finance and Budgeting
- 12th in Public Policy Analysis

Who We Are: Faculty

- 29 full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty
- Expertise in a diverse range of fields
 - **City and Local Government:** Feeney, Gerber, Mossberger, Swindell
 - **Environmental Policy:** Bretschneider, Corley, Hsueh, Kim, Welch
 - **Public Budgeting & Finance:** Singla, Herbst, Swindell, Singla, Hsueh
 - **Science & Technology Policy:** Bozeman, Anderson, Bretschneider, Corley, Welch, Hayter
 - **Social & Education Policy:** Bozeman, Maroulis, Kim, Schugurensky, Hayter, Herbst
 - **Public Management:** Stritch, Bretschneider, Jensen, Feeney, Welch, Molina

Who We Are: Faculty Awards

Regents' Professor, ASU's highest faculty honor

Barry Bozeman

Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, co-editor for environmental policy

Yushim Kim

Cities, The International Journal of Urban Policy and Planning, most cited paper

Kevin Desouza

Google Scholar Classic - The effects of e-government on trust and confidence in government

Karen Mossberger

Social Science Research Council, Abe Fellowship

Nicole Darnall

Academy of Management, Public and Nonprofit Division Best Journal Article

Nicole Darnall and Younsung Kim

Emerald Citations of Excellence for 2016

Stuart Bretschneider and Ines Mergel for the paper "A Three-Stage Adoption Process for Social Media Use in Government," Public Administration Review 2013

NASPAA Public Service Matters Spotlight Award

David Swindell, associate professor and director of the Center for Urban Innovation for his work creating a collaborative services delivery tool for local governments

Who We Are: Research Centers

The [Alliance for Innovation](#) - brings professionals, local governments, academics, and private sector partners together to discover and apply the best ideas, practices and solutions to the challenges confronting local government and communities.

[The Center for Emergency Management and Homeland Security](#) brings together resources across disciplines to create innovative solutions for the mitigation, preparation, response, recovery and management of significant incidents or disasters—whether natural or man-made.

[The Center for Organization Research and Design \(CORD\)](#) promotes, supports and conducts fundamental research on public, nonprofit, and hybrid organizations and their design, focusing particularly, though not exclusively, on knowledge-based and science intensive-organizations.

[The Center for Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy Studies \(C-STEPS\)](#) serves as an international focal point for interaction among faculty, researchers, students, and practitioners on ideas, problems and promises at the nexus of science, technology, and the environment.

[The Center for Urban Innovation](#) was established as the focal point for research on urban affairs in the School of Public Affairs with a mission to improve the quality of urban life in neighborhoods, cities, and urban regions by promoting innovation in governance, policy, and management.

[The Morrison Institute for Public Policy](#) - provides services in the areas of public policy research, program evaluation, and public outreach to many types of public and private organizations in Arizona and throughout the United States.

School of Public Affairs graduate programs

- **Master's degrees**
 - Master of Public Administration (MPA)
 - Master of Public Policy (MPP)
- **Concurrent Master's degrees – two Masters degrees, share 20% of course work**
 - 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
 - Create your own concurrent degree
- **Certificates – 15 credit hours each**
 - Public Administration Public Policy
 - Participatory Governance
 - Emergency Management

Who We Are: Students

- MPA program: 231 students
- MPP program: 69 students
- Student characteristics:
 - 58% Female
 - 42% Male
 - 10% International

Who We Are: Students

Concentration Areas - MPA

- No Concentration: 75%
- Urban Management: 9%
- Nonprofit: 5%
- Emergency Management: 6%
- Public Finance: 5%

Concentration Areas - MPP

- No Concentration: 78%
- Environmental Policy: 22%

Who We Are: Students

Age

2018

21-23: 44 = 39%

24-30: 39 = 34%

31-39: 21 = 19%

36-54: 9 = 8%

2018

< 2 years ago: 56 = 49%

2 - 4 years ago: 26 = 23%

5 – 10 years ago: 21 = 18%

> 10 years ago: 14 = 10%

Year Bachelor's degree was earned

GPA

3.5 and higher: 48 = 50%

3.4 – 3.0: 35 = 37%

Less than 3.0: 5 = 12%

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**
 - Environmental Policy
- Shape and mold your degree with electives

Admission Competencies

- Competencies for the MPA and MPP programs
 - American Government (at any time in the past)
 - Statistics (at any time in the past)

Modes of Instruction

- Flexibility in terms of when courses are offered
 - Fall, Spring and Summer sessions
 - In the evening (one day/week, 6-8:45pm) and on the weekends
- Flexibility in terms of how courses are offered
 - In person
 - Online
 - Weekend Intensives (approximately 5% of our courses)
 - MPA core courses: either online or in-person every semester
 - MPP core courses: Three of the core courses are in-person only
 - Summer session: All courses are online only

Cost of Attendance

- For the most current cost of attendance, please see <https://students.asu.edu/costs>
- Funding options
 - FAFSA
 - SPA grants
 - Scholarships (including SPA) and other resources: spa.asu.edu/content/scholarships

Admission Information

- Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis
 - The earlier you apply, the sooner you receive a decision
- Overview of admission criteria
 - Cumulative GPA of 3.0/higher or GPA for the last 60 credits 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 (cum. or last 60 credits) 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
- Official transcripts from the college/university where you received your Bachelors, or from which you earned a Masters degree.
- Unofficial transcripts or screenshots of transcripts or grade reports from colleges/universities in which you took an American Government and/or statistics courses – email them directly to the School of Public Affairs’ advisor – Mark Reed, mbreed@asu.edu
- All the above is on our web site - spa.asu.edu
 - Student Resources/Admissions Information

How to Apply

- Requirements from the School of Public Affairs
 - Three letters of recommendation
 - From faculty (current or former) or work/volunteer supervisors
 - 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 upload their letters to your electronic application.
 - Written statement of education and career goals
 - Used, in part, to evaluate the applicant's writing ability
 - Statement should be 1-2 pages in length

The Student Perspective

- Student's experience
- Marvin Andrews Fellowship (fall admissions)
- Common questions
 - How many classes?
 - Difficulty
 - Faculty
 - Workload
 - In-person or online?
 - Work-life balance
 - Internships/Career Services
 - ICMA/ACMA/Conferences

Questions?

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