

Public Administration, MPA Curriculum Map

Programmatic Student Learning Outcome Goals:

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Synthesize relevant information to address public problems using the major theories underlying the field of public administration, including those related to governance structures, federalism and intergovernmental relations, and intersectoral relations;
2. Articulate and apply a public service perspective in the demonstration of knowledge related to the structures, components, goals, and objectives of the public sector;
3. Describe the policy process through the application of appropriate theories, including those related to the role of stakeholders, administrators, bureaucracies, and the challenges of implementation;
4. Participate in the policy process by demonstrating the ability to find and use a variety of appropriate resources to research policy issues;
5. Participate in the policy process through analysis and application of quantitative and qualitative empirical evidence to determine the effectiveness of a public policy or program;
6. Identify and assess ethical problems in public administration, and create appropriate solutions based on moral reasoning and public service values;
7. Demonstrate the ability to use graphical and tabular methods to summarize and interpret data, analyze and interpret basic univariate and bivariate statistics;
8. Conduct and evaluate survey research, identify strengths and weaknesses in research design, and articulate an understanding of both substantive and statistical significance;
9. Demonstrate an understanding of the major components of a personnel system within an organization, including the nuances of effective motivation, behavior, and management;
10. Effectively communicate and productively interact with diverse teams and diverse communities; and
11. Articulate and appreciate the value of diversity in the public sector the communities it serves.

For the most up-to-date information, please contact the program.

Table 1: Mapping SLOs to NASPAA Core Competencies

NASPAA Required Competency	SLO Goal
The ability to lead and manage in public governance	1, 6, 9
To participate in and contribute to the policy process	1, 3, 4, 5
To analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems, and make decisions	5, 7, 8
To articulate and apply a public service perspective	2, 6
To communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry	10, 11

Artifacts from course assignments, exams, projects, papers, annotated bibliographies from core curriculum courses, as well as the comprehensive exam are used to measure the achievement of the programmatic student learning outcome goals. The curriculum map below (table 2) identifies specific core courses within the MPA curriculum from which a sampling of artifacts of student work can be gathered to assess student learning outcome achievement.

The following course names are associated with the course numbers indicated in Table 2:

- 509: Foundations of Public Administration
- 521: Capstone Seminar: Public Administration Theory
- 523: Administrative Research and Analysis
- 526: Public Organizational Theory and Behavior
- 571: Public Budgeting and Finance
- 572: Human Resources Management for Public and Nonprofit Organizations
- 519: State and Local Government
- 525: Local Government Management
- 528: Seminar in Public Policy
- 497: Internship in Public Administration

Table 2: Curriculum Map

SLO	509	521	523	526	571	572	519	525	528	497
1	x	x					x			
2	x	x								x
3							x	x	x	
4							*		*	
5			x		x					
6	x	x								
7			x		x					
8			x							
9				x		x				
10		x				x		x		x
11		x				x				

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