

FACT

In a survey of city and county managers, 57.7 percent of respondents said having a Master of Public Administration degree would significantly boost a candidate's chances of being hired at their agency.

Source: *2006 Survey of International City and County Management Association, National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration*

Comprehensive Curriculum

To function effectively, the public sector needs administrators who recognize that government must be efficient, effective, equitable, and accountable. The MPA degree is designed to give you the knowledge and skills to manage public sector organizations that work responsibly and excel at delivering necessary services.

The primary emphasis of the **Master of Public Administration** degree is to imbue you with an understanding and respect for the formative, ethical and political environment within which American public administration is conducted. You will learn to apply sound reasoning (critical thinking) to develop viable solutions to problems along with specific concepts, techniques and skills of management in the public sector.

Outstanding Preparation

The MPA program prepares you to serve as a professional manager in administrative branches of government — local, county, state and federal — as well as in community, human service and other not-for-profit organizations.

Unlimited Opportunity

GSU offers a superior educational opportunity at an affordable tuition rate without sacrificing the professional quality of its programs. GSU's outstanding faculty and real-world curriculum prepare graduates to meet the demands of the future.

For more information:

Susan Gaffney
Associate Professor
Academic Program Coordinator
708.235.7626
sgaffney@govst.edu

2016 – 17 Catalog Year



Special Admission Requirements

In addition to university admission requirements, applicants must submit the following documents as part of their application package:

1. all official transcripts showing evidence of a 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale (GPA calculated from the last 60 credit hours);
2. two confidential letters of recommendation from professional references (e.g. current or former college faculty member, current or former work supervisor, or community leader);
3. a two page, double spaced statement of intent which discusses personal short and long term career goals and reasons for pursuing a MPA degree at this time and what about this particular program is going to help reach those goals. Please give specific personal examples of leadership and provide other pertinent information to help the committee select candidates who can benefit from and contribute to the program. The statement of intent offers applicants the opportunity to demonstrate writing and communication skills and supports your candidacy for the MPA; and
4. a current resume.

Final Project Options: Master's Research Paper or Capstone Course

As part of this degree program, students must choose one of the following options to complete the MPA program (grade "B" or higher required):

PADM - 8900 Problems in Applied Public Mgmt. (3)
OR
PADM - 8990 Master's Research Paper (3)

In the Capstone Course PADM - 8900, students demonstrate their cumulative knowledge and skills through the completion of case studies and a research paper.

Before registering for PADM - 8900 students must:

1. complete 39 hours of required courses including PADM - 8600;
2. be in final term of program; and
3. obtain permission from the CAS Advising Office.

The Master's Research Paper PADM - 8990 involves a demonstration of the student's knowledge and skills through the development of a major research paper approved by a committee of three faculty members

Before registering for PADM - 8990 students must:

1. complete all required courses;
2. select a committee and have the chairperson approved by the dean; and
3. complete a written proposal approved by their committee and chairperson.

Further information, instructions, and forms are available through the CAS Academic Advising Office.

Candidacy Requirement

After admission as a degree-seeking student, a student also must apply for candidacy. Application forms are available in the Academic Advising Office. To qualify for candidacy, a student must:

1. satisfy all conditions of admission;
2. maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) for all coursework completed at Governors State university as a graduate student;
3. satisfy the written communication proficiency requirement;
4. apply for candidacy after earning a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 12 graduate credit-hours (beyond preparatory coursework). Students who complete more than 15 hours of degree requirements before attaining candidacy status may be required to complete up to 18 additional hours, approved by the Dean, as a candidate before being approved for graduation by the college.

Degree Requirements

Students must meet all university requirements for a master's degree.

Students must meet the collegial degree requirements listed at the beginning of this section.

Required Courses (33 Hours)

MIS - 7650 Managing Information in the Public Sector (3)
PADM - 6700 Data Analysis - Public & Non-Profit Admin. (3)
PADM - 7100 Pol. & Legal Frameworks - PADM (3)
PADM - 7200 Economic Analysis in PADM (3)
PADM - 7300 Seminar in Public HR Administration (3)
PADM - 7400 Public Organization Theory & Behavior (3)
PADM - 7500 Seminar in Public Budgeting (3)
PADM - 7600 Seminar in Research Methods (3)
PADM - 8200 Ethics for Public Administration (3)
PADM - 8300 Public Finance (3)
PADM - 8400 Seminar in Public Planning (3)

Select three of the following courses: at least one course chosen must be a PADM course* (9 hours)

MGMT - 8300 Labor Management Relations (3)
PADM - 8000 Adv. Topics in Public Administration (1-3)
PADM - 8100 Seminar in Urban Government (3)
PADM - 8500 Seminar in Public Policy (3)
PADM - 8880 Internship (3)
POJS - 8240 Intergovernmental Relations (3)
* Other appropriate graduate classes may be approved by MPA Program Coordinator

Master's Final Project (3 Hours)

Select one of the following:

PADM - 8990 Master's Research Paper (3)
PADM - 8900 Problems in Applied Public Mgmt.(3)*

*Students must earn a B or higher grade in their Master's Research Paper or PADM - 8900 in order to successfully complete the MPA program.

Total - 45 Hours

