

Required Courses for the MPA

PPA 500-Foundations of Public Policy and Administration (3)

Concepts of the discipline; fundamentals of public organization theory, policy formulation and analysis, and administrative and management processes; management in the public interest; and ethics in government.

PPA 555-Government Budgeting and Finance (3)

Prerequisites: PPA 518 or ECON 101 or ECON 300 or equivalent with a grade of “C” or better. Presents the major concepts and skills associated with budget preparation for all levels of government. Topics include: budget processes and formats, basic principles of government accounting, revenue, and capital budgeting.

PPA 577-Public Sector Human Resources Management (3)

Historical development of civil service/merit system; laws which affect operations of personnel system; analysis of the various components of a personnel system; impact of labor negotiations; role of personnel system as a change agent.

PPA 660-Seminar in Organization Theory and Behavior (3)

Examination of theories of organizations and behavior of members therein. Among the subtopics: generalist management, bureaucracy, organization structure and design, systems theory, motivation, leadership, decision-making, group and team dynamics, power and conflict, culture, organization change and development.

PPA 670-Policy Issue Analysis (3)

Introduces theories and approaches to policy analysis. The core of the course follows the policy analysis cycle and includes: problem recognition, problem definition, development of alternative solutions, analysis of alternatives, selection of policy options, policy implementation and evaluation.

PPA 696-Research Methods in Public Administration (3)

Prerequisite: PPA 517 or STAT 108 or equivalent with a grade of “C” or better. Covers the techniques of public sector research. Topics include research design, survey research, and statistical analysis.

PPA 697-Directed Research (1-3)

Prerequisites: Advancement to candidacy, completion of required MPA courses, consent of instructor.