The master of public policy leads to a degree for aspiring or experienced professionals who seek career advancement through cutting-edge education and training in policy analysis and development in increasingly technical and global environments. The program prepares students to be reflective practitioners who develop, implement, manage, analyze, evaluate, and effect innovative change in the public and private sectors through a course of study that emphasizes the fundamentals of policy development; the role of technology, analytic assessment, and modeling for policy evaluation; and the implications of international and global perspectives on policy formation. Courses are offered primarily in the late afternoon and evening, as well as online, to fit the schedules of busy professionals.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Requirements
See Graduate Admission Policies (http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/) for general information on graduate admission to George Mason University. Specific information on application requirements and deadlines may be found with Schar Admissions (http://schar.gmu.edu/admissions/). Completed applications for fall and spring semesters are reviewed on a rolling basis, with late applications considered on a space-available basis. Students may be admitted for nondegree study and apply a limited number of credits toward the master’s degree should they choose to apply to the degree program later, in accordance with university policy.

Policies

Termination from Program
Students admitted to a Schar program will be terminated from Schar upon receiving one grade of F and are no longer eligible to take courses in Schar. Per university regulation, students are terminated from the university after accumulating grades of F in two courses or 9 credits of unsatisfactory grades in graduate courses. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see Graduate Policies (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/).

Program Requirements
Students must complete 36 to 39 credits of coursework through a combination of core courses, electives, and a professional experience requirement. Appropriate professional experience can be demonstrated through previous employment or a supervised internship. Students will also be exposed to the global nature of public policy activity through the core requirement of international comparative policy assessment.

Requirements

Degree Requirements
Total credits: 36-39

Required Public Policy Courses
Students take one required course and one elective in each of the four elements below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 500</td>
<td>Theory and Practice in Public Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 570</td>
<td>Policy Writing Fundamentals</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 730</td>
<td>US Institutions and the Policy Process</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 649</td>
<td>Advocacy and Lobbying</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis Element

Required Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVT 500</td>
<td>The Scientific Method and Research Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POGO 511</td>
<td>Introductory Data Analysis for Policy and Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POGO 611</td>
<td>Advanced Data Analysis for Policy and Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POGO 646</td>
<td>Policy and Program Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POGO 793</td>
<td>Big Data Analytics for Policy and Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 754</td>
<td>Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis for Public Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 791</td>
<td>Advanced Field Research for Policy: Theory and Method</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Governance Element

Required Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 741</td>
<td>U.S. Financial Policy Processes and Procedures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 503</td>
<td>Culture, Organization, and Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 761</td>
<td>Social Entrepreneurship and Public Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITRN 605</td>
<td>Technology, Culture and Commerce</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economics Element

Required Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 720</td>
<td>Managerial Economics and Policy Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITRN 503</td>
<td>Macroeconomic Policy in the Global Economy (3 credits)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITRN 791</td>
<td>Advanced Trade Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**E lectives**

E lectives are chosen from one of the following policy emphasis areas. One of the courses in the emphasis sequence should have an international focus.

- Education Policy
- Global Medical and Health Policy
- International Governance and Institutions
- National Security and Public Policy
- Public Finance and Budgeting
- Regional Economic Development
- Science and Technology Policy
- Social Policy
- Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption
- Transportation Policy
- Urban Policy and Development
- US Government Institutions and Policy Management

**Code** | **Title** | **Credits**
--- | --- | ---
PUBP 504 | Grand Strategy | 1
PUBP 506 | Ethics and the Use of Force | 1
PUBP 650 | International Conflict and Crisis Response | 1
PUBP 651 | Peace and Stabilization Operations | 1
PUBP 710 | Topics in Public Policy | 1
PUBP 721 | Transportation Economics | 1
PUBP 723 | Metropolitan Transportation Policy | 1
PUBP 726 | Telecommunications Policy | 1
PUBP 730 | US Institutions and the Policy Process | 1
PUBP 733 | Urban Politics and Policy | 1
PUBP 737 | Cases and Concepts in E-Government | 1
PUBP 739 | Media and Public Policy | 1
PUBP 742 | Transportation Safety and Security | 1
PUBP 743 | National Security Management and Policy | 1
PUBP 747 | Air Transportation Policy, Operations and Logistics | 1
PUBP 748 | Public Transportation Policy, Operations and Logistics | 1
PUBP 750 | History of Military Operations Other than War | 1
PUBP 751 | International Police Operations | 1
PUBP 753 | Ethics in Public Policy | 1
PUBP 754 | Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis for Public Policy | 1
PUBP 755 | National Security Decision-Making Policy | 1
PUBP 757 | Public Policy in Global Health and Medical Practice | 1

**Code** | **Title** | **Credits**
PUBP 758 | Global Threats and Medical Policies | 1
PUBP 759 | National Security Law and Public Policy | 1
PUBP 760 | Science and Technology Policy in the 21st Century | 1
PUBP 762 | Social Institutions and Public Policy | 1
PUBP 763 | Illicit Trade | 1
PUBP 764 | Transnational Crime and Corruption | 1
PUBP 765 | Human Smuggling and Trafficking | 1
PUBP 766 | Modern Counterinsurgency Theory and Practice | 1
PUBP 768 | Education and Public Policy (Topic Varies) | 1
PUBP 769 | Political Violence and Terrorism | 1
PUBP 777 | Critical Infrastructure Protection: Policy and Practice | 1
PUBP 783 | Global Governance | 1
PUAD 729 | Issues in Public Management | 1
POGO 730 | Global Development and Human Security | 1
POGO 733 | Global Business and Policy | 1
POGO 734 | Country Risk Analysis | 1
POGO 796 | Directed Readings and Research | 1
POGO 550 | Topics in Policy and Government | 1
POGO 750 | Topics in Policy and Government | 1
PUAD 738 | Issues in International Security | 1
PUAD 739 | Issues in International Management | 1
PUAD 749 | Issues in Public Policy | 1
PUAD 759 | Issues in Local Government Administration | 1
PUAD 769 | Issues in Public Financial Management | 1
ITRN 602 | Global Financial Crises and Institutions | 1
ITRN 603 | Global Trade Relations | 1
ITRN 701 | Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy | 1
ITRN 702 | Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy: Study Abroad | 1
ITRN 710 | International Business Transactions: Finance and Investment | 1
ITRN 712 | World Trade Organization and Global Trade | 1
ITRN 740 | Trade and Regulatory Compliance | 1
ITRN 761 | European Political and Economic Union | 1
ITRN 767 | Political Economy and Integration in Latin America | 1
ITRN 772 | International Telecommunications | 1
CONF 501 | Introduction to Conflict Analysis and Resolution | 1
HAP 609 | Comparative International Health Systems | 1
HAP 678 | Introduction to the U.S. Health System | 1
HAP 706 | Integrated Health Systems Management | 1

Total Credits 12

2 Other courses must be approved by the advisor or program director.
Professional Experience Requirement
Certification that the student has experience in the public policy process outside the classroom and is ready to take leadership responsibilities must be exhibited by one of two ways: relevant professional experience, approved by the program director, or an approved internship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to three credits of</td>
<td></td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POGO 794</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accelerated Master's

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Public Policy, Accelerated MPP

Overview
Highly-qualified undergraduates in any major may apply to the accelerated Master of Public Policy (MPP) program. If accepted students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and the Master of Public Policy with a reduced number of overall credits and within a reduced time frame, sometimes within five years. More information on bachelor's/accelerated master's programs may be found in AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees (https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7).

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. See AP.6.9 Requirements for Master's Degrees. (https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-9)

Admission
Please see Graduate Admission Policies (http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/) for general information on graduate admission to George Mason University. Information specific to the accelerated Master of Public Policy program may be found on the Schar website (http://schar.gmu.edu/programs/undergraduate-degrees/accelerated-masters-programs/).

To be considered for this accelerated master's program, applicants must have completed a minimum of 60 credits, including 12 credits of Government and/or Economics courses, and have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all coursework applied to the degree.

Accelerated Option Requirements
While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students may complete up to fifteen graduate credits of which twelve may be counted toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees. Remaining credits may be held as reserve graduate credit and count only toward the master's degree. The student must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 in each course. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in these courses and in coursework applied to their major.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Theory and Practice in Public Policy</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 503</td>
<td>Culture, Organization, and Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITRN 503</td>
<td>Macroeconomic Policy in the Global Economy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, students must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form to apply credits to the master's degree. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree (excluding summer).