

PUBLIC POLICY, MPP

Banner Code: PP-MPP-PUBP

Academic Advising

560 Van Metre Hall
Arlington Campus

336 Aquia Building
Fairfax Campus

Website: schar.gmu.edu

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.

Code	Title	Credits
Practice Element		
Required Course		3
PUBP 500	Theory and Practice in Public Policy	
Choose one of the following: ¹		3
PUAD 649	Advocacy and Lobbying	
PUBP 570	Policy Writing Fundamentals	
PUBP 730	US Institutions and the Policy Process	
Analysis Element		
Required Course		3
POGO 511	Introductory Data Analysis for Policy and Government	
Choose one of the following: ¹		3
GOVT 500	The Scientific Method and Research Design	
POGO 611	Advanced Data Analysis for Policy and Government	
POGO 646	Policy and Program Evaluation	
POGO 793	Big Data Analytics for Policy and Government	
PUBP 754	Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis for Public Policy	
PUBP 791	Advanced Field Research for Policy: Theory and Method	
Governance Element		
Required Course		3
PUAD 662	National Budgeting	
Choose one of the following: ¹		3
GCP 605	Technology, Culture and Commerce	
PUBP 503	Culture, Organization, and Technology	
PUBP 761	Social Entrepreneurship and Public Policy	
Economics Element		
Required Course		3
PUBP 720	Microeconomics for Public Policy	
Choose of the following: ¹		3
PUBP 732	Labor Markets and Policies	
PUBP 741	Public Sector Economics for Public Policy	

PUBP 792	Advanced Economic Analysis for Policy Research	
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Total Credits		24
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POGO 750: Topics in Policy and Government, as approved by advisor.

Electives

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

- Economic Policy
- 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
Select 12 credits from the following in consultation with the student's advisor. ²		12
PUBP 504	Grand Strategy	
PUBP 506	Ethics and the Use of Force	
PUBP 650	International Conflict and Crisis Response	
PUBP 651	Peace and Stabilization Operations	
PUBP 710	Topics in Public Policy	
PUBP 721	Transportation Economics	
PUBP 723	Metropolitan Transportation Policy	
PUBP 726	Telecommunications Policy	
PUBP 730	US Institutions and the Policy Process	
PUBP 733	Urban Politics and Policy	
PUBP 737	Cases and Concepts in E-Government	
PUBP 739	Media and Public Policy	
PUBP 742	Transportation Safety and Security	
PUBP 743	National Security Management and Policy	
PUBP 747	Air Transportation Policy, Operations and Logistics	
PUBP 748	Public Transportation Policy, Operations and Logistics	
PUBP 750	History of Military Operations Other than War	
PUBP 751	International Police Operations	
PUBP 753	Ethics in Public Policy	
PUBP 754	Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis for Public Policy	
PUBP 755	National Security Decision-Making Policy	

PUBP 757	Public Policy in Global Health and Medical Practice	
PUBP 758	Global Threats and Medical Policies	
PUBP 759	National Security Law and Public Policy	
PUBP 760	Science and Technology Policy in the 21st Century	
PUBP 762	Social Institutions and Public Policy	
PUBP 763	Illicit Trade	
PUBP 764	Transnational Crime and Corruption	
PUBP 765	Human Smuggling and Trafficking	
PUBP 766	Modern Counterinsurgency: Theory and Practice	
PUBP 768	Education and Public Policy (Topic Varies)	
PUBP 769	Political Violence and Terrorism	
PUBP 777	Critical Infrastructure Protection: Policy and Practice	
PUBP 783	Global Governance	
PUAD 729	Issues in Public Management	
POGO 730	Global Development and Human Security	
POGO 733	Global Business and Policy	
POGO 734	Country Risk Analysis	
POGO 796	Directed Readings and Research	
POGO 550	Topics in Policy and Government	
POGO 750	Topics in Policy and Government	
PUAD 738	Issues in International Security	
PUAD 739	Issues in International Management	
PUAD 749	Issues in Public Policy	
PUAD 759	Issues in Local Government Administration	
PUAD 769	Issues in Public Financial Management	
GCP 602	Global Financial Crises and Institutions	
GCP 603	Global Trade Relations	
GCP 701	Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy	
GCP 702	Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy: Study Abroad	
GCP 710	International Business Transactions: Finance and Investment	
GCP 712	World Trade Organization and Global Trade	
GCP 740	Trade and Regulatory Compliance	
GCP 761	European Political and Economic Union	
GCP 767	Political Economy and Integration in Latin America	
GCP 772	International Telecommunications	
CONF 501	Introduction to Conflict Analysis and Resolution	
HAP 609	Comparative International Health Systems	
HAP 678	Introduction to the U.S. Health System	
HAP 706	Integrated Health Systems Management	
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Total Credits		12

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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.

Code	Title	Credits
Up to three credits of		0-3
POGO 794	Internship	
Total Credits		0-3

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.

Code	Title	Credits
GOVT 500	The Scientific Method and Research Design	3

POGO 511	Introductory Data Analysis for Policy and Government	3
POGO 611	Advanced Data Analysis for Policy and Government	3
or POGO 646	Policy and Program Evaluation	
PUAD 662	National Budgeting	3
PUBP 500	Theory and Practice in Public Policy	3
PUBP 503	Culture, Organization, and Technology	3
PUBP 570	Policy Writing Fundamentals	3

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).