The master’s program in 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 late afternoon and evening to fit the schedules of busy professionals.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Requirements

See Graduate Admission 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.

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

<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 503</td>
<td>Culture, Organization, and Technology (3 credits)</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>POGO 511</td>
<td>Introductory Data Analysis for Policy and Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 720</td>
<td>Managerial Economics and Policy Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 741</td>
<td>U.S. Financial Policy Processes and Procedures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one from the following, or approved substitution: 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POGO 611</td>
<td>Advanced Data Analysis for Policy and Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POGO 646</td>
<td>Policy and Program Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 754</td>
<td>Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis for Public Policy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 21

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.

- 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

Select 15 credits from the following in consultation with the student’s advisor: 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 504</td>
<td>Grand Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 506</td>
<td>Ethics and the Use of Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 650</td>
<td>International Conflict and Crisis Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 651</td>
<td>Peace and Stabilization Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBP 710</td>
<td>Topics in Public Policy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 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  
ITRN 602  Global Financial Crises and Institutions  
ITRN 603  Global Trade Relations  
ITRN 701  Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy  
ITRN 702  Special Topics in International Commerce and Policy: Study Abroad  
ITRN 710  International Business Transactions: Finance and Investment  
ITRN 712  World Trade Organization and Global Trade  
ITRN 718  Global Economic and Human Development  
ITRN 740  Trade and Regulatory Compliance  
ITRN 752  Global Business and Policy  
ITRN 761  European Political and Economic Union  
ITRN 767  Political Economy and Integration in Latin America  
ITRN 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  

Total Credits: 15  

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>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POGO 794</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 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 75 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 complete two graduate courses (six credits) that may be counted toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees. In addition, students may take another two courses (six credits) from the following list to 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.

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</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).