

Curriculum and Syllabus

MPA — Master of Public Administration

Degree awarded	Master of Public Administration (MPA)
Program length	4 semesters
Credits	120 ECTS-equivalent credits
Language	English
Mode of study	Fully online, asynchronous study with scheduled tutorial consultations and policy workshops
Document	Full course-by-course syllabus

WHAT THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS

- Every semester with its credit load and thematic focus
- Course-by-course syllabus with code, credits and workload hours
- Course summaries and the learning outcomes of each module
- The assessment formula applied to each individual course
- Credit distribution table across the whole degree

A professional master's degree for people who govern, regulate and administer public services, with a Middle West emphasis on health policy and regulatory practice.

Credit distribution

Semester	Thematic focus	Credits
Semester 1 — The public law framework	Authority, legality and accountability	30
Semester 2 — Money and delivery	Public finance and public operations	30
Semester 3 — Health governance specialisation	Regulation and public health administration	30
Semester 4 — Capstone	Applied administrative research	30
Total		120

Semester 1 — The public law framework

Authority, legality and accountability · 30 credits

MPA-101 — Administrative Law and Public Authority

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Sources of administrative power, due process, discretion and its limits, reasons and review of administrative decisions.

Course learning outcomes

- Identify the legal basis and limits of a given administrative power
- Draft a reasoned decision meeting due-process requirements
- Predict the grounds on which a decision would be challenged

Assessment: Decision drafting portfolio (60%) and examination (40%)

MPA-102 — Governance, Ethics and Public Integrity

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Conflict of interest, transparency and access to information, whistleblowing, lobbying rules and anti-corruption controls.

Course learning outcomes

- Design a conflict-of-interest regime for an agency
- Apply a transparency statute to a disclosure request
- Assess an integrity risk map and propose controls

Assessment: Integrity framework (60%) and case examination (40%)

MPA-103 — Public Policy Analysis

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Problem definition, option generation, criteria and weighting, distributional impact and the politics of implementation.

Course learning outcomes

- Write a structured option appraisal with explicit criteria
- Assess distributional effects across affected groups

- Produce a decision-ready policy memorandum

Assessment: Policy memorandum and appraisal (100%)

Semester 2 — Money and delivery

Public finance and public operations · 30 credits

MPA-201 — Public Budgeting and Financial Management

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Budget cycles, appropriation and virement, performance budgeting, fiscal rules, internal control and external audit.

Course learning outcomes

- Prepare a programme budget with performance indicators
- Explain variance to an oversight body
- Respond to an audit finding with a corrective action plan

Assessment: Budget submission (60%) and audit response (40%)

MPA-202 — Public Procurement and Contract Management

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Procedure selection, specifications, award criteria, challenge and remedy, and the management of long-term public contracts.

Course learning outcomes

- Draft award criteria that are lawful and evaluable
- Manage a bid challenge without invalidating the procedure
- Design contract performance monitoring for a service contract

Assessment: Tender file (70%) and contract review (30%)

MPA-203 — Managing Public Organisations

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Public human resource rules, motivation in mission-driven organisations, inter-agency coordination and change under political oversight.

Course learning outcomes

- Design a workforce plan under public employment constraints
- Structure a coordination mechanism between two agencies
- Lead a service redesign with a stakeholder and communication plan

Assessment: Organisational change plan (100%)

Semester 3 — Health governance specialisation

Regulation and public health administration · 30 credits

MPA-301 — Health Policy and Regulation

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Licensing, inspection, sanctioning, public insurance design and the instruments available to a health regulator.

Course learning outcomes

- Select a regulatory instrument proportionate to a defined risk
- Design an inspection regime with escalation criteria
- Evaluate a public coverage decision against statutory purpose

Assessment: Regulatory design paper (60%) and examination (40%)

MPA-302 — Crisis, Emergency and Continuity Governance

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Emergency powers and their limits, incident command, resource allocation under scarcity, and public communication during a crisis.

Course learning outcomes

- Draft an emergency measure with proportionality and sunset provisions
- Build an allocation protocol for a scarce resource
- Deliver crisis communication that withstands later review

Assessment: Emergency exercise dossier (100%)

MPA-303 — Research Methods for Public Administration

10 credits · 250 hours total workload

Programme evaluation designs, administrative data, interviews and document analysis, and the preparation of the capstone protocol.

Course learning outcomes

- Choose an evaluation design appropriate to a public programme
- Handle administrative and personal data lawfully in research
- Write an approved capstone protocol

Assessment: Approved capstone protocol (100%)

Semester 4 — Capstone

Applied administrative research · 30 credits

MPA-401 — Capstone Thesis and Defence

30 credits · 750 hours total workload

An independent 15,000–18,000 word applied study of a real administrative or regulatory problem, ending in recommendations addressed to a named decision maker.

Course learning outcomes

- Diagnose an administrative problem with evidence
- Produce implementable, costed and lawful recommendations
- Defend the analysis before an examination panel

Assessment: Capstone thesis (80%) and oral defence (20%)