

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MPA

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. (Knowledge) Demonstrate understanding of major current and past policy debates, research findings, and analytical methodologies in each of the following core areas: microeconomic policy analysis, quantitative tools for policy analysis, policy analysis, the policymaking process, and public management.
2. (Knowledge) Demonstrate critical thinking skills. They will retrieve and examine the policy literature and evaluate evidence for and against hypotheses, identify knowledge gaps, strengths and weaknesses in existing literature, synthesize knowledge, and develop conclusions.
3. (Applied Research Skills) Read, comprehend, and effectively summarize policy research and policy-relevant academic research.
4. (Applied Research Skills) Effectively summarize data for a general (non-academic) or policy audience.
5. (Applied Research Skills) Demonstrate competency in methods of inferential statistics including those associated with multivariate regression models.
6. (Professional and Ethical Conduct) Identify and appropriately respond to scenarios involving the ethical and professional responsibilities of public administration.
7. (Professional and Ethical Conduct) Demonstrate the ability to maintain human subjects protections when designing studies, collecting data and reporting results.
8. (Professional and Ethical Conduct) Know and adhere to high levels of professional conduct, ethical decision-making and legal and regulatory compliance.
9. (Professional and Ethical Conduct) Demonstrate the ability to maintain fidelity to objective social science-based research methods.
10. (Communication) Communicate in clear written language: a real-world policy problem, relevant scholarly studies and practical applications, a policy-analytic method to investigate the problem, and client-oriented advice to mitigate the problem.
11. (Communication) Communicate substance of point 1 highly concisely and in language understandable to a non-specialist.
12. (Communication) Communicate substance of point 2 orally.
13. (Professional Skills and Career Preparation) Develop effective job-seeking tools and utilize job-seeking techniques.
14. (Professional Skills and Career Preparation) Complete high quality group projects, including demonstration of effective project management and teamwork.