PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MPA

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School’s Academic Policies and Procedures ([https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/](https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/)) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 12 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements. This work does not appear on UW–Madison transcript nor count toward graduate career GPA.

UW–Madison Undergraduate

Students in the accelerated MPA program may transfer up to 18 credits from their undergraduate career at UW-Madison toward the accelerated MIPA 42 degree credit total.

UW–Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION

This program follows the Graduate School’s Probation policy. ([https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/](https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/))

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Every graduate student will have one faculty advisor in addition to the Admissions and Advising Coordinator to support their academic progress.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

Two-Year MPA: Credit load by term varies. Students typically take 10 credits in their first semester in the program, increasing to 12 credits for the next two semesters so that they can plan a lighter load of 9 credits when in their final spring semester due to demands from their workshop course. Students need advisor approval to take 15 credits.

MPA with accelerated track: 12 credits

TIME LIMITS

This program follows the Graduate School’s Time Limits policy ([https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/](https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/)).

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- [Bias or Hate Reporting](https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- [Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures](https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
- [Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures](https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs ([https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/](https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/))
  - Dean of Students Office ([https://doso.students.wisc.edu/](https://doso.students.wisc.edu/)) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- [Employee Assistance](http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- [Employee Disability Resource Office](https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- [Graduate School](https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- [Office of Compliance](https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- [Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards](https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
- [Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff](http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- [Title IX](https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

OTHER

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