

# PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MPA

## REQUIREMENTS

### MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

### MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

#### MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	Yes

#### Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Accelerated:** Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

**Evening/Weekend:** Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

**Face-to-Face:** Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

**Hybrid:** These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

**Online:** These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

### CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

#### Requirements Detail

Minimum Credit Requirement	MPA: 42 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	MPA with accelerated track: 36 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	MPA: 16 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	MPA with accelerated track: 36 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	Half of degree coursework (21 out of 42 total credits) must be completed in graduate-level coursework. For MPA accelerated track, 19 of 36 must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide ( <a href="https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide">https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide</a> ( <a href="https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/">https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/</a> )).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required.

**Other Grade Requirements** Students must earn a BC or above in all core curriculum coursework. A grade of C is the minimum grade permitted in elective courses that count toward a La Follette School degree.

**Assessments and Examinations** n/a

**Language Requirements** No language requirement.

### REQUIRED COURSES

Students must complete 42 credits, including six core courses, a one-credit professional development seminar, plus eight elective courses. An internship can count for up to three elective credits. The program generally takes two years.

#### Six required courses are the foundation of the MPA degree program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
PUB AFFR 800	Public Affairs Professional Development Workshop	1
PUB AFFR 818	Introduction to Statistical Methods for Public Policy Analysis	3
PUB AFFR/POLI SCI/URB R PL 874	Policy-Making Process	3
PUB AFFR 880	Microeconomic Policy Analysis	3
PUB AFFR 873	Introduction to Policy Analysis	3
PUB AFFR/POLI SCI/URB R PL 878	Public Management	3
PUB AFFR 869	Workshop in Public Affairs	3

#### Recommended Electives in Public Affairs

Students build proficiency beyond the core requirements through elective courses, including:

PUB AFFR 819	Advanced Statistical Methods for Public Policy Analysis	3
PUB AFFR 827	Administrative Internship	1-3
PUB AFFR/POLI SCI 871	Public Program Evaluation	3
PUB AFFR/A A E/ENVIR ST/POP HLTH 881	Benefit-Cost Analysis	3

#### Recommended Two-Year Plan of Study

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Recommended progression</b>		
<i>Fall Year One</i>		
PUB AFFR 800	Public Affairs Professional Development Workshop	1
PUB AFFR 818	Introduction to Statistical Methods for Public Policy Analysis	3
PUB AFFR/POLI SCI/URB R PL 874	Policy-Making Process	3
PUB AFFR 880	Microeconomic Policy Analysis	3
<i>Spring Year One</i>		
PUB AFFR 873	Introduction to Policy Analysis	3

PUB AFFR/POLI SCI/ Public Management	3
URB R PL 878	
<i>Spring Year Two</i>	
PUB AFFR 869 Workshop in Public Affairs	3

**Public Affairs And Urban and Regional Planning (MPA/M.S. URPL)**

The La Follette School of Public Affairs and the Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture offer a double degree Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning and a Master of Public Affairs. Students completing the double degree must follow the double degree plan. The Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture requires 45 credits for the Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning. The La Follette School requires 36 credits for the Master of Public Affairs. Per UW-Madison Graduate School policy, an overlap of 25% of credits is permitted (9 credits can count toward both degrees). Students can graduate with both degrees by completing 72 credits in three years.

Graduate coordinators for both programs have sample curricular plans that they will share with prospective or current students to assist with successful completion of all degree requirements.