

# PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)

## Master of Public Administration

Unit: College of Arts and Sciences (<https://louisville.edu/artsandsciences/>) (GA)

Department: Urban and Public Affairs (<https://louisville.edu/upa/>)

Program Website (<https://louisville.edu/upa/programs/mpa/>)

Academic Plan Code(s): PADMMPA, PADMMPADML, PADMMPANPM, PADMMPAURG

## Program Information

### General Information

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program at the University of Louisville is central to the University's urban/metropolitan mission. The academic curriculum provides students with a solid foundation in public and nonprofit administration and prepares graduates for placement and advancement in public, private and nonprofit sector careers. The MPA faculty also advances knowledge in the field of public administration through their theoretical and applied research. The MPA is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration.

The MPA requires 36 credit hours for completion. A student can enroll on either a part-time or full-time basis. Classes are offered in formats and at times that accommodate students who work full time. Traditional classes are offered Monday through Thursday, one evening a week, from 5:30 until 8:15 PM. Hybrid-distance courses have fewer classroom meetings. Some courses are offered entirely online.

The program includes faculty from various disciplines and is aimed at providing recent college graduates, public sector practitioners, and persons in related fields with a mix of theoretical knowledge and applied skills. The degree program is available to qualified individuals holding a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. No specific undergraduate major is required.

### Dual Degree Programs

The Master in Public Administration Program offers dual degree programs with the Master in Urban Planning, as well as the Master of Arts in Art (Creative) and Art History (Concentration in Critical and Curatorial Studies). In addition, the Master of Public Administration coordinates with the Brandeis School of Law to offer a joint MPA/JD. For more information about the dual programs please go to the program webpage (<https://louisville.edu/upa/programs/mpa/ma-ma/>).

## Admission Requirements

The procedures for admission to the MPA program are as follows:

1. Submit a completed online graduate application (<https://graduate.louisville.edu/admission/apply/>) to the University of Louisville, Graduate School. Program candidates may be admitted for fall, spring or summer semesters.
2. Official transcripts verifying the receipt of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution must be submitted to the Graduate School.

3. A written personal statement is required. The statement should indicate why the applicant wishes to pursue the MPA degree.
4. Two letters of recommendation are required. Normally, at least one letter should be from someone who can comment on the applicant's academic performance.
5. All applicants for whom English is a second language must also submit official TOEFL scores of 79 or higher on the internet-based test, 213 or higher on the computer-based test. English proficiency can also be met by submitting official IELTS scores of at least 6.5 overall band score from the academic module exam or official Duolingo overall score of 105. Students holding a bachelor's or advanced degree from an accredited institution in the United States may be exempt from this requirement.

## Program Requirements

The MPA requires 36 credit hours for completion: a core curriculum of 21 credit hours, three (3) credit hours of practicum internship or thesis, and twelve (12) credit hours from one of the three areas of concentration.

Code	Title	Hours
URBS 651	Foundations of Public Administration	3
URBS 603	Applied Research Methods	3
URBS 652	Program Evaluation	3
URBS 653	Urban Policy Analysis	3
URBS 654	Ethics in Public Administration	3
URBS 655	Human Resources Management	3
URBS 656	Cultural Competency and Action	3
URBS 660	Culminating MPA Experience	3
Area of Concentration (see below)		12
<b>Minimum Total Hours</b>		<b>36</b>

### MPA Areas of Concentration

MPA Students complete twelve (12) credit hours from one of the three areas see Concentration Requirements.

### Dual MPA/MA in Art (Creative) and Art History (Concentration in Critical and Curatorial Studies)

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Core Courses</b>		
URBS 651	Foundations of Public Administration	3
URBS 652	Program Evaluation	3
URBS 654	Ethics in Public Administration	3
URBS 655	Human Resources Management	3
URBS 672	Mediation and Dispute Resolution	3
URBS 656	Cultural Competency and Action	3
CCS 600	Graduate Seminar	1
<b>Electives</b>		
500- or 600-level Art History (ARTH) elective		3
500- or 600-level ARTH elective outside Fine Arts		3
500- or 600-level ARTH elective outside CCS concentration		3
<b>Nonprofit Administration</b>		
URBS 666	Nonprofit Management	3
URBS 667	Budgeting and Finance	3

URBS 668	Grantsmanship and Fundraising	3
<b>Critical and Curatorial Studies</b>		
ARTH 642	Theories & Methods in the Visual Arts	3
CCS 647	Introduction to Critical and Curatorial Studies I	3
CCS 648	Critical and Curatorial Studies II	3
<b>Internship/Practicum/Thesis</b>		
CCS 649	Curatorial Internship	3
CCS 645	Thesis Guidance <sup>1</sup>	6
URBS 660	Culminating MPA Experience	3
<b>Minimum Total Hours</b>		<b>58</b>

<sup>1</sup> CCS 645 may be repeated twice for a total of 6 credit hours.

## MPA Areas of Concentration

MPA Students complete twelve (12) credit hours from one of the three areas of emphasis below:

### Urban Governance (PADMMPAURG)

Code	Title	Hours
URBS 661	Public Management	3
URBS 663	Economic Development	3
URBS 664	Social Equity and the Public Sector	3
URBS 667	Budgeting and Finance	3

### Nonprofit Management (PADMMPANPM)

Code	Title	Hours
URBS 666	Nonprofit Management	3
URBS 667	Budgeting and Finance	3
URBS 668	Grantsmanship and Fundraising	3
URBS 669	Leadership and Community Engagement	3
or URBS 672	Mediation and Dispute Resolution	

### Diversity Management and Leadership (PADMMPADML)

Code	Title	Hours
URBS 661	Public Management	3
or URBS 666	Nonprofit Management	
URBS 664	Social Equity and the Public Sector	3
URBS 667	Budgeting and Finance	3
URBS 669	Leadership and Community Engagement	3