

General Requirements

The MPA degree may be achieved through the completion of at least 36 semester credit hours of approved course work with an additional 3 credits of public service internship for students who are not mid-career. The internship requirement may be waived for students who have substantial professional work experience in public service or the not-for-profit sector. The MPA director will determine if a student's experience is substantial, and if so, can approve waiver of the internship requirement. Twenty-four credit hours must be completed in courses selected from prescribed "core areas" with 12 additional credit hours completed in designated optional areas of emphasis. Students may follow a thesis or non-thesis option in pursuing the MPA. Students choosing to write a thesis ([POLS 6650](#) - 6 credits) do so in addition to normal MPA course work and internship requirements. Students must have completed 21 credit hours of core course work before taking the Capstone in Public Administration course. Those following the thesis option will complete an oral examination covering the thesis and program course work. The academic program of each student must satisfy the general requirements of an integrated program designed to meet career objectives of the student in public administration.

Core and Optional Area Requirements

The specific course requirements of the MPA program are set forth in a list of courses that has been approved by the inter-university committee.

This list is available through each of the cooperating universities. Courses are available at each institution in the "core areas." The optional "areas of emphasis" may vary among the universities according to the resources and competence that exist in the respective departments. A description of those areas of emphasis that are presently operational at each institution and admission forms to the MPA program are available through the Political Science Department at Idaho State University or the Departments of Political Science at Boise State University or the University of Idaho.

I. Core Area Requirements

All students must take 24 credit hours of core area courses. Students must choose courses in each of the following categories, including [POLS 6680](#) Capstone in Public Administration.

Methods/Assessment (take 1 course for 3 credits)

POLS 6622	Advanced Topics in Research
POLS 5519	Political Research Methods
POLS 6623	Program Assessment
Course List	

Organizations, Management, and Analysis (take 2 courses for 6 credits)

POLS 5551	Public Organizational Theory
POLS 5553	Public Policy Analysis
POLS 5554	Public Personnel Management
Course List	

Public Finance, Budgeting, and Planning (take 2 courses for 6 credits)

POLS 5552	Public Budgeting and Finance
POLS 5509	Community and Regional Planning
Course List	

Administrative Overview (take 2 courses for 6 credits)

POLS 5505	Introduction to Public Administration
POLS 5558	Public Administration Ethics
Course List	

Capstone (take 1 class for 3 credits)

POLS 6680	Capstone in Public Administration
Total Hours	
Course List	

II. Specialized Areas

All students must take 12 credit hours from the list below. Courses used to fulfill a core requirement cannot also be counted here.

Specialized Area #1: State, Local, and Non-Profit Administration (Take 4 courses)

POLS 5567	State and Local Administration (required)
POLS 5505	Introduction to Public Administration
POLS 5506	Intergovernmental Relations
POLS 5508	Urban Spaces
POLS 5509	Community and Regional Planning
POLS 5541	Administrative Law
POLS 5552	Public Budgeting and Finance
POLS 5553	Public Policy Analysis

POLS 5554	Public Personnel Management
POLS 5558	Public Administration Ethics
POLS 5561	Nonprofit Management
POLS 5562	International Sustainable Development
POLS 5563	Public-Private Partnerships
POLS 5564	Disaster Policy and Administration
POLS 5566	Public Lands Policy
POLS 5578	Federal Indian Law
POLS 5579	Tribal Government
POLS 6612	Seminar State and Local Politics
POLS 6616	Seminar Public Administration and Public Policy
POLS 6623	Program Assessment
POLS 5557	Grantwriting
CMP 5522	Conflict Management
ECON 5533	Economic Development
ECON 5539	State and Local Finance
SOC 5567	Community Networking:Cultivating the Sociological Imagination
SOC 6615	Social Institutions
Course List	

Specialized Area #2: Environmental Administration (Take 4 courses)

POLS 5555	Environmental Politics and Policy (required)
POLS 6606	Environmental Law and Regulation
POLS 5505	Introduction to Public Administration
POLS 5506	Intergovernmental Relations
POLS 5508	Urban Spaces
POLS 5509	Community and Regional Planning
POLS 5553	Public Policy Analysis
POLS 5558	Public Administration Ethics
POLS 5561	Nonprofit Management
POLS 5562	International Sustainable Development
POLS 5563	Public-Private Partnerships
POLS 5564	Disaster Policy and Administration
POLS 5566	Public Lands Policy
POLS 6623	Program Assessment
POLS 5557	Grantwriting
CMP 5522	Conflict Management
Course List	

Specialized Area #3: Public Health Administration (Take 4 courses)

MPH 6609	Seminar in Public and Community Health (required)
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<u>PHIL 6600</u>	Ethics in Health Care
<u>POLS 5505</u>	Introduction to Public Administration
<u>POLS 5506</u>	Intergovernmental Relations
<u>POLS 5509</u>	Community and Regional Planning
<u>POLS 5553</u>	Public Policy Analysis
<u>POLS 5558</u>	Public Administration Ethics
<u>POLS 5561</u>	Nonprofit Management
<u>POLS 5562</u>	International Sustainable Development
<u>POLS 5563</u>	Public-Private Partnerships
<u>POLS 5564</u>	Disaster Policy and Administration
<u>POLS 6623</u>	Program Assessment
<u>POLS 5557</u>	Grantwriting
Course List	

Specialized Area #4: Criminology (Take 4 courses)

<u>SOC 5531</u>	Criminology
<u>SOC 5592</u>	Topics in Criminal Justice
<u>SOC 5536</u>	Elite Deviance and Crime
<u>SOC 5538</u>	Sexual Crimes
<u>POLS 5542</u>	Constitutional Law
<u>POLS 5543</u>	Civil Rights and Liberties
<u>POLS 5557</u>	Grantwriting
Course List	

Internship (3 Credits - waived for mid-career)

Course List

Appropriate courses in the Master of Public Health program may be substituted with consent of the Master of Public Administration program director.

III. Public Administration Internship

Each student must complete at least 3 and no more than 9 credit hours of an approved internship. Three credit hours of internship are equal to 200 hours of work as an intern. The MPA director may waive the internship requirement for students with substantial professional work experience in public service of the not-for-profit sector.