



# School of Public Policy

## Master of Public Policy



### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) program is designed to produce astute policy professionals who will move rapidly into leadership positions in the policy world. The strong analytical approach of the program develops skills in problem solving and research methods, and ensures familiarity with economic concepts and applications. Ethical considerations in policy making are incorporated throughout the curriculum. The program has a robust international emphasis to ensure that graduates think comparatively and globally about policy processes and problems.

### MPP CORE FACULTY

The core faculty are internationally recognized for their scholarship and advisory roles in the public and private sectors. Some of the core faculty members affiliated with the MPP program include:

- **Jeremy Mayer, Program Director**
- **Mark J. Rozell**
- **Philip Auerswald**
- **Catherine Rudder**
- **A. Lee Fritschler**
- **Naoru Koizumi**
- **Siona Robin Listokin**
- **Michael K. Fauntroy**
- **James Pfiffner**

A complete list of the School's faculty members and their backgrounds can be found at: <http://policy.gmu.edu/faculty>.

### CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

The MPP program requires 42 credit hours of coursework. Students should consult with their academic advisor on appropriate course sequencing:

- **REQUIRED COMMON CORE COURSES** (8 credit hours)
  - PUBP 502 Governance and Policy Processes:** Assesses governance processes in public and private organizational settings in a rapidly changing global environment. (4 credits)
  - PUBP 503 Culture, Organization and Technology:** Examines the influence of culture in societal, political, economic and technological processes, nationally and internationally. (4 credits)
- **REQUIRED MPP CORE COURSES** (19 credit hours)
  - PUBP 700 Theory and Practice in Public Policy:** Theories of public policy emphasizing both the historical intellectual development of the discipline and the role that theory and ethics may be expected to play in public policy making. (3 credits)
  - PUBP 704 Statistical Methods in Policy Analysis:** A graduate-level introduction to the statistical methods and techniques used in the policy sciences. (3 credits)
  - PUBP 720 Managerial Economics and Policy Analysis:** Focuses on the application of microeconomic theory in analyzing public policy issues. (3 credits)
  - PUBP 741 U.S. Financial Policy Processes and Procedures:** Examines the executive financial and budget management process in the federal and state government systems as well as parallel processes in the other nonprofit sectors. (3 credits)
  - ITRN 503 Investment and Macroeconomics:** Offers students an overview of macroeconomic theory and mathematical concepts with an emphasis on their application to problems of the modern global economy. (4 credits)
  - Methods/Analytics: One of the following courses: PUBP 705, PUBP 713, PUBP 754, or approved substitution (3 credits each).**

- **SUBSTANTIVE POLICY EMPHASES** (12 credits)

Students are asked to complete four courses within one of the following policy emphases. These courses should be taken after the completion of 12 credit hours of core coursework:

- International Governance and Institutions
- Global Medical and Health Policy
- National Security and Public Policy
- Regional Economic Development Policy
- Science and Technology Policy
- Social Policy
- Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption
- Public Finance and Budgeting
- Transportation Policy
- Urban Policy and Development
- U.S. Government Institutions and Policy Management

- **Additional Information on Emphases:**

Based upon a review of academic transcripts, MPP students may be required to take a U.S. policy systems course as part of their emphases requirements. Additionally, all MPP students will take a writing assessment during the required PUBP 700 course. Based on this assessment, students may be required to take a policy writing course which will also be counted towards the emphasis.

- **PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP** (3 credits)

Students with two or more years of professional policy-related experience may request a waiver of this requirement.

In conjunction with the Master of Public Policy program, the School of Public Policy offers public policy certificate programs. These certificates are offered in the same areas as the substantive policy emphases. To earn one of these certificates a student must complete five courses. To see a list of the courses which can be used to complete a particular certificate, please visit our website at: <http://policy.gmu.edu/programs>.

Students who are already pursuing the MPP degree can receive a certificate in addition to their Master’s Degree by completing an additional 9 credit hours.

### ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

For admission consideration to the MPP or certificate program, applicants must hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited university or college.

Application Deadlines:

	FALL TERM	SPRING TERM
Domestic Students	June 1	December 1
International Students*	May 1	November 1
For Scholarship Consideration (International and Domestic Students)	February 1	November 1

\*For admission purposes, please adhere to the International Student Deadlines if you have completed your undergraduate and/or graduate degree outside the United States.

Application Requirements:

1. Graduate Application and application fee. The Graduate Application can be completed online at: <http://admissions.gmu.edu/ApplyNow/>.
2. A 750-1000 word written statement of the applicant’s goals for and interest in the program.
3. A current resume.
4. Two copies of official transcripts of all university work completed.  
*Applicants presenting international credentials must provide official transcripts, degree certificates or diplomas, and certified translations of the documents into English (if applicable).*
5. Two letters of recommendation. At least one letter of recommendation should be from an individual qualified to attest to the applicant’s academic potential.
6. TOEFL scores (required for international applicants). The IELTS exam will be accepted in lieu of the TOEFL. Minimum required TOEFL scores are: 575 – paper-based; 88 – internet-based (with a 20 in each of the 4 subsections). IELTS minimum: 6.5.
7. Certificate of Financial Responsibility (required only if the student is seeking immigration documents such as an F-1 or J-1 visa from George Mason University). This form should be sent with the required supporting documents.

**Please Note:** All applicants seeking funding consideration from the School of Public Policy in the form of Merit-Based Scholarships are required to submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. Only complete applications received by the stated deadline are guaranteed to be reviewed for scholarship consideration. Those seeking Federal Financial Aid only are not required to submit GRE scores.

### FINANCIAL AID AND TUITION INFORMATION

To apply for need-based federal assistance, applicants are required to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form which can be accessed online at: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. For other questions regarding need-based federal assistance, please visit the Office of Student Financial Aid at: <http://financialaid.gmu.edu/>.

Tuition Costs for the 2011-2012 Academic Year:

In-State Tuition: \$661/credit hour

Out-of-State Tuition: \$1,200.25/credit hour