

# PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: EXECUTIVE (M.P.A.)

<https://carsey.unh.edu/program/mpa/executive-masters-public-administration>

## Description

The Online Executive Master of Public Administration program (Executive MPA) offers you the opportunity to learn the skills you need in all aspects of public and nonprofit management including leadership, program evaluation, budgeting, planning, personnel management, collective bargaining, and policy analysis. Professionals with five or more years of relevant work experience or an accredited Certified Public Manager (CPM) credential can enroll in the 12-month Executive MPA program with reduced degree requirements and lower tuition cost. Professionals with less than five years of relevant work experience can enroll in the 36-credit Online MPA program.

Our MPA graduates are prepared to engage with their communities, ensure accountability, and have the administrative skills to achieve their organization's mission in an effective and sustainable manner.

- The MPA program is fully online and is ideal for working professionals
- Study with public service professionals and professors who bring strong analysis and best practices to your learning
- Start in the fall, spring, or summer and graduate in as little as 12 months (Executive MPA) or 16 months (MPA)
- Choose your MPA Capstone Experience Track: Management and Leadership or Program Planning and Development
- The GRE is not required to apply for this degree program

**Program Delivery & Location:** Core academic courses for the Executive MPA program are offered entirely online with choices for taking optional elective courses in person on the UNH campuses. Students who choose to participate in the Washington DC Colloquium experience will join students from other Carsey programs for a week in Washington, DC.

## Requirements

### Executive MPA Requirements

Students enrolled in the Carsey School's **Executive Master of Public Administration** program are required to complete a thirty (30) credit program, consisting of:

- **Three (3) BASIC Core** Curriculum Courses
- **Three (3) ADVANCED Core** Curriculum Courses
- **MPA CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE Track:**
  - **Management and Leadership Track:** Two (2) Capstone Project Courses + Two (2) Elective Courses  
OR
  - **Program Planning and Development Track:** Four (4) Capstone Project Courses

These provide students with a strong foundation in theory and the applied skills necessary to foster democratic involvement, accountability and administrative competency in the provision and delivery of public services in towns, cities, state agencies, and a wide range of nonprofit

and non-governmental organizations. Further opportunities for depth and specialization are provided through a broad range of ADVANCED Core and ELECTIVE courses which vary by semester. For a culminating graduate experience, students choose an MPA capstone experience to match their interests in Management and Leadership or Program Planning and Development, enabling students to directly apply what they've learned throughout their MPA program.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>MPA BASIC Core Curriculum Courses (3 Courses)</b>		
PA 800	Foundations and Theories of Public Administration	3
PA 805	Introduction to Statistical Analysis	3
PA 809	Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors	3
<b>MPA ADVANCED Core Curriculum Courses (3 Courses)</b>		
Select three courses from the following:		9
PA 802	Grant-writing for Public and Non-profit Sectors	
PA 808	Administrative Law	
PA 812	Leadership Theory and Practice	
PA 813	Human Resource Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors	
PA 814	Financial Management and Budgeting in the Public Sector	
PA 816	Public Management Techniques	
PA 818	Non-Profit Management	
PA 819	Managing Conflict and Change in Nonprofit and Public Organizations	
PA 820	Strategic Communications for Public and Non-profit Sectors	
PA 821	Effective Change Management in Nonprofit and Public Organizations	
DPP 801	Integrative Approaches to Development Policy and Practice	
DPP 802	Economic Analysis for Development	
DPP 805	Fiscal Management for Development Organizations	
DPP 808	Policy Seminar	
DPP 861	Community Development Finance	
GCHS 810	Conflict & Human Security	
GCHS 820	Global Governance	
GCHS 830	International Development & Human Security	
GCHS 840	Sustainable Development: Gender-Environment Nexus	
GCHS 850	Peace and Human Security in the Post-Atrocity State	
PPOL 806	Fundamentals of Policy Analysis	
PPOL 810	Policy Across Borders	
PPOL 812	Strategies for Policy Impact	
PPOL 822	Media Strategy and Skills	
PPOL 897	Advanced Special Topics	
<b>MPA CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE Track</b>		
Select a track from the following:		12
<b>Management and Leadership Track:</b> <sup>2</sup>		
PA 804	Policy and Program Evaluation	
PA 908A	Capstone in Public Administration	
Two (2) MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Courses <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Program Planning and Development Track:</b> <sup>3</sup>		
DPP 980	Introduction to Community Development Projects	
DPP 981	Project Design and Planning	
DPP 982	Project Implementation and Monitoring	
DPP 983	Project Evaluation	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

<sup>1</sup> A range of MPA ADVANCED Core courses are offered each term and vary each year. ADVANCED Core courses can also be taken as ELECTIVE courses. Students may also propose relevant ELECTIVE courses based upon their interests. Consult with your Graduate Academic Advisor for guidance and course selections.

<sup>2</sup> As a culmination of their graduate work, students in the Master of Public Administration's **Management and Leadership Track** are tasked with reflecting upon the professional applicability of their MPA skillset and drawing from the ePortfolio that they built throughout the program. Students are presented with a real-world problem in public administration and asked to write a paper exploring the problem and proposing recommended solutions.

<sup>3</sup> Students in the Master of Public Administration's **Program Planning and Development Track** complete a four-term capstone project as the culmination of their graduate work. This capstone experience is designed to provide an opportunity to directly apply theories learned in the classroom to a major applied project within a community.

## Degree Plan

### EXECUTIVE MPA Sample Degree Plan (30 Credits)

#### CAPSTONE TRACK: MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

##### First Year

Fall		Credits
Term 1		
PA 800	Foundations and Theories of Public Administration	3
MPA ADVANCED Core Course <sup>1</sup>		3
Term 2		
MPA ADVANCED Core Course <sup>1</sup>		3
MPA ADVANCED Core Course <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
Spring		
Term 3		
PA 804	Policy and Program Evaluation <sup>2</sup>	3
PA 809	Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors	3
Term 4		
PA 805	Introduction to Statistical Analysis	3
PA 908A	Capstone in Public Administration <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
Summer		
Term 5		
MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course <sup>1</sup>		3
MPA-Approved ELECTIVE Course <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

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### EXECUTIVE MPA Sample Degree Plan (30 Credits)

#### CAPSTONE TRACK: program planning AND development

##### First Year

Fall		Credits
Term 1		
DPP 980	Introduction to Community Development Projects <sup>2</sup>	3
PA 800	Foundations and Theories of Public Administration	3
Term 2		
DPP 981	Project Design and Planning <sup>2</sup>	3
MPA ADVANCED Core Course <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
Spring		
Term 3		
DPP 982	Project Implementation and Monitoring <sup>2</sup>	3
PA 809	Organization and Management in Public and Non-profit Sectors	3
Term 4		
DPP 983	Project Evaluation <sup>2</sup>	3
PA 805	Introduction to Statistical Analysis	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
Summer		
Term 5		
MPA ADVANCED Core Course <sup>1</sup>		3
MPA ADVANCED Core Course <sup>1</sup>		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

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## Student Learning Outcomes

### Program Learning Outcomes

- Develop in-depth understanding of the structure of public sector organizations and common issues faced by public and nonprofit managers
- Communicate effectively with public managers, policymakers, and the general public
- Manage organizations, processes, and people in the public and nonprofit sectors

- Apply critical thinking skills to address public issues and solve problems
- Collect and analyze data to inform public decision-making