

ACADEMIC LEARNING PLAN

MASTER'S OF SCIENCE IN ADMINISTRATION

Public Administration Specialization

Program Description

The Master of Science in Administration with a specialization in Public Administration is a fully online program that prepares students for advanced management and leadership roles in public, non-profit, and private agencies. Students learn from experienced, hands-on faculty who integrate administrative theory and best practices into a curriculum that provides the student with a holistic understanding of organizational environments.

Mission Statement

The Departments participating in the MSA program ensure that graduates, in their full diversity, achieve mastery of the skill sets that will enable them not only to perform the professional work tasks in their respective fields competently but also to assume roles as strategic team members who can apply innovative planning and problem solving to further the goals of their organizations.

College: College of Education and Professional Studies

Degree: Master of Science in Administration, MSA Required Hours for the Degree: 36

Certificates Available: Managing Sustainability and Resiliency; Acquisition and Contract Administration

Student Learning Outcomes

Students with a MSA in Public Administration will be able to do the following:

Content

- Analyze effective leadership and sustainable management strategies across multiple sectors.
- Assess public policies

Critical Thinking

- Analyze public policy and problem-solving in the public sector.

Communication

- Communicate effective leadership in a diverse and sustainability-driven environment leading to resilient communities.

Integrity/Values/Ethics

- Apply a public service perspective utilizing ethical judgment and principles.

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Students demonstrate knowledge, skills, and abilities throughout their academic preparation, culminating in a variety of capstone experiences where they synthesize program learning outcomes to showcase their experiences and knowledge. Students plan capstone experiences with advice, support and direction from their academic advisor. Each specialization includes a capstone experience that might include a research project and policy review.

Certificates

The program includes the hours required to complete one of two certificate programs. Graduates receive their chosen certificate credential in addition to their master's degree. The certificate programs are designed to allow students to further specialize in either public/nonprofit leadership or government contracting. The two certificate descriptions are outlined below.

Managing Sustainability and Resiliency

The Certificate is devised to train students in applying sustainability and resiliency policies and strategies in their roles as managers and administrators of public service agencies. The program is offered completely online. Graduates are prepared to enter leadership roles in public or nonprofit organizations.

Acquisition and Contract Administration

The Acquisition and Contract Administration certificate prepares graduates for employment in federal, state, and local government contracting as well as Department of Defense and civilian contracting.

Career Opportunities

This Online Graduate Program is well suited for mid-career specialists as well as pre-service students. Specialists who desire to move into broader administrative positions of responsibility or to upgrade their administrative capabilities will find the program useful. Pre-service students are provided important networking opportunities through interaction in online classes with experienced mid-level professional and/or executive staff presently employed in governmental or not-for-profit agencies.

Prospective job areas for graduates include, among others: • City Manager • County Administrator • Contract Administrator • Procurement and Supply-chain Professional • Nonprofit Management • Budget Director • Federal Administration • Human Resources Manager • Law Enforcement Officer • Urban Planner • Policy Director • Strategic Planning and Sustainability Director

Program Requirements

The Public Administration Specialization is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to effectively manage agencies and people in public and nonprofit organizations. All students will complete the MSA core (6 semester hours) and Public Administration Specialization (21 semester hours). Students will also select one certificate (9 semester hours). The program requires 36 total hours for completion. Students must earn a "B" or above in all courses.

Program Contact

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<https://onlinedegrees.uwf.edu/online-degrees/msa-masters-public-administration/>