



INDIANA UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
School of Public and Environmental Affairs

MASTER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS (MPA)

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The Master of Public Affairs (MPA) degree program in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) is an interdisciplinary, professional program that helps students succeed in various roles within the changing public and nonprofit sectors. There are four concentrations in the MPA program: criminal justice; health services administration; nonprofit management (pending approval); and public management. Each concentration helps prepare students with the knowledge, skills, and values to assume managerial and leadership roles.

The goals of the MPA program are designed to equip students with the necessary skills, ethical understanding and knowledge to enter local, state or federal government, quasi-governmental service, or nonprofit organizations, and to broaden comprehension of the economic, environmental, political, and social context in which the public servant works.

The curriculum of this program encompasses preparation in a broad range of skills relevant to the operation of public and nonprofit agencies. The course of study is oriented toward problem-solving and brings the multiple disciplines to bear on critical social, environmental, economic and political challenges.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Completion of the MPA requires a minimum of 48 credit hours and a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average. This includes 21 credit hours of core courses, 18 to 21 concentration hours and six to nine elective credit hours.

COURSEWORK

- Quantitative Tools for Public Affairs
- Public Management
- Statistical Analysis for Policy & Management.
- Public Management Economics
- Law and Public Affairs
- Public Finance and Budgeting
- Capstone in Public and Environmental Affairs

The MPA core curriculum ensures that each student acquires both the prerequisite analytical skills and an understanding of policy issues and governmental processes that constitute the environment within which graduates will pursue their careers. Core courses cover topics in law, management, economics and statistical analysis. The fields of concentration span the variety of professional specialties found in public service. Thus, the program results in both expertise in a specific concentration area and general working knowledge of public affairs.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Master of Public Affairs program is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA).

MPA students have many opportunities to learn about the broad spectrum of public affairs through a combination of traditional classroom instruction, internship placement, service learning experiences, guest presentations and career advisement.

SPEA is dedicated to assisting students in establishing networks that will enhance their ability to locate appropriate employment or continued education at the doctoral level. The variety of public affairs courses assists students interested in specializing in content-specific areas that can increase their marketability.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MASTER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS?

An MPA degree prepares graduates for careers in some of the following areas:

- Criminal Justice
- Education
- Environmental Affairs
- Health Services
- Local, State and Federal Government
- Nonprofit
- Public Policy Analysis
- Public Administration

HANDS-ON LEARNING

SPEA's diverse public affairs faculty is dedicated to getting students involved in all aspects of the

public and nonprofit sectors through the internship program, service learning projects and volunteer opportunities. These programs are designed to increase student academic achievement and social responsibility.

Internship possibilities are developed in collaboration with public and nonprofit agencies willing to involve students in meaningful professional activities.

To underscore its commitment to hands-on-learning in the community, SPEA began an initiative in 2012 focused on community engagement and service-learning projects known as the Student Cooperative Outreach and Responsive Education (SCORE).

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

- Alpha Phi Sigma (National Criminal Justice Honor Society)
- Phi Alpha Alpha (The National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration)

RELATED DEGREE OPTIONS

MPA Concentrations:

- Criminal Justice
- Health Services Administration
- Nonprofit Management (pending approval)
- Public Management

Graduate Certificate Concentrations:

- Public Management
- Non-Profit Management
- Environmental Affairs

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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