

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (M.P.A.)

The Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) is a professional degree program that prepares students for administrative positions in the public and not-for-profit sectors. It is designed for students who have significant in-service experience as well as for students who have little or no prior work experience in public or not-for-profit organizations. Most of the MPA courses are offered in an internet-based format, enabling many students to complete their degree online.

Concentrations

- Community Resilience Concentration
- Public Leadership and Management Concentration

Program Admission Requirements

- Submit a completed FGCU Graduate Admissions Application (<https://www.fgcu.edu/admissionsandaid/graduateadmissions/>) and satisfy all applicable university admissions requirements.
- Official transcripts from all universities and/or colleges attended as an undergraduate, one of which must show an earned baccalaureate degree from an institution that maintains accreditation by a U.S. Department of Education sanctioned accrediting body (<https://www.ed.gov/laws-and-policy/higher-education-laws-and-policy/college-accreditation> (<https://www.ed.gov/laws-and-policy/higher-education-laws-and-policy/college-accreditation/>)) or equivalent foreign institution.
 - If you have completed any graduate coursework after your baccalaureate degree, you also must provide an official transcript from the institution(s) where you completed this graduate coursework.
- Documented achievement of one of the following. Applicants who have achieved one of the first four options below are exempted from having to take the Graduate Record Exam or the Miller Analogies Test.
 - An earned graduate degree from a regionally accredited college or university, or
 - A cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher for the last 60 hours attempted at the upper-division undergraduate level; or
 - A cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher for the last 60 hours attempted at the upper-division undergraduate level, along with three years or more continuous full-time professional or supervisory work experience providing services to the public and/or non-profit sectors; or
 - A cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher for the last 60 hours attempted at the upper-division undergraduate level, along with prior completion of FGCU's Local Government Management Graduate Certificate Program or Community Resilience Graduate Certificate program; or
 - Completion of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) within the last five years, documented through an official test score report, with the following combined GRE + GPA outcome: (Average of percentile rankings on GRE verbal reasoning section and quantitative reasoning section) + (GPA for the last 60 semester hours attempted at the upper-division undergraduate level X 18) must equal or exceed 100; or

- Completion of the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) within the last five years, documented through an official test score report, with the following combined MAT + GPA outcome: (MAT percentile rank for intended major) + (GPA for the last 60 semester hours attempted at the upper division undergraduate level X 18) must equal or exceed 100.
- International students must demonstrate English language proficiency in accordance with University regulation.
- A personal statement of 2-3 double-spaced pages that discusses how you came to be interested in public administration, your career goals in public administration, and your previous academic, professional, and/or volunteer experiences relevant to the pursuit of an MPA degree at FGCU.
- A completed MPA Supplemental Application Form and two completed MPA Reference Rating Forms and/or letters of recommendation from persons qualified to judge your academic and professional potential. The individuals providing these should include assessments of your academic strengths, professional competence, and/or potential for success in a graduate Public Administration program. These forms can be downloaded here Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program Application Guidelines and Forms (<https://www.fgcu.edu/cas/departments/pspa/pubadminmpa/files/mpa-supplemental-application-materials-2022.pdf>).

For priority application review, FGCU's Office of Graduate Admissions must receive all required application materials by June 1 for Fall Semester admission or by October 1 for Spring Semester admission. The final deadlines for admission consideration (by which time all required application materials are due) are July 15 for Fall Semester admission or November 15 for Spring Semester admission.

Program Progression and Additional Graduation Requirements

- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required for all coursework in the M.P.A. program.
- Minimum grade of "B-" for each course used to satisfy requirements for M.P.A. required courses. Minimum grade of "C" for each elective course used to satisfy M.P.A. concentration requirements.
- Up to 15 credits earned by a student who has completed FGCU's Local Government Management Certificate or FGCU's Community Resilience Certificate can be applied to the M.P.A. degree. A grade of "B" or higher is required in a course for its credits to apply to the M.P.A. degree.
- Apply for graduation by the semester deadline indicated in the University calendar.
- Students must register for a minimum of one credit hour during the semester in which they apply for graduation.
- Earn more than 50% of the credit hours toward the degree through FGCU.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses in the Major		(24 credits)
PAD 6060	Intro to Public Administration	3
PAD 6101	Organizational Thry & Behavior	3
PAD 6227	Public Budgeting	3
PAD 6327	Sem in Program Plan & Evaluat	3

PAD 6365	Public Policy	3
PAD 6417	Public Personnel Admin	3
PAD 6708	Research Methods & Analysis	3
PAD 6940	Internship ¹	3
PAD 6961	Capstone Seminar	3

Concentration (12 credits)

Select one of the concentrations listed below: ²

Public Leadership and Management Concentration

Complete 12 credits of M.P.A. elective courses. At least 6 credits must be selected from the following list of electives. Up to 6 credits may be selected from the Community Resilience Concentration's list of electives.

PAD 5041	Administrative Ethics	3
PAD 5142	Management of Non-profit Org	3
PAD 5933	Proposal Writing & Grant Admin	3
PAD 6136	Public Mgmt in Political Env	3
PAD 6205	Public Finance	3
PAD 6335	Strategic Planning	3
PAD 6434	Administrative Leadership	3
PAD 6605	Administrative Law	3
PAD 6812	State & Local Politics & Admin	3
PAD 6826	Intergovernmental Admin	3
PAD 6908	Independent Study	1-3
PAD 6934	Special Topics	1-3

Community Resilience Concentration

PAD 6357	Community Resilience	3
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Complete 9 additional credits of M.P.A. elective courses. At least 6 credits must be selected from the following list of electives. Up to 3 credits may be selected from the Public Leadership and Management list of electives.

PAD 5185	Social Justice & Public Admin	3
PAD 5255	Community/Economic Development	3
PAD 5933	Proposal Writing & Grant Admin	3
PAD 6335	Strategic Planning	3
PAD 6353	Environmental Governance	3
PAD 6398	Emergency/Disaster Management	3
PAD 6710	Technology & Administration	3
PAD 6826	Intergovernmental Admin	3
URP 5312	Growth Mgmt & Comp. Planning	3

¹ Course can be waived for students with one year or more of professional experience, as determined by the MPA Admissions Committee.

² Students are required to declare a concentration when applying for admission to the M.P.A. program. If no concentration is declared when applying to the program, the Public Leadership and Management Concentration is assigned.

Note: Courses outside of those listed above may be substituted on a case-by-case basis, with approval by the Department of Political Science, Public Administration, and History Chair.

Total Credits Required: 36