PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION (PPA)

College of Business and Public Management

Courses

PPA 500. Foundations of Public Service. 3 Credits.
Introduces students to the practice and discipline of public administration. Core functions of the field are surveyed including: organization theory, public personnel administration, and budgeting and finance.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 501. Research Methods in Public Administration. 3 Credits.
Application of the logic of scientific methodology and research design construction to the practice and discipline of public administration. Emphasizes hypothesis development and testing, data collection, measurement problems, and theory application.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 502. Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the practice of policy analysis and program evaluation. Emphasis is placed on the applied nature of both. Students are introduced to both the qualitative and quantitative methods of evaluation.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 503. Public Budgeting & Finance. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the principles and procedures of public budgeting and finance. Emphasis is placed on the budgeting process.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 504. Public Human Resource Management. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to human resource management in the public and non-profit sectors. Topics include: federal and state employment laws, job analysis, recruitment and selection, performance evaluation, compensation and benefits, training and development, labor-management relations and human resource information technology.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 505. Public Sector Organization Theory. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the study of organization theory within the context of the public sector. Issues of organization design and effectiveness are explored. Schools of thought include: classical, neoclassical, human resources, modern structural, organizational culture and open systems theory.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 506. Foundations in Nonprofit Administration. 3 Credits.
Introduces students to the practice of nonprofit administration. Core functions of the field are surveyed including: financial and organizational management, role of boards, and strategic planning.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer.

PPA 510. Topics in Public Administration. 3 Credits.
Intensive study of selected topics in public administration current to the interest and needs of students.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall, Spring & Summer. Repeatable for Credit.

PPA 511. Technologies for Public Administrators. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the technologies of public policy and administration. Topics include: e-government (web based service delivery), computer software and networks, geographic information systems, and web presence.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

PPA 512. Communications for Public Administrators. 3 Credits.
Development of communication skills for the effective writing of letters, memos, reports, and proposals. The course will survey communication issues specific to public and nonprofit management.

PPA 513. Law for Public Administrators. 3 Credits.
A survey of the legal environment of public administration. Topics include: the development of and trends in administrative law, including the rights, duties and liabilities of public officials.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 514. American Public Policy. 3 Credits.
Survey of literature; examination of approaches; discussion of concepts and issues in the field of American politics and policy processes.

PPA 515. Social Equity and Public Administration. 3 Credits.
This course examines the role of social equity and diversity in public policy and administration, focusing primarily on gender, race, and ethnicity. Emphasis will be placed on the history of the struggle for legal equality and the current forces of institutional discrimination that still exist. Students will also learn strategies for how public managers can embrace diversity in their organizations and create a climate of cultural inclusiveness for the workforce as well as for citizens.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

PPA 530. Topics in Nonprofit Administration. 3 Credits.
Intensive study of selected topics in nonprofit administration that are current to the interests and needs of students.
Repeatable for Credit.

PPA 532. Grant Writing. 3 Credits.
Art of grant writing via proposal development processes. Targeting proposals to public, private and nonprofit agencies.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Summer.

PPA 533. Nonprofit Fundraising Essentials. 3 Credits.
This course emphasizes the concepts and tools necessary for understanding the fundraising process. Topics include relationship building, the solicitation process, specific fundraising strategies, and ethical considerations.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 534. Nonprofit Program Evaluation and Assessment. 3 Credits.
Examines performance measurement and outcomes assessment as they relate to managing nonprofit organizations. An emphasis will be placed on the process of assessment and closing the loop by incorporating assessment outcomes into decision making and planning.

PPA 535. Strategic Management for Non Profit Organizations. 3 Credits.
This course is an advanced management course in the Nonprofit Concentration of the MPA degree program, and is designed to prepare students for a career in executive management in public sector organizations. The course examines the overall concepts of management and strategy in the nonprofit and government settings, and the role of board and executive leadership in providing strategic direction for the organization. The course examines topics of special importance in the governance and strategic management of public sector organizations, including organization development, board leadership, strategic planning, human resource management, organizational performance and effectiveness, and marketing.

PPA 550. Topics in HR Management. 3 Credits.
Intensive study of selected topics in human resource management that are current to the interests and needs of students.
Repeatable for Credit.

PPA 551. Staffing and Development. 3 Credits.
Examines all legal and regulatory factors affecting staff selection and development. Includes all applicable federal laws and practices as well as employee orientation, training, and development.
Distance education offering may be available.

PPA 552. Employee Relations. 3 Credits.
Emphasizes employee relationships with management, particularly in a nonunion environment. Covers issues such as policy formulation, complaint systems, employee rights, methodology of performance appraisals, employee morale and motivation, and factors affecting employee health, safety, and security.
Distance education offering may be available.
Typically offered in Spring.

PPA 553. Labor Relations. 3 Credits.
Analyses labor-management relationships, particularly with respect to federal laws and regulations, administration of labor contracts, mediation, and arbitration processes. Incorporates all legal aspects of collective bargaining as well as related practices, and strategies of negotiation, unfair labor practices, and the management of organization, union relations.
Distance education offering may be available.
PPA 554. Compensation Analysis and Benefits Planning. 3 Credits.
Examines the legal and regulatory factors affecting compensation and benefit administration within the public and nonprofit sectors. Reviews compensation philosophies and economic factors affecting pay plans, as well as the type and characteristics of specific compensation and benefit programs.

PPA 600. Capstone Seminar in Public Administration. 3 Credits.
This course integrates knowledge from the curriculum and uses it to demonstrate mastery of required competencies to complete a capstone portfolio. Students will also submit their required competencies assessment portfolio. Repeatable for Credit.

PPA 601. Public Policy and Administration Internship. 3-6 Credits.
Intensive field placement in a public sector or nonprofit organization through faculty guidance and supervision. Students will be required to complete a project as part of their internship. Repeatable for Credit.

PPA 602. Professional Seminar in Public Administration. 3 Credits.
A course designed to provide students with an equivalent experience to that of an internship in the public sector. Students will interact with practicing public administrators and non-profit professionals on a weekly basis and engage in assigned readings of case studies focused on the practice of public administrations. Students are required to spend an intensive two to three day period of time with a selected public sector or nonprofit organization. Lastly, as a class, students will complete a public service project over the course of a semester. Students are strongly encouraged to take the internship and enrollment in this course requires the permission the program director.