

The Humphrey School's Master of Public Policy degree program is one of the best in the country, attracting students who are committed to public service at the local, state, national, and international levels. Preparing future leaders to advance the common good in a diverse world is at the core of this program, which equips students to design, manage, and advocate for better policy solutions.

The MPP program brings together political science, economics, statistics, management, and other social science disciplines to shape policies and programs around the globe. With outstanding research and academic credentials, our world-class faculty members also offer real-world policy experience and connections.

If you want to develop keen analytical and critical thinking skills that contribute to your marketable expertise and help you engage in public policy anywhere in the world, the MPP is right for you.

DEGREE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Builds on all academic backgrounds, helping students develop the knowledge and skills to work anywhere in the world

Teaches the tools to shape policies and programs at the local, national, and international levels through a truly interdisciplinary degree program

Develops skills in using quantitative and qualitative data to develop, assess, and evaluate alternative approaches to current and emerging issues

Provides a framework to explore the inequalities in society

Offers a professional network of colleagues, faculty members, and mentors who are positioned in policy fields all over the globe

Offers the flexibility to tailor your degree to meet specific career objectives and goal





"The Twin Cities offer a vibrant range of organizations where Humphrey faculty members can engage in public policy issues and where Humphrey students can apply their theoretical knowledge to actual experiences."

Jodi Sandfort, associate professor

POSITIONS HELD BY MPP GRADUATES

Career options span a variety of public service fields, all levels of government, nonprofit organizations and NGOs, and the private sector.

DEPUTY MISSION DIRECTOR

USAID/West Africa, Ghana

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

Fund for Global Human Rights, Thailand

FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICER

U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Congressional Relations, U.S. Government Accountability Office

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Minnesota House of Representatives

PRESIDENT

Minnesota Council on Foundations

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

National MS Association, Chicago

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PLANNING

Research, and Communications, St. John's University, Minnesota

PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, South Dakota, and North Dakota

LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR

State of Minnesota

DUAL DEGREE OFFERINGS

- MPP/JD, Law School
- MPP/MBA, Carlson School of Management
- MPP/MPH. School of Public Health
- MPP/MSW, School of Social Work

CONCENTRATIONS

In consultation with faculty members and advisers, you will develop a concentration that encompasses the skills and theoretical background necessary to achieve your career goals. Some common areas of concentration may include but are not limited to:

- Advanced policy analysis methods
- Economic and community development
- Global public policy
- Public and nonprofit leadership and management
- Science, technology, and environmental policy
- Social policy
- Women and public policy

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

- Management of Organizations
- Politics of Public Affairs
- Economics for Policy Analysis and Planning I
- Economics for Policy Analysis and Planning II
- Empirical Analysis I
- Introduction to Policy Analysis
- Introduction to Financial Analysis and Management

PLUS EITHER:

- Regression Analysis or
- Regression Analysis, Accelerated

AND EITHER:

- Multivariate Techniques or
- Qualitative Methods for Policy Analysts

REQUIREMENTS

- 45 semester credits, including 23–25 credits of required core courses and a course to fulfill the professional paper requirement. The remaining credits can be tailored to your specific area of interest within public policy.
- A professional paper drawing on your coursework serves as a synthesizing and culminating experience for the degree. You can choose to do an individual paper on a topic of your choice or engage in a team-based Capstone project.
- 400-hour internship (approximately 10 hours per week) in a professional setting related to your academic studies. Typically, students complete their internships after the first year of the program.

PREREQUISITES

While no specific experience or academic pathway is required, students with a strong liberal education background and sound quantitative and analytical skills will be best prepared for academic success at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Previous coursework in mathematics, statistics, and economics is recommended. Past applicants needing to strengthen this part of their skill set have found courses in introductory microeconomics, college algebra, and introductory statistics to be helpful preparation.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

- Résumé
- Personal statement
- College transcripts
- GRE scores
- Three letters of recommendation
- TOEFL/IELTS scores (required for most non-native English speakers)

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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