

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Graduate Program Handbook - 2023/24

Master of Public Policy

Reference this handbook to learn about the unique policies, requirements, procedures, resources, and norms for graduate students in the Public Policy Master Program



College of Community Innovation and Education • School of Public Administration • 05/06/2022

Master of Public Policy Program Director Welcome



Congratulations on your admission to the Master of Public Policy (MPP), and welcome to UCF's School of Public Administration. I am Professor Abdul-Akeem Sadiq, the program director for the MPP program.

This handbook has been developed to provide the information that you will need regarding the specific policies and procedures in the Master of Public Policy. It is expected that you familiarize yourself with the contents of this handbook and adhere to the policies described herein. This handbook does not substitute for other documents provided by the College of Community Innovation and Education (CCIE) and/or the University of Central Florida (UCF). Some important reminders are listed below:

The official mode of communication used by faculty and staff to contact students is e-mail. Students are required to create a Knights email account. Students are responsible and will be held accountable for all information disseminated by email. This will be the only email address to which the program or university will send official information. It is mandatory, per UCF policy, that you take at least one class in your admission semester, otherwise your admission is revoked.

The School of Public Administration is located on the fourth floor of the Doctor Philips Academic Commons Building (DPAC), Suite 440 located at UCF Downtown Campus.

We are delighted to have you as part of the Master of Public Policy and look forward to working with you over the coming years.

Sincerely,

Abdul-Akeem Sadiq, Ph.D.

Professor

Director of Master of Public Administration & Master of Public Policy

Chair, ASPA Section on Emergency and Crisis Management

Past co-chair, NASPAA Section on Emergency Management and Homeland Security

School of Public Administration

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Navigating Policy and Resources at the University of Central Florida

This handbook is one of many sources to consult as you become familiar with the policies, procedures, requirements, resources, and norms of graduate education at the University of Central Florida.



How to Use This Handbook

This handbook has been developed to provide the information that you will need regarding the specific policies and procedures in the Master of Public Policy (MPP) program. It is expected that you familiarize yourself with the contents of this handbook and adhere to the policies described herein. This handbook does not substitute for other documents provided by the College of Community Innovation and Education (CCIE) and/or the University of Central Florida (UCF).

Who to Contact for Questions

Many of your questions about how to meet expectations and thrive as a graduate student will be answered by the various sources of policies, procedures, requirements, resources, and norms listed in this document.

Students are welcome and encouraged to meet with their Program Director and Academic Adviser when they have questions or concerns regarding their program of study, courses, or other issues that may affect their educational goals.

Academic Program Coordinator and Adviser (interim)

Edlira Dursun, the Academic Program Coordinator, will be your first stop for questions related to your progress in completing your degree, assisting with course selection, and planning your academic path, Plan of Study.

Feel free to contact her at edlira.dursun@ucf.edu and/or (407) 823 1139. Office located in DPAC, Rm. 446B.

Program Director

MPP Program Director – Dr. Abdul-Akeem Sadiq is designated to lead the program educational vision and structure. Feel free to contact him at abdul-akeem.sadiq@ucf.edu and or (407) 823 3925. Office located in DPAC, Rm. 448Q.

School Director

School Director – Dr. Doug Goodman DPAC Rm. 448T <u>Doug.goodman@ucf.edu</u>

Onboarding

Accept your program

Before registering for courses, all new admitted students need to accept the program. Go to MyUCF portal, the online student's recourse for all personal records, academic history and financial aid information. It is accessible from any device with a connection to the internet. To find your NID, click on "What is my NID?" on the right side of the sign in page. Follow the prompts to get your NID if you do not know it already.

Instructions

- 1. In the upper right-hand corner, in the myUCF Menu box, click "Student Self Service." If the address menu appears, verify your email and valid addresses and click "OK."
- 2. To accept/decline your admission, from the Student Center main page, scroll down to the Graduate Students section.
- 3. Click "Accept/Decline Admission."
- 4. Select the program you would like to accept or decline admission to by clicking on the accept/decline link to the right on each application.
- 1. Select either the "I Accept Admission" or "I Decline Admission "button to indicateyour choice. You will then be asked to confirm your selection. Select the "Previous" button if you do not wish to select at this time.

Accepting Admissions

After you have accepted your admissions offer, it takes approximately one to two business days for the database to complete its processes and a registration appointment time to be generated. Appointment times are only generated after class schedules are posted. The appointment time is the date and time you are eligible to enroll in classes through your myUCF portal.

Please be sure to inquire with your department directly to verify if there is a deadline they have set for you to accept or decline your admissions offer. In addition, follow up with them once your admissions offer is accepted to confirm if there is a mandatory orientation through your department that you must attend.

First semester enrollment

It is mandatory, per UCF policy, that you take at least one class in your admission semester, otherwise your admission is revoked.

Using MyUCF Portal and Student Center

The myUCF portal is an online student's No. 1 resource for all personal records, academic history, and financial aid information. It is accessible from anywhere, from any device with a connection to the Internet following the steps below. Navigate to my.ucf.edu. Click the Sign On button at the top left of the page.

Login with your NID and NID password.

UCF ID and NID

UCFID is your primary identification within the UCF system used to access online registration, class schedule searches, adding or dropping classes, viewing your grades and fee schedules.

NID is your Network Identification Number used to access MYUCF Portal.

To obtain your UCF ID, go to myUCF, log in using your NID and password, click Student Self Service > Personal Information >UCF ID Info. This page will display your UCF ID, your NID and your UCF ID Card number, once you have been issued one.

For more information on UCFID & NID, please go to https://infosec.ucf.edu/identity-management/identity-details/

Immunizations

All students, even distance-learning students, are responsible for complying with UCF's Immunization Policy. Students who have not completed UCF Health Services' requirements will have a hold that will prevent registration. You may access the immunization information and forms at Forms • Student Health Services • UCF

Non-resident students living outside of the state of Florida may contact the UCF Health Center to request a waiver of this requirement. If approved, the waiver must be renewed each semester. Contact them at 407-823-3707 or visit: https://studenthealth.ucf.edu/

E-Mail

The official mode of communication used by faculty and staff to contact students is e-mail. Students are required to create a Knights email account. Students are responsible and will be held accountable for all information disseminated by email. This will be the only email address to which the program or university will send official information.

To set up your account go to https://knightsemail.ucf.edu/

Introduction/Overview Section

Complete Name of Degree

Master of Public Policy

College

College of Community Innovation and Education

Department

School of Public Administration

Program Type

Master

Program Website

https://ccie.ucf.edu/public-administration/public-policy/master-public-policy/

Year of Program Inception

The Master of Public Policy was established in 2020.

Program Overview Narrative

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) program engages students interested in a range of policy areas, including urban policy, environment, transportation, economic development, international policy, disaster policy and homeland security. This program emphasizes policy research, evaluation, and evidence-based decision-making in a collaborative environment.

Students will enhance and sharpen their knowledge and skills through the development of various core competencies: public policy and governance; economic principles; research methods and tools; policy and program analysis and evaluation; organization management and network analysis; public leadership and the decision-making process; and specific courses dedicated to unique topics within policy research. This program is an Page 6 of 38

ideal fit for students seeking an interdisciplinary approach to face today's policy challenges.

Mission

The Master of Public Policy program will prepare students, using an evidence-based public policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation framework for professional careers as policy analysts and leaders in public policy at all levels of government, in the private and nonprofit sectors, and international organizations. Our MPP graduates will address the most pressing complex social and policy issues faced in the country and around the globe.

Master of Public Policy Goals

The MPP program has identified several goals aiming to increase student success and the program community impact.

- Strengthen overall student experience
- Engage in collaborative partnerships
- Increase community impact
- Increase financial resources of the public policy program
- Ensure curriculum thoroughly addresses current issues and integrates innovation in learning

Program Accreditation/Certification

The Master of Public Policy is not accredited yet as the program was established only in 2020.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies

Students will enhance and practice their knowledge and skills through the development of various core competencies including public policy and governance, law and economic principles, research methods and tools, program analysis and evaluation, organization management and network analysis, public leadership and decision-making process and specific courses dedicated to unique topics within public policy.

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) will prepare students for professional careers as policy analysts and leaders in public policy at all levels of government, in the private and nonprofit sectors, and international organizations, using an evidence-based public policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation framework.

Academic Integrity

We value honesty, integrity, and responsibility in the MPP program. Cheating, plagiarism, and other types of academic dishonesty will be referred to the University for appropriate sanctions. Professors have the right to fail a student that they believe has been involved in any aspect of academic misconduct. A full discussion of students' rights and responsibilities on this issue can be found in the Golden Rule at http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu.

Students are expected to read the Golden Rule prior to starting the program to ensure that they understand and will not be involved in any aspect of academic dishonesty. Students should also refer to the UCF Graduate Catalog, as they will be responsible for following all policies from Graduate Studies as well as those of the University.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, plagiarizing materials, using information from notes, books, or the internet during on-line exams, or working with other students in classroom or on-line exams to secure information or answers. When in doubt, ask before you assume that you can work with other student(s) on exams or projects, or use information from other sources. APA citation is required for all information taken from an outside source (including the internet, books, journals, articles, and published and non-published materials).

Students found in violation of academic integrity as it pertains to cheating may be dismissed from the MPP program at the discretion of the MPP Program Director.

Program Professional Conduct/Ethics Statement

The MPP program celebrate the diversity of our students, faculty, and staff. It is expected that all students, faculty, and staff conduct themselves in a professional manner while in the program.

Students are expected to adhere to the rules and regulations as stipulated by the University of Central Florida and the MPP Program handbook. Professionalism encompasses behaviors and qualities that are expected of graduate students in both the

academic setting and in the practical world. Professionalism in the MPP program begins at the time of program application; therefore, professional conduct is assessed from that point forward.

Attendance, timeliness, and attire are all reflections of professionalism. In the assessment of professionalism, instructors and program administrators will consider each student's conduct; the quality of interactions; tone of oral and written communication; language; meaningful engagement in all aspects of the program; and substantive contribution to class discussions. Students who are in violation of these behaviors will be counseled and reminded of MPP/CCIE/UCF expectations. In such events, the faculty or program administrators may conclude that the student is not able or willing to demonstrate an acceptable standard of professionalism. Repeated disregard or violation of these behaviors will lead to dismissal from the program. Some of the criteria by which a student's professional demeanor is measured are below.

- a. <u>Knowing and following the rules</u>: Adherence to the rules and regulations as stipulated by UCF and the PAF program.
- b. <u>Timeliness</u>: Students are expected to regularly arrive in class on time and to comply with each instructor's tardiness policy as stated in the course syllabus. Students are also expected to meet all deadlines in class and in the program.
- c. <u>Attendance</u>: It is required for students to attend each lecture and comply with the instructor's attendance policy as stated in the course syllabus.
- d. <u>Civility</u>: Students are expected to behave in a respectful and courteous manner to instructors, fellow students, guest speakers, college, and university administrators, PAF staff, and other UCF Staff. Examples of respectful behavior include but are not limited to modulated tone of voice; professional language that avoids inappropriate, vulgar, or foul expressions; maintaining control of emotions and avoiding threatening or bullying behaviors; respect for others' personal space; respect for SPA and affiliated faculty and staff as well as UCF property; refraining from distracting and disruptive behaviors while on campus, in hallways, and in classrooms; and a generally civil demeanor
- e. <u>Respectfulness</u>: Being respectful and courteous to others is central to creating a learning environment where individuals can comfortably express ideas.
- f. Guest Speakers / Presentations: The PAF Program often invites guest speakers from the local community. Students in the program must demonstrate professional conduct, respect, and appreciation for these professionals' donation of their time to enrich students' educational experiences. Students are expected to arrive to class on time and be attentive as a sign of appreciation for their time. Professional attire and conduct are required when guest speakers are present.

- g. <u>Class participation:</u> Students are encouraged to ask questions at appropriate times to expand their knowledge of the material. Pertinent student-to-student interaction is considered a valuable part of the learning process, and appropriate articulation of critical-thinking during class time will be viewed as efforts to develop deeper understanding of the materials.
- h. <u>Electronic devices:</u> Use of cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices is determined by the instructor.
- i. <u>Use of Electronic Media</u>: As per Florida Law (§ 934.03) it is illegal to audio or video record any interaction with another individual without their explicit consent. This includes lectures, meetings with instructors, meetings with fellow students, or any situation involving program staff or UCF personnel.
- j. <u>Appropriate behavior:</u> Appropriate non-distracting behavior while on campus, in hallways and in classrooms is expected of all students.
- k. <u>Honesty:</u> Honesty and veracity are expected of all students in terms of both how they conduct themselves and approach their work.
- Demonstrating interest: Exhibiting interest in understanding and growing the knowledge base in the discipline is critical.
- m. Accepting constructive criticism: Students are expected to accept constructive criticisms offered by instructors and others in an appropriate manner.
- n. <u>Practicing the ethical principles guiding the MPP program</u>: These include:
 - Beneficence or Doing Good
 - Justice or Fairness
 - Integrity or Honesty
 - Respect or Inclusiveness

Safety and Security

While UCF is as safe as any college campus, students should always be concerned for their personal safety and security. University police can be reached by dialing 911 in an emergency and 3-5555 (on-campus phones) / 407-823-5555 for all other matters. Students may call the university escort service to be escorted to their vehicle.

Students should always keep personal effects with them and should not leave any personal items in a hallway or conference room. If unfamiliar or suspicious persons are seen in the building, students should not confront them, but instead should contact faculty, staff, or campus police immediately.

The University of Central Florida and the College of Community Innovation and Education are dedicated to the development of skills that relate to the career goals of students. A graduate student's professional development goes beyond completing course work, passing exams, conducting research for a thesis or dissertation, and meeting degree requirements. Professional development also involves developing the academic and non-academic skills needed to become successful in the field of choice. Students should speak with regularly with their faculty members for guidance in their professional development.

Curriculum Section

Admission Requirements

For information on general UCF graduate admissions requirements that apply to all prospective students, please visit the Admissions section of the Graduate Catalog.

Applicants must apply online. All requested materials must be submitted by the established deadline.

In addition to UCF's Admission Standards, the program requires applicants to meet the following requirements:

- One official transcript (in a sealed envelope) from each college/university attended for both bachelor's and master's degrees showing a GPA of 30 or better in both degrees.
- The GRE is not required for admission to this program for Fall 2023 applicants.
- Three letters of recommendation specifically for the MPP program evaluating scholarly and professional capacity. Letters from professors from the colleges/universities attended are preferred, but if that is not feasible, letters from current or past supervisors will be accepted. The recommender must address the applicant's work ethic and ability to succeed at graduate-level academic work.
- Current professional résumé including public service experience (paid or voluntary)
- Goal Statement: The goal statement is a key component of the admission review process and serves as an example of the applicant's ability to express himself or herself in writing.
- Applicants applying to this program who have attended a college/university outside
 the United States must provide a course-by-course credential evaluation with GPA
 calculation. Credential evaluations are accepted from World Education Services
 (WES) or Josef Silny and Associates, Inc. only.
- All international students must meet university minimum TOEFL score requirements regardless of the language in which the undergraduate program was completed.

A limited number of students who do not meet the GPA requirements may be admitted on a provisional basis. These students must demonstrate public policy or public administration experience and provide a clear goal statement.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) is primarily a face-to-face, campus-based program, designed to prepare students for professional careers as policy analysts, policy evaluators, and leaders in the public sector. Students will learn and apply evidence-based public policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation framework in a range of policy domains including urban policy, environmental policy, educational policy, health policy,

transportation policy, economic development policy, immigration policy, disaster policy, homeland security policy, science and technology policy, criminal justice policy, and international/global policy. The MPP will serve as a platform to adequately prepare students for doctoral studies in public administration.

Students will enhance and practice their knowledge and skills through the development of various core competencies including public policy and governance, law and economic principles, research methods and tools, program analysis and evaluation, organization management and network analysis, public leadership and decision-making process and specific courses dedicated to unique topics within public policy.

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) consists of 36 credit hours.

The face-to-face courses are offered in the evenings during the week at the UCF Downtown campus. The MPP program incorporates group projects in courses intended to develop leadership abilities while also providing an opportunity to demonstrate how students work as part of a team in most courses. These projects promote important intellectual and social skills and help to prepare students for work in a world in which teamwork and collaboration are increasingly the norms.

Total Credit Hours Required: 36 Credit Hours Minimum beyond the bachelor's degree

Required Core Courses – 18 Total Credits

- PAD6700 Research Methods in Public Administration
- PAD6701 Analytical Techniques for Public Administration
- PAD6035 Public Administration in the Policy Process
- PAD6307 Public Policy Analysis and Management
- PAD6327 Public Program Evaluation Techniques
- PAD6616 Economic Principles for Public Policy and Management

Policy Analysis Capstone PAD 6848- 3Total Credits

Students will engage in a capstone experience that builds upon the knowledge and skills gained from completing the core courses in the MPP program. Students will complete this requirement through enrollment in PAD 6848 - Policy Analysis Capstone. The Capstone Experience course is offered in fall and spring semesters only and may be taken following the completion of all core courses. It may not be combined with a core course in the same semester.

Electives - 9Total Credits. Complete at least 3 of the following:

- PAD5337 Urban Design
- PAD6234 Public Capital and Debt

- PAD6037 Public Organization Management
- PAD6036 Change Management in Public Organizations
- PAD6053 Public Administrators in the Governance Process
- PAD6227 Public Budgeting
- PAD6238 Revenue Policy and Administration
- PAD6260 Fundamentals of Public Sector Accounting
- PAD6335 Strategic Planning and Management
- PAD6439 Leadership in Public Service

Policy Specialization Electives- 6 Total Credits

Select from the following courses or courses otherwise approved by the Program Director (3 Credit Hours each).

Students take two policy specialization courses to focus on a specific policy domain, including but not limited to Urban Policy, Economic Development Policy, Environmental and Energy Policy, Transportation Policy, Education Policy, Health Policy, Science and Technology Policy, Disaster Policy, and Criminal Justice Policy.

Complete at least 2 of the following:

- PAD5337 Urban Design
- PAD5356 Managing Community and Economic Development
- CCJ6106 Policy Analysis in Criminal Justice
- CCJ6485 Issues in Justice Policy
- PAD6339 Housing Development and Planning
- PAD6353 Environmental Planning and Policy
- PAD6387 Transportation Policy
- PAD6398 Hazard Analysis and Disaster Planning
- PAD6399 Foundations of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- PHC6146 Health Planning and Policy
- PAD6357 Urban Resilience
- PAD5930 Global Cities
- PAD6036 Change Management in Public Organizations
- PAD6826 Urban Policy and Regional Governance

Three-term Registration

In March of each year, all graduate students are allowed to register for the summer, the fall, and the following spring semesters.

Click into your "Enrollment Appointment" box to view the semesters that you can enroll in and the days and times you can begin enrollment. Once enrollment is open, register for

the summer term first, then the Fall term, and then the Spring term. This will help you meet any requirements needed for the later term.

Tuition Waivers

To meet the space-available registration for the tuition waiver, UCF and State Employees must begin the registration at the designated date and time. Registration prior to the prescribed date and time for a term invalidates the tuition waiver. The registration date and time is typically the last Friday before the term begins that following Monday. The date can be found on the Academic Calendar each term.

You need to submit the tuition waiver form to saswaivers@ucf.edu. Additional information is available at: http://studentaccounts.ucf.edu/waivers/.

Intent to Graduate

You should file your Intent to Graduate form online through your my.ucf.edu. You can access the Intent to Graduate form by going into your myUCF portal/ selecting the Student Self Service link/ then selecting the "other academic..." drop down box/ and clicking on Intent to Graduate: Apply. If the Intent to Graduate is filed after the deadline, you cannot participate in the commencement ceremony.

Plan of study

Students who have not completed their Plan of Study by the end of the first semester will have a hold that will prevent registration for classes. You should work with your academic advisor to complete the Program of Study using your best estimate of when you will complete the courses. Most of the program core (required) courses are offered in the fall and spring semesters. Students are advised to use this semester for elective classes. Please do not rely on summer classes to complete your program.

Find below the template of the Plan of Study that must be completed with your academic adviser. The Plan of Study will serve as a roadmap for your graduation timeline and help you complete the three term-registration.



MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY – PLAN OF STUDY

STUDENT and PROGRAM INFORMATION					
Name (last, first, MI):		PID:			
Term Admitted:		Catalog Year			
College:	College of Community Innovation and Education	Degree program:	MPP		
Program Director:	Dr. Abdul-Akeem Sadiq	Credit Hours:	36		

		REQUIRED CORE COURSES – 18 CREDI	T HOURS		
Prefix	Number	Title	Term/Yr	Grade	Hours
PAD	6700	Research Methods for Public			03
		Administration			
PAD	6035	Public Administration in the Policy Process			03
PAD	6616	Economic Principles for Public Policy &			03
		Management			
PAD	6327	Public Program Evaluation Techniques			03
PAD	6307	Public Policy Analysis & Management			03
PAD	6701	Analytic Techniques for Public			03
		Administration			
		REQUIRED CAPSTONE COURSE – 3 CREE	OIT HOURS		
PAD	6848	Policy Analysis Capstone			03
		POLICY SPECIALIZATION ELECTIVES – 6 CR	EDIT HOURS		
Prefix	Number	Title	Term/Yr	Grade	Hours
PAD					03
PAD					03
		GENERAL ELECTIVES – 9 CREDIT HO	OURS		
Prefix	Number	Title	Term/Yr	Grade	Hours
PAD					03
PAD					03
					03

Policy Specialization Elective Options (Select 2 from the list below)

- PAD 5337 Urban Design
- PAD 5356 Managing Community and Economic Development
- PAD 6339 Housing Development and Planning
- PAD 6387 Transportation Policy
- PAD 6398 Hazard Analysis and Disaster Planning
- PAD 6399 Foundations of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- URP 6711 Sustainable Transportation Planning
- CCJ 6485 Issues in Justice Policy
- CCJ 6106 Policy Analysis in Criminal Justice
- EDG 6223 Curriculum Theory, Organization, and Policy
- PHC 6146 Health Planning and Policy
- HSA 6155 Health Economics and Policy

General Elective Options (Select 3 from the list below)

- PAD 6036 Change Management in Public Organizations
- PAD 6037 Public Organization Management
- PAD 6053 Public Administrators in the Governance Process
- PAD 6207 Public Financial Management
- PAD 6227 Public Budgeting
- PAD 6234 Public Capital and Debt
- PAD 6237 Ethics and Governance in Nonprofit Management
- PAD 6238 Revenue Policy and Administration
- PAD 6260 Fundamentals of Public Sector Accounting
- PAD 6335 Strategic Planning and Management
- PAD 6439 Leadership in Public Service
- PAD 6705 Public Sector Communications
- PAD 6829 Network Analysis in Public Policy and Management
- PAD 6946 Internship
- PUP 6007 Public Policy Analysis

With the submission of this plan of study, I understand that:

- It is my responsibility to keep informed of all rules, regulations, and procedures required for graduate studies. Graduate program regulations will not be waived or exceptions granted because students plead no knowledge of the regulations or claim failure of the advisor to keep them informed.
- The UCF Graduate Catalog is the university's official record of graduate policies. In any case where this document and the Graduate Catalog appear to disagree, the Graduate Catalog is the final authority.
- The Intent to Graduate form is located in the drop-down menu box in the MyUCF Student Center and should be filed in the beginning of the graduating semester. It is strongly advised that students see an advisor to make sure the plan of study has been completed before filing the ITG.

Student Signature: Da	ate:
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Graduate Student Internship Program Overview

INTERNSHIPS

While enrolled in the MPP, students can select to complete an internship in community agencies or public organizations to substitute one of their elective courses. The internship plays a key role in teaching practice behaviors to students while measuring and reflecting the student's ability to demonstrate capacity in field. Internships helps student gain skills to apply learned theory to practice in the field.

Student Service-Learning contract provide a broad framework for developing an individualized learning plan that is responsive to the needs of the student and the resources of the selected agency. It is designed to give direction and learning structure to the internship experience.

While serving as an intern, students are expected to abide by the policies in line with professional conduct. Appropriate behavior refers to the following:

- Civility
- Respectfulness
- Timeliness
- Attendance
- Appropriate Attire

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course is designed to introduce, teach, or reinforce one or more of the adapted National Association of Schools of Public Administration (NASPAA) universal required competencies:

- The ability to lead and manage in public and nonprofit governance;
- The ability to participate in and contribute to the policy process;
- The ability to analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems, and make decisions;
- The ability to articulate and apply the service perspective;
- The ability to communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Internships are a graduate level general elective. Students may take this for up to three credit hours at 300 hours of internship
- Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Have successfully completed six (6) credit hours of graduate level public administration coursework

REGISTRATION PROCESS

- Students who have arranged internships by their own efforts must seek approval prior to beginning the internship. To gain approval students must:
- Contact the Director of Internship, Daniel Seigler at Daniel.Seigler@ucf.edu with their name and PID, for enrollment into the Internship Orientation course.
- Students should begin their search for an internship the semester prior. Students
 who do not receive approval run the risk of not receiving academic credit for their
 internship.
- Activate your account on Handshake (http://csel.ucf.edu/) to view the current listing of available internships.
- The student and host site must complete the required documents, Learning Agreement and Confirmation of Placement.
- Once forms are received, the student will be assigned a permission number by the experiential learning coordinator. This number will allow you to self-enroll into the PAD 6946 Internship Course. Students must ensure that the class is confirmed on their schedule.

Students should meet with an academic advisor prior to enrolling in an internship to ensure the course is a part of their individualized plan of study.

For more information, please send an email to: Marcus Williams at marcus.williams@ucf.edu..

Program and Institutional Policies

Absences

Students who anticipate that they may not be able to enroll continuously due to external circumstances should apply for <u>Special Leave of Absence</u>. Specifically, students who are taking courses should apply for a Special Leave of Absence when they cannot enroll in more than two consecutive semesters. Students who are in thesis/dissertation hours should apply for a Special Leave of Absence when they cannot enroll in every semester (including summer).

To qualify for a Special Leave of Absence, the student must demonstrate good cause (e.g., illness, family issues, financial difficulties, personal circumstances, recent maternity/paternity, employment issues). The specific reason for the Leave of Absence request must be indicated by the student on the <u>Leave of Absence Form</u>. Due to current U.S. government regulations, international students must be enrolled every fall and spring semester. For students in this category, a Special Leave of Absence is only available for documented medical reasons.

Academic Standards/Conduct/Integrity

Students should review the Golden Rule Student Handbook for information on conduct regulations and related procedures and resources. Published annually by the Office of Student Conduct, the Golden Rule Student Handbook describes university standards for students regarding their conduct in the university community and their rights and responsibilities. And in particular, for graduate students, Appeals of Graduate Program Actions or Decisions (Regulation UCF-5.017) outlines academic performance and grievance procedures.

Accommodations

UCF admits a diverse graduate student population. Some of those students may need an (or a variety) of accommodations to help them be successful in the program. Please refer to the Student Accessibility Services for more information on how to approach accommodations for UCF students: https://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/accommodations/

Appeals/Grievances

There will be instances where students will not agree with an assessment related to their development or progress in a program. In these instances, it is essential that students understand the proper course of action to come to a resolution. Please refer to the Academic Grievance section under General Graduate Policies in the graduate catalog.

Student Responsibility for University Communication

UCF uses email as the official means of notifying students of important university business and academic information concerning registration, deadlines, financial assistance, scholarships, student accounts (including tuition and fees), academic progress and problems, and many other critical items for satisfactory completion of a UCF degree program. The university sends all business-related and academic messages to a student's Knights Email address to ensure that there is one repository for that information. Every student must register for and maintain a Knights Email account at https://extranet.cst.ucf.edu/kmailselfsvc and check it regularly to avoid missing important and critical information from the university. Any difficulty with establishing an account or with accessing an established account must be resolved through the UCF Computer Services Service Desk so that a student receives all important messages.

Additionally, each student must have an up-to-date emergency e-mail address and cell phone number by which to be reached in case of a crisis on campus. This emergency contact information will be used only for emergency purposes. Also, both permanent and local mailing addresses must be on the record, so that any physical documents that must be mailed can be delivered.

It is critical that students maintain and regularly check their Knights Email account for official announcements and notifications. Communications sent to the Knights Email address on record will be deemed adequate notice for all university communication, include issues related to academics, finances, registration, parking, and all other matters. The University does not accept responsibility if official communication fails to reach a student who has not registered for, or maintained and checked on a regular basis, their Knights Email account. Please ensure that this information is current and that any changes in contact information are made online through the myUCF portal at https://my.ucf.edu/.

Continuous Enrollment

All graduate students are required to enroll in at least one class over the span of the Academic year. Failure to enroll in 3 consecutive terms results in dismissal from the

program. After candidacy exam is passed for doctoral students, they are required to enroll in dissertation hours every semester until graduation. The institutional policy from the graduate catalog around continuous enrollment could be provided in this section.

Continuous Enrollment and Continuous Enrollment and Active Students.

Diversity Statement

The University of Central Florida considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. UCF expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful culture for all in its classrooms, work environments, and at campus events. Dimensions of diversity can include sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, intellectual and physical ability, sexual orientation, income, faith and non-faith perspectives, socio-economic class, political ideology, education, primary language, family status, military experience, cognitive style, and communication style. The individual intersection of these experiences and characteristics must be valued in our community.

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at https://letsbeclear.ucf.edu and https://cares.sdes.ucf.edu/.

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement, please notify the instructor as soon as possible and/or contact Student Accessibility Services.

For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX OIE http://oie.ucf.edu/ & askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Disability Accommodation Student Accessibility Services http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/
 & sas@ucf.edu
- Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events www.diversity.ucf.edu
- Student Bias Grievances Just Knights response team http://jkrt.sdes.ucf.edu/
- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office http://compliance.ucf.edu/ & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- Ombuds Office http://www.ombuds.ucf.edu

Golden Rule

The Golden Rule is the university's policy regarding non-academic discipline of students and limited academic grievance procedures for graduate (grade appeals in individual courses, not including thesis and dissertation courses) and undergraduate students. Information concerning the Golden Rule can be found at www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/. Section 11, Student Academic Behavior, addresses appeal of graduate program actions or decisions.

Harassment

The University of Central Florida values diversity in the campus community. Accordingly, discrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital status, parental status, veterans status, sexual orientation, or genetic information is prohibited.

Sexual harassment, a form of sex discrimination, is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature including any of these three situations.

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or enrollment.
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or enrollment decisions affecting such individual.
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or enrollment, or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment.

Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited. Occurrences will be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines above and university rules. Employees, students, or applicants for employment or admission may obtain further information on this policy, including grievance procedures, from the OIE Coordinator. The Director of the Office of Institutional Equity Programs is the campus Equity Coordinator responsible for concerns in all areas of discrimination. The office is located on the main campus, in Barbara Ying CMMS Building 81, Suite 101. The phone number is (407) 823-1336. Policies and guidelines are available online at http://www.eeo.ucf.edu.

International Students

International students are welcomed in the doctoral program in Public Affairs. There are specific policies and/or requirements related to international students as below:

- In addition to official transcripts and certification of degrees, a course-by-course credential evaluation with GPA calculation is required of all students who have attended a college/university outside the United States. UCF accepts transcript evaluations from the following two agencies only: Josef Silny and Associates, Inc, or World Education Services (WES).
- International students, except those who are from countries where English is the only official language, those who have earned a degree from a regionally accredited US college or university, or those who have earned a degree from a country where English is the only official language of instruction, are required to submit a score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Although we prefer the TOEFL, we will also accept International English Testing System (IELTS) scores.
- Students who are non-native speakers of English (and do not have a degree from a U.S. institution) must pass the English-Speaking test administered by the UCF English Institute before they will be permitted to teach as a Graduate Teaching Associate or Graduate Teaching Assistant.
- International students should maintain F-1 and J-1 Status by maintaining full-time enrollment is one of the most important requirements for F-1 and J-1 students.
 Click here for the <u>enrollment requirements</u>. New students and current students who have been issued a new initial I-20 or DS-2019 must check-in with UCF Global by the start date of their I-20 or DS-2019.
- International students should report changes to UCF Global within 10 days.
 Changes include changes in address, phone number, and major/academic program must be reported to UCF Global within 10 days. <u>Click here</u> for details on how to report changes to UCF Global.
- International students should request an extension before the I-20 or DS-2019 expires. If students need more time to complete their program, they must request an extension before their I-20 or DS-2019 expires. Failing to request an extension before the I-20 or DS-2019 expires results in the loss of F-1 or J-1 status. Click here for information on how to request an extension.

- They should maintain good academic standing and make normal progress in their academic program.
- International students do not work-off campus without prior authorization from UCF Global. International students are not eligible to work off-campus without first obtaining authorization in advance. Working without authorization is a serious violation of F-1 and J-1 status. <u>Click here</u> for more information about employment authorization options.
- All international students need to file tax forms to the Internal Revenue Service every year. Click here for more details.
- The federal government does not have any specific programs for international students. The Office of Student Financial Assistance does not award scholarships for non-U.S. citizens. However, the office lists various scholarship opportunities for non-US citizens on the <u>Scholarship</u> page. To search for additional scholarships, please visit the <u>International Scholarship</u> website.
- For general information regarding international students, please visit <u>UCF Global</u>.

Probation/Dismissal Discipline

To earn a graduate degree or graduate certificate at the University of Central Florida, students must have a minimum 3.0 Graduate Status GPA. Any student not achieving this mark will be placed on Academic Probationary Status.

When Graduate Status GPA falls below a 3.0, the following occurs:

- 1. Impacted students will receive notice from the College of Graduate Studies.
- 2. The probationary status will be imprinted on the student's advising transcript and will remain for each successive semester while on probation. This information remains as a permanent record on the transcript.

- 3. Students will have a maximum of 18 graduate credit hours of graded A-F course work from their Graduate Plan of Study to increase their Graduate Status GPA to 3.0 or higher.
- 4. Students who have fewer than 18 credit hours of course work left in their Graduate Plan of Study will only have the number of remaining credit hours toward degree completion to attain the 3.0 Graduate Status GPA.
- 5. Students who cannot mathematically attain a 3.0 Graduate Status GPA, either through the 18 credit hours of course work or through the remaining credit hours to degree completion, will be formally dismissed without the probationary period.

Please check the Graduate Catalog for any other conditions of probation, discontinuation, and dismissal as outlined by the College of Graduate Studies and UCF at: <u>Academic Progress and Performance</u> section from the Graduate Catalog

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Upon enrollment in their graduate program, each student will be assigned an academic program advisor. This advisor will ensure that the student's plan of study is appropriate. Students are encouraged to meet with the academic advisor at least once during each semester.

A grade point average of 3.0 is required for continued study in your graduate program. If at any time, a student's graduate status GPA falls below 2.0, they are automatically dismissed from the program. Please refer to the Graduate Catalog for further information regarding the graduate status GPA.

Satisfactory performance also involves maintaining professional integrity and behaviors expected in a clinical program. Failure to maintain these standards may result in dismissal of the student from the program. The student may appeal dismissal decisions as outlined in the <u>UCF Golden Rule • UCF</u>

Time Limits to Degree Completion

A student has seven years from the date of admission to the doctoral program to complete the dissertation and the doctoral degree. No courses used in a program of study can be older than seven years at the time of graduation.

Students who anticipate being out for more than 2 consecutive semesters should apply for a Special Leave of Absence no later than the end of the add/drop period of their second semester of non-enrollment. Students who do not maintain continuous enrollment without a Special Leave of Absence (see Continuous Attendance and

Special Leave of Absence in the General Graduate Policies) must file for readmission to the university. The time spent in an approved Special Leave of Absence will essentially "stop the clock" for a student for a maximum of three semesters and be added to a student's total time limitation for degree completion. A student can request a SLOA for a maximum of six semesters. UCF students can also refer to Time Limitation and Continuous Enrollment Policy in the Graduate Catalog.

Transfer Credit

Per UCF policy, "external transfer credits are limited to up to 9 credit hours. External transfer credits can be graduate-level course credits completed at a regionally accredited institution (excluding UCF) or recognized international institution.

Additionally, only courses with a grade of "B-" or higher are allowed to be transferred into a program of study (not petitionable), and only hours that are no more than seven years old at the time the degree is conferred may be transferred, unless part of an earned graduate or professional degree.

Additional Program Details

Financial Aid Funding

Students with qualifying assistantships or university-wide fellowships will receive financial packages that include an assistantship or fellowship stipend, tuition remission, and health insurance. Qualifying fellowships are accompanied by tuition waivers.

For additional information about funding for graduate school, please visit the Student Finances section of the College of Graduate Studies student website at http://www.students.graduate.ucf.edu/.

If you are interested in applying for loans or externally funded need-based awards, visit the Office of Student Financial Assistance website at http://finaid.ucf.edu and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available January 1 each year.

Other Special Fellowships

Students seeking alternative funding for scholarships are advised to look at the UCF Alumni Association. This group awards more than \$40,000 in scholarships each year to undergraduate and graduate students. See www.ucfalumni.com for information on how to apply.

Graduate Assistantship Details

Qualifying assistantships include single appointments of at least .50 FTE (20 hrs. /week) or two appointments of at least .25 FTE (10 hrs. /week) per semester. Tuition remission is in the form of either tuition waivers or tuition payments that cover in-state (resident) tuition. Non-resident students with financial packages are not charged out-of-state tuition or the non-resident financial aid fee.

Graduate Student Assistantships pay students to teach or otherwise facilitate instruction (these are graduate teaching assistants, or "GTAs"), or to work on funded research projects (these are referred to as graduate research assistants, or "GRAs"). Students who are receiving tuition waivers must be attending fulltime (9 credit hours fall and spring except for students in candidacy who must take a minimum of 3 credit hours). Students receiving a tuition waiver are paid a stipend and must work 20 hours per week. GTAs and GRAs may be contracted throughout the fall and spring semesters, or departments may contract for one semester at a time. Students should refer to the Graduate Catalog for the university's requirements for assistantships, as well as graduate teaching, tuition remission, health insurance, and parental leave for graduate assistants.

In order to be appointed as a GTA (graduate teaching associate, assistant, or grader), students must have completed the UCF GTA Training requirement by the semester deadline. There are no exceptions to the GTA Training requirement. See <u>Graduate Teaching</u> for more information on GTA training requirements College of Graduate Studies (ucf.edu).

Graduation Requirements

You should file your Intent to Graduate form online through your my.ucf.edu. You can access the Intent to Graduate form by going into your myUCF portal/ selecting the Student Self Service link/ then selecting the "other academic..." drop down box/ and clicking on Intent to Graduate: Apply. If the Intent to Graduate is filed after the deadline, you can't participate in the commencement ceremony.

Job Search and Career Pathways

At the School of Public Administration, we are dedicated to your success. We can prepare you for the job market through mock interviews, resume refinement and editing cover letters. For more information, contact Marcus Williams at marcus.williams@ucf.edu.

NASPAA Student Data Center

NASPAA or the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration is the global standard in public service education. NASPAA is the recognized global accreditor of master's degree programs in these fields. <u>Career Resources</u> for MPA/MPP students.

UCF Job Shadow Program

The UCF Job Shadow Program pairs Knights with employer and alumni partners to facilitate a one-to-five-day job shadow experience. Learn about a particular career or industry, gain workplace experience, and build your professional network. Activate your Handshake account to gain access to internships, jobs, and professional development opportunities. Visit UCF Career Services for more information.

Pathways to Success program

Coordinated by the College of Graduate Studies, the Pathways to Success program offers free development opportunities for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars including workshops in Academic Integrity, Graduate Grantsmanship, Personal Development, Professional Development, and Research. Please explore the link to the UCF's Pathways to Success Program.

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

<u>APPAM</u> is the premier professional association for the MPP. APPAM's purpose is to improve public policy and management through excellent research, education, and analysis. SPA is an institutional member of APPAM. As such, our students and faculty have access to all APPAM programs including conferences, student opportunities, and jobs. I encourage you to join APPAM as student members.

American Society for Public Administration

The <u>American Society for Public Administration</u> (ASPA) is the largest and most prominent broadly based professional association in American public administration. It has a diverse membership of approximately 8,000 practitioners, academicians, and students. ASPA serves as the principal arena for linking theory and practice within the field of public administration.

Hear from a UCF student member of ASPA.

Connect with Central Florida Chapter ASPA on Facebook.

Student Associations

There are many ways to be involved and integrated. The Student Involvement site provides information on the different student organizations, clubs, and activities at the university. The school of public administration has five registered student organizations related to each program area. Contact the organization to find out how you can be involved. Connecting with classmates and practitioners is the best way to build your network.

Emergency Management Student Association

Students interested in emergency and crisis management should consider connecting with EMSA. In the past, the group has hosted guest speakers from the field, and has participated in emergency exercises.

Email: <u>ucfemsa@gmail.com</u>

International City/County Management Association

This is the student chapter of the national organization, ICMA. Our student chapter strives to create excellence in local governance by developing students into public sector professionals.

Email: <u>icmaucf@gmail.com</u>

Nonprofit Knights

The Nonprofit Knights is an umbrella organization for the Nonprofit Management Student Association and the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Students interested in careers in the nonprofit sector or fundraising and development are welcome to join the group.

Email: <u>ucfnonprofitknights@gmail.com</u>

Urban Knights

The Urban Knights are passionate about urban planning, and they strive to connect students with professionals in the field. They host technical skills workshops throughout the year along with a networking reception prior to each Urban and Regional Planning Distinguished Lecture Series event.

Email: urbanknights3@gmail.com

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is UCF's graduate organization committed to enrich graduate students' personal, educational, and professional experience. To learn more or get involved,

please visit <u>www.gsa.ucf.edu</u>. Also, refer to the <u>Office of Student Involvement • UCF</u> for more information on ways to be involved and integrated.

Graduate Student Center

The Graduate Student Center provides a space for graduate students to gather for professional development, workshops, rehearsal of presentations, defenses of their thesis or dissertation research, guest lectures and colloquia series, study, and collaborate. It is located on the second floor in suite 213 of Trevor Colbourn Hall Building, just minutes from the Student Union, Bookstore, Library, and Millican Hall services. The Graduate Student Center contains four main areas: multipurpose study and collaboration area, presentation room, conference room, and study and data analysis rooms. Explore the link for more information: Graduate Student Center

Graduate Research Forum/Symposium

Many of the graduate students who come to UCF will be involved in research. The College of Graduate Studies hosts an annual Research Forum to provide a conference setting for our own students to highlight their work either with poster presentations or a face-to-face presentation. In 2021, the Student Scholar Symposium was created to combine two signature events, the Graduate Research Forum, and the Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence. The Symposium is an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to present their research and creative scholarship to the UCF community through poster sessions held during Student Research Week. Student Scholar Symposium applicant criteria is available on the Eligibility page. To learn more about the process for awarding exemplary presentations at the Symposium, see Judging. Questions? Contact researchweek@ucf.edu.Graduate Research Forum

The school of public administration also host an annual Public Administration Research Conference, in the spring semester. The conference is facilitated by the Center for Public and Nonprofit Management (CPNM), the research arm of the school of public administration.

Forms

There are many different forms associated with being in your program and a graduate student at UCF. Please use this link that provides the links to forms relevant to your program and completing all requirements of your degrees: https://graduate.ucf.edu/forms-and-references/

STUDENT SERVICES CONTACTS

STUDENT ACCOUNT SERVICES

Student Services Millican Hall, Room 109 Phone:

(407) 823-2433 Fax: (407) 823-6476

Email: stuaccts@ucf.edu

http://www.studentaccounts.ucf.edu/

STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Millican Hall, Room 120 Phone:

(407) 823-2827 Fax: (407) 823-5241 Email: finaid@ucf.edu

https://www.ucf.edu/financial-aid/

UCF CARD SERVICES

John T. Washington Center, Room 104

Phone: (407) 823-2100 Fax: (407) 823-3278 https://ucfcard.ucf.edu/

UCF PARKING SERVICES

South Garage—Garage B Phone: (407) 823-5812 Fax: (407) 823-6715 Email: decals@ucf.edu https://parking.ucf.edu/

KNIGHTS EMAIL ACCOUNT

https://extranet.cst.ucf.edu/kmailselfsvc

COMPUTER AND NETWORK QUESTIONS

Phone: (407) 823-5117
Email: servicedesk@ucf.edu
Useful Links/Resources

There are a variety of events, resources, and field of study information UCF student should be aware of. The following are a few examples:

- 1. Bookstore
- 2. Graduate Catalog
- 3. Library
- 4. Recreation Center
- 5. Housing
- 6. Counseling Center
- 7. Writing Center
- 8. Student Academic Resource Center UCF
- 9. Veterans Academic Resource Center UCF
- 10. Student Account Services | UCF Student Accounts Services