Public policy is a highly disciplined, evidence-based approach to the analysis and solution of contemporary issues, such as fiscal policy, entitlement reform, health care, national security, regulation, education and immigration.

The graduate program in public policy, which offers the Master of Public Policy (MPP) degree, gives students the opportunity to analyze, create and articulate innovative policies responsive to the most challenging issues facing this nation, while respecting and supporting their passion to serve responsibly.

In conjunction with other graduate programs at the University of Denver, MPP students can take specialized and approved courses in various policy specific areas. Policy emphases are available in the following areas:

- Education Policy
- Business and Government
- Energy and Environmental Policy
- Social Policy and Nonprofit Management
- Communications and Public Affairs
- Global Health
- International Policy and National Defense
- Political and Global Economics
- Customized

Each emphasis has a distinct list of requirements that will fulfill the MPP elective credits. Additionally, students are encouraged to explore experiential learning opportunities, such as internships in the specific area, as well as complete the required Policy Memorandum on a topic that is relevant to the emphasis.

**Career Advancement**
MPP graduates enjoy exciting careers as public policy professionals — running government agencies, leading nonprofit organizations, serving as consultants to corporations or political campaigns, or developing a perspective for a client with a legislative or regulatory agenda. The MPP program provides students with the analytical and critical thinking skills needed, as well as the experience that will open the door to professional success.

**Faculty Expertise**
Faculty members in the MPP program are academics, policy experts, legal scholars, and former and current elected officials. Instructors represent a wide range of policy expertise, including political history, economics, health policy, regulatory policy, lobbying, education policy, constitutional law and quantitative analysis.

**Flexibility**
Most MPP classes are offered in the evenings, allowing students to gain real-life public policy experience during the day through full-time employment or policy internships. In addition, our flexible dual-degree program offers students the opportunity to enhance their future careers by combining the MPP with several other relevant graduate degrees.

**Opportunity**
The University of Denver’s campus is located just minutes from downtown Denver, a regional hub for major corporations, financial institutions, law firms, nonprofit organizations, think tanks, and government offices.

**Master of Public Policy**

**Application Deadlines**
- Fall 2017 Priority Deadline: January 23, 2017
- Fall 2017 Final Submission Deadline: August 30, 2017
- Fall 2017 Deadline for Applicants Educated Outside the U.S.: August 2, 2017

**Admission Requirements**
- Online admission application
- $65.00 Application Fee
Public Policy

- **University Minimum Degree and GPA Requirements**
- **GRE** (http://bulletin.du.edu/graduate/admission-and-enrollment-policies/admission-process-and-standards-for-all-applicants/university-admission-criteria): The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required. Scores must be received directly from the appropriate testing agency by the deadline. The institution code for the University of Denver is 4842.
- **Letters of Recommendation**: Two (2) letters of recommendation are required. Letters should be submitted by recommenders through the online application.
- **Personal Statement**: A personal statement of professional objectives is required. When it comes to graduate school admission, the personal statement/essay represents your chance to truly shine. In addition to providing a tremendous opportunity to convey the quality of your writing to admissions committees, the personal statement allows you to highlight your purpose for pursuing graduate studies. Write your personal statement in such a way that the selection committee is intrigued by you and wants to meet you in person. The personal statement should be two to three pages, preferably double-spaced, and should address these three areas: What led you to your interest in pursuing this degree? Do you have a particular policy topic that interests you? What are your professional and career goals? Ten years from now, what type of work do you hope to be doing in the field of public policy? How would a degree from the Institute for Public Policy Studies at the University of Denver help you achieve your professional goals?
- **Résumé**: The résumé (or C.V.) should include work experience, research, and/or volunteer work.

**Additional Standards for Non-Native English Speakers**

Official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) are required of all graduate applicants, regardless of citizenship status, whose native language is not English or who have been educated in countries where English is not the native language. The minimum TOEFL/IELTS/CAE test score requirements for the degree program are:

- **Minimum TOEFL Score (paper-based test)**: 587
- **Minimum TOEFL Score (internet-based test)**: 95
- **Minimum IELTS Score**: 7.0
- **Minimum CAE Score**: 185

**English Conditional Admission Offered**: No, this program does not offer English Conditional Admission.

Read the English Language Proficiency (http://bulletin.du.edu/graduate/admission-and-enrollment-policies/additional-standards-for-non-native-english-speakers/english-language-proficiency-ielts-toefl) policy for more details.


Read the Required Tests for GTA Eligibility (http://bulletin.du.edu/graduate/admission-and-enrollment-policies/additional-standards-for-non-native-english-speakers/required-tests-for-gta-eligibility) policy for more details.

**Additional Standards for International Applicants**

Per Student & Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) regulation, international applicants must meet all standards for admission before an I-20 or DS-2019 is issued, [per U.S. Federal Register: 8 CFR § 214.3(k)] or is academically eligible for admission and is admitted [per 22 C.F.R. §62]. Read the Additional Standards For International Applicants (http://bulletin.du.edu/graduate/admission-and-enrollment-policies/additional-standards-for-international-applicants) policy for more details.

**Financial Aid**

There are many different options available to finance your education. Most University of Denver graduate students are granted some type of financial support. Our Office of Financial Aid is committed to helping you explore your options.

**Master of Public Policy**

**Degree requirements**

**Coursework requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 4100</td>
<td>American Public Policy System</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 4200</td>
<td>Microeconomics for Public Pol.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 4300</td>
<td>Quantitative Analysis-Pub Pol</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPOL 4400</td>
<td>Analytical &amp; Critical Skills</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 4500</td>
<td>Cost-Benefit Analysis/Pub Pol</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 4600</td>
<td>Regulatory Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

28
**Great Issues Forums Requirement:** 12

Complete 6 Great Issues Forums for a total of 12 credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 4501</td>
<td>Great Issues Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 4502</td>
<td>Issues Forum II</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Policy Memorandum research credit:** 4

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPOL 4995</td>
<td>Independent Research</td>
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**Elective Courses:** 16

Any PPOL class not already used as a required course, or a pre-approved course from any graduate program.

Note: Candidates may use 0-5 of Independent Study credits and/or 0-5 Internship credits to count towards the elective requirement.

**Total number of credits:** 60

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1 The Great Issues Forums are a series of policy seminars focused on the nation’s most important current issues. The graduate program in public policy offers five of these two-day, full-day courses every year for two quarter hours of credit each. Students must complete six forums (12 hours) to earn the MPP. The topics of these seminars rotate frequently, as expertise and events warrant, and are an integral part of the MPP program.

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**Minimum number of credits required for the degree:** 60 credits

**Non-coursework requirements**

- Policy Memorandum

**Policy Memorandum**

As the capstone project of the MPP experience, the Policy Memorandum integrates the knowledge and skills learned in and outside the classroom. The Policy Memorandum provides an opportunity to experience firsthand the type of practical and professional work often required of a policy analyst. Students identify and define a real-world policy issue; analyze the issue by conducting research, gathering data and interviewing professionals with opposing views; analyze the costs and benefits of the issue; and recommend courses of action.