Program Description

Degree Awarded: MPP Public Policy (Policy Informatics)

The MPP degree program with a concentration in policy informatics provides the knowledge and skills for students who seek careers that will require them to use informatics tools, models and simulations to help individuals and groups deliberate and evaluate policy decisions and to explore new governance infrastructures. This concentration emphasizes theories and research concerning decision-making, complexity theory and visualization of quantitative and qualitative information, collective intelligence, behavioral economics and persuasive technologies.

The concentration program in policy informatics combines mastery of advanced methods for processing information with domain expertise that will help humans understand complex social phenomena and achieve goals within public and governance applications. The program's design responds to the need for professionals with domain knowledge who can take a problem-driven, system-level, user-oriented perspective in developing and applying informatics systems to address societal and governance needs.

At a Glance

- College/School: College of Public Service and Community Solutions
- Location: Downtown Phoenix campus

Degree Requirements

42 credit hours including the required capstone course (PAF 509/PAF 579)

Required Core (27 credit hours)
PAF 501 Public Service Research I (3)
PAF 502 Public Service Research II (3)
PAF 504 Microeconomics of Public Policy I (3)
PAF 505 Public Policy Analysis (3)
PAF 540 Advanced Policy Analysis (3)
PAF 541 Program Evaluation (3)
PAF 573 Applied Econometrics (3)
PAF 574 Diversity, Ethics and Leading Public Change (3)

**Concentration (9 credit hours)**
- PAF 591 Topic: Complexity in Public Policy and Management (3)
- PAF 591 Topic: e-Public Administration (3)
- PAF 591 Topic: Introduction to Policy Informatics (3)

**Restricted Electives (3 credit hours)**

**Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)**
- PAF 509 Public Affairs Capstone (3) or
- PAF 579 Public Policy Capstone (3)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Students should see the academic unit for a complete list of approved electives.

Students enrolling in core Master of Public Policy courses must demonstrate minimum competency in statistics and American national government. Courses taken to fulfill competencies do not count toward the 42-credit hour degree program. Completion of prerequisite courses is not a requirement for admission but must be completed within one semester after starting the program.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Public Service and Community Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in a related field from a regionally accredited institution. Related fields include political science, planning, business, urban and metropolitan studies, as well as other social science disciplines, although the department may accept applicants with undergraduate degrees from all educational backgrounds provided the minimum requirements for the degree program are met.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:
1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. verbal, quantitative and analytical scores on the GRE (institution code: 4007) or GMAT scores
4. three letters of recommendation
5. written statement
6. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. Additional requirements for international students are at [https://students.asu.edu/graduate/international](https://students.asu.edu/graduate/international).

At least two of the three letters of recommendation should be from faculty or other academic staff who can evaluate the applicant's academic performance.

The written statement should be one- to-two pages in length and describe the applicant's educational and career goals. This statement is also used as a sample of the applicant's writing abilities.

Applicants may also submit a resume or other documents.

Note: Application fees increase after deadline; students should see [https://students.asu.edu/how-and-when-apply-graduate-admission](https://students.asu.edu/how-and-when-apply-graduate-admission).

Students should contact the School of Public Affairs at (602) 496-0450 or email spa@asu.edu with any questions about the application process.

**Contact Information**

School of Public Affairs | UCENT 400
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