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Master of Arts in Public Affairs



Department of Political Science The University of Iowa



M. A. P. A. Program at Iowa

The Master of Arts in Public Affairs (M.A.P.A.) degree was created to meet a growing need for public sector professionals well-grounded in both administrative and policy science. That grounding requires understanding (1) of governmental processes, (2) of contemporary management problems and techniques, and (3) of the methodologies of public policy research and analysis. The purpose of the M.A.P.A. program is to provide such understanding.

While our principal activity is the education and training of individuals for service in government, we are also concerned in the M.A.P.A. program with providing education for public affairs teachers and specialists who will go on to fill a wide variety of public or private sector positions. Thus, the M.A.P.A. curriculum has been made sufficiently strict to provide for all students the necessary fundamental knowledge of government and administration, but at the same time sufficiently flexible to provide for the varied interests of a student body with diverse aims.

Admission to the Program

Regular admission to this program generally requires at least a 3.00 cumulative undergraduate grade-point average as well as verbal and quantitative Graduate Record Examination scores which, when combined, exceed 1,000. If one of these criteria is not quite met but the other much more than minimally satisfied, conditional admission arrangements sometimes can be made.

Students admitted conditionally must achieve at least a 3.00 average in their first 12 hours of M.A.P.A. course work if they are to continue in the program (this assumes a normal course load). The Graduate College requires that a student on conditional status achieve regular status within two sessions of registration. If regular status is not achieved within the above time frame, the student will not be permitted to register for course work.

For foreign students who do not have English as their native language, a TOEFL score must also be submitted. This TOEFL score must exceed 600 and the verbal score on the GRE must exceed 450 if regular admission is to be granted. For those who fall marginally below these criteria, conditional admission may sometimes be granted. However, in such cases there will be a requirement that the student spend the first semester in residence at lowa enrolled in an intensive English training program. We expect a student getting such training to demonstrate substantially greater competence in English, at the end achieving a new TOEFL score which meets or exceeds our 600 minimum. After this language training, the normal requirement that conditionally admitted students earn at least a 3.00 in their first 12 hours of M.A.P.A. course work will still apply.

Application forms can be obtained from the Office of Graduate Admissions, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242. Special problems concerning admission can be addressed to the Director of the M.A.P.A. Program, Department of Political Science, The University of Iowa Iowa City, Iowa 52242, 319/335-2358.

Program of Study

Completion of the degree requires a minimum of 36 semester hours of credit. Normally, 19 of these hours will be spent in core courses which are required of all students, and 17 hours will be spent in electives chosen individually to fulfill special interests. We encourage students to use all of these 17 elective hours in the development of applied knowledge and skills in a particular subfield.

The M.A.P.A. degree does not require a final thesis, but in the *last* semester of course work a written examination, testing both core and specialized knowledge, is administered to the degree candidate. In order to receive the degree, a student must pass this examination as well as complete all course work with at least a 3.00 grade average. *All* degree requirements *must* be met by the end of the semester in which the comprehensive examination is taken.



Most students enter the M.A.P.A. program in the autumn, a fact reflected in the organization of the curriculum. As can be seen below, full-time students who do enter in the autumn can complete the degree in one year of hard work. It also is conceivable that those entering at the beginning of a summer term can finish their work in 12 months. However, those entering at the beginning of spring term cannot expect to complete the degree before the end of the spring term of the following academic year. Of course, part-time students will necessarily take even longer.

If a student has taken, not more than a few years previously, what we deem to be the equivalent of one of the core courses, that course requirement may be waived by the director of the M.A.P.A. program.

If a student feels in need of a suitable foundation course in economics before enrolling for 6E:119, we recommend that 6E:100 be taken in the first semester of course work and that 6E:119 then be taken in the second semester.

If a student's early performance reveals writing problems, the director of the M.A.P.A. program may require suitable course work in expository writing.

The Core Curriculum

Fall Semester (15 s.h.)

30:222 Public Policy Analysis I 3 s.h.
An introduction to the principal conceptual and methodological tools that can be used to predict and measure the effects of alternative policies and to estimate their relative costs and benefits.

30:228 Computing in Political Science 1 s.h.
An introduction to computer applications in administration and management.

6E:119 Economics of the Public Sector 3 s.h.
Studying the economic effects of government expenditures and taxation, and analysis of economic decision making and budgetary processes.

Electives 8 s.h.



Spring Semester (15 s.h.)

- 30:220 Administrative Theory 3 s.h.
 Analysis of the politics of administration and of the management problems which attend internal struggles for power; information and control systems; bureaucratic power in modern political systems.
- 30:221 Urban Administration 3 s.h.
 Principles and problems of municipal administration, with attention given to revenue, personnel, budgeting, and planning problems and to the functional operations of police, fire, health, education, recreation, and welfare organizations.
- 30:223 Public Policy Analysis II 3 s.h.

 Applications of the conceptual and methodological tools of public policy analysis to a variety of substantive problems and policies. Prerequisite: 30:222 or equivalent. May be repeated with the consent of the instructor.

Electives 6 s.h.

Summer Session (6 s.h.)

30:391 Internship in Public Administration and Policy 3 s.h. or

30:392 Practicum in Public Administration and Policy 3 s.h. Electives 3 s.h.

Internships and Practica

Normally during their final semester students will gain practical experience in particular facets of administrative and policy work through internships in governmental or other public agencies. The student's work in the internship is jointly supervised by the M.A.P.A. director and by the relevant agency head. At the end of the internship, a final report summarizing the work accomplished is submitted to the director. Alternatively, practica—applied seminars focusing, for example, on policy studies or public affairs teaching—can be arranged for students in their final term.



The Elective Curriculum

Students are encouraged to take their electives in a single subfield (which does not necessarily mean in a single department). Among those available are international relations, personnel management and labor relations, public policy analysis, and quantitative methods in management. Planning the elective program should be undertaken in consultation with the director of the M.A.P.A. program.

The courses listed below illustrate the range within which elective course selections may be made.

Political Science (general)

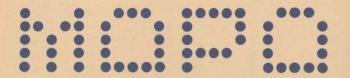
- 30:111 Municipal Government and Politics
- 30:112 Iowa Government and Politics
- 30:123 Politics of the Budgetary Process
- 30:139 Political Issues: Politics, Law, and Morality
- 30:324 Seminar: Urbanization

Political Science (International Relations)

- 30:150 Political Economy of the Third World
- 30:161 The United Nations
- 30:162 American Foreign Policies
- 30:164 Military Affairs
- 30:260 International Politics

Economics

- 6E:100 Price, Employment, and Production Theory
- 6E:103 Microeconomics
- 6E:125 International Economics
- 6E:127 Natural Resources in the World Economy
- 6E:129 Economic Development: Underdeveloped Areas
- 6E:135 Regional and Urban Economics
- 6E:182 Introduction to Econometrics
- 6E:183 Statistical Methods in Economics
- 6E:241 International Economics I
- 6E:242 International Economics II
- 6E:284 State and Local Government and Finance



Accounting

6A:192 Financial Accounting

Human Resources and Labor Relations

6L:154 Employee Relations in the Public Sector

6L:156 Wage and Salary Administration

6L:158 Personnel Management

6L:252 Employment Relations and Public Policy

6L:258 Human Resources Management

Management Sciences

6K:180 Management Information Systems

6K:183 Management Systems Design

6K:193 Computer Methods

6K:197 Quantitative Methods

6K:271 Statistical Methods

6K:276 Operations Research

Urban and Regional Planning

102:206 Professional Planning Practice

102:234 Project Impact Analysis

102:260 Transportation Policy and Planning

Geography

44:125 Environmental Impact Studies

44:130 Location of Services

44:135 Urban Geography

44:137 Urban and Regional Modeling

Law

91:204 Administrative Law

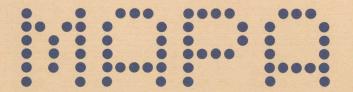
91:255 Environmental Law

Statistics

22S:102 Introduction to Statistical Methods

22S:148 Intermediate Statistical Methods

22S:161 Applications of Multivariate Statistical Methods



University Careers Office

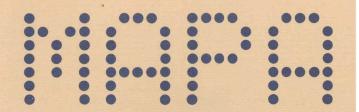
The University Careers Office, in cooperation with the political science faculty, assists M.A.P.A. graduates in finding suitable employment. This assistance ranges from information on civil service examinations to seminars on interviewing, résumé writing, and job-search techniques. In addition, files are maintained on job openings throughout the nation which might be of interest to M.A.P.A. graduates.

The Iowa Department of Political Science

The Department of Political Science at The University of Iowa is very highly regarded. In recently published evaluations of political science departments in the United States, the Iowa department has consistently ranked among the 15 most distinguished in terms of the quality of its research, its graduate student training, and its faculty.

The University Community

The University of Iowa campus spans the Iowa River valley and merges on the east with downtown Iowa City, a community of 50,000 in eastern Iowa. The University is located almost equidistant (250 miles) from four major metropolitan areas, Chicago, Minneapolis, Omaha, and St. Louis. Notable features of the campus include Hancher Auditorium showcasing leading artists from around the world; the University medical complex which includes the nation's largest teaching hospital; the Museum of Art with its special collections; and the original state capitol building which stands at the center of the main campus. Lake Macbride, just to the north of Iowa City, offers camping, hiking, swimming, boating and cross-country skiing opportunities in season. The nearby Cedar Rapids airport offers all-points airline service.



The Faculty

- Joel D. Barkan (Ph.D., UCLA,1970), Professor, specializes in political economy and development policy in the Third World, particularly sub-Saharan Africa.
- G. R. Boynton (Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 1964), Professor, specializes in mathematical modelling of political processes.
- John A. C. Conybeare (Ph.D., Harvard University, 1976), Associate Professor, specializes in international relations, with emphasis on political economy and public choice issues.
- Cary R. Covington (Ph.D., University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 1981), Assistant Professor, specializes in American politics.
- Lane Davis (Ph.D., Cornell, 1950), Professor, specializes in modern and contemporary political theory, jurisprudence, democratic politics, politics and literature.
- Chong Lim Kim (Ph.D., University of Oregon, 1968), Professor, specializes in analytical theories, legislative behaviors, theories of political organization, comparative politics, and politics of the Far East.
- Michael S. Lewis-Beck (Ph.D., University of Michigan,1973), Professor, specializes in political economy and public policy.
- James M. Lindsay (Ph.D., Yale, exp. 1988), Instructor, specializes in international relations with an emphasis on national security affairs.
- Gerhard Loewenberg (Ph.D., Cornell,1955), Professor, specializes in comparative legislative research and Western European politics.
- Douglas Madsen (Ph.D., UCLA, 1973), Professor, specializes in comparative political behavior with special attention given to psychobiological influences on that behavior.
- Arthur H. Miller (Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1971), Professor, specializes in American politics and voting behavior.
- John S. Nelson (Ph.D., North Carolina, 1977), Professor, specializes in political theory.
- William M. Reisinger (Ph.D., Michigan,1986), Assistant Professor, specializes in international and comparative politics with an emphasis on the Soviet Union.

Russell M. Ross (Ph.D., Iowa, 1948), Professor, specializes in public administration and policy, and local and state politics.

Lois W. Sayrs (Ph.D., Northwestern University, 1985), Assistant Professor, specializes in international organization, international politics, politometrics, war and conflict, transnational activity, and econometric modelling.

Peter G. Snow (Ph.D., Virginia, 1963), Professor, specializes in comparative politics with an emphasis on Latin America.

Peverill Squire (Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1986), Assistant Professor, specializes in the study of American politics.

James A. Stimson (Ph.D., University of North Carolina, 1970), Professor, specializes in American politics, with a particular focus on issues at the intersection of mass politics and political institutions, and in research methodology, with a particular focus on time series modelling.

John R. Wright (Ph.D., University of Rochester, 1983), Assistant Professor, specializes in American politics, with emphasis on interest groups, Congress, and the courts.

The University of Iowa does not discriminate in its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, religion, sex, age, or handicap. The University also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to University facilities without reference to affectional or associational preference. For additional information on nondiscrimination policies, contact the Coordinator of Title IX and Section 504 in the Office of Affirmative Action, telephone 319/335-0705, 202 Jessup Hall, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242.