



Public Policy Administration BS

with an emphasis in Public Policy

The BSPPA degree is designed for students who are interested in understanding and influencing public policy and administration, and who have a passion for making a positive impact on society. Students will gain understanding of developing, implementing, and evaluating public policy, and leading in public and nonprofit organizations. Students will have the chance to utilize those skills through an internship. In the public policy track, students will work with a faculty advisor to develop a focus on a particular policy area in preparation for relevant jobs in the public, nonprofit, or private sector.

Career Outlook

Our students develop practical skills and engage in internships that have helped our graduates secure jobs in local, state, and federal government, and in nonprofit organizations, including positions with the Department of Defense, Department of Veteran's Affairs, Cities of Florissant and Chesterfield, the Small Business Administration, and the United Way. The Center for State and Local Government Excellence projects that local government employment will grow 7.4% through 2026 and state government employment will grow 3.8%. Nonprofit opportunities are projected to grow even faster.

Future Career Options

- Budget Analyst
- City or County Manager
- City Planner
- Director of Public Works
- Foundation Executive Director
- Grant Writer
- Human Resources Specialist
- Nonprofit Program Director
- Parks and Recreation Director
- Policy Analyst
- Social Services Administrator

Skills Developed By Degree Completion

- Explain policy-making institutions and systems
- Understand administrative systems and processes
- Use methods, tools, and sources to answer important management and policy questions
- Analyze policies, programs, and issues
- Form evidence-based recommendations and communicate them clearly
- Apply knowledge and engage in real-world problem-solving
- Plan, execute, and defend research projects
- Understand theories, concepts, and practices of the student's chosen policy area
- Compare and contrast different approaches and frameworks of policy area

Successful alumni have gone on to fulfill many of the opportunities above. Additional possibilities are taken from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Contact an advisor to discuss additional future career options.

2024-2025 4-YEAR ACADEMIC MAP

IT
STARTS
RIGHT
NOW

This is a sample academic map for the courses to take each academic semester/session. This map is not a substitute for academic advisement. Contact your advisor when making final selections.



UNIVERSITY STUDIES

University studies is required for all first-year students and those with less than 24 credit hours.



MILESTONE COURSES

Milestone courses should be taken in the order shown to ensure you stay on a timely and accurate path toward graduation.



SUMMER AND INTERSESSION COURSES

Don't forget that summers and winter breaks are a way to fast-track your route to degree completion – and lighten your load during fall and spring!

umsl.edu

888-GO-2-UMSL

314-516-5451

admissions.umsl.edu

Year

1

Bachelor of Science in Public Policy Administration with an emphasis in Public Policy

FALL SEMESTER (16 credit hours)

ENGL 1100: First-Year Writing (3)
INTDSC 1003: University Studies (1)
POL SCI 1100: Introduction to American Politics (3)
GEN ED CORE: Mathematics Proficiency (3)
GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities and Fine Arts (3)
GEN ED EXPLORE: Math and Life/Natural Sciences (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

ECON 1001: Microeconomics (3)
POL SCI 1500: Introduction to Comparative Politics (3)
GEN ED CORE: Communication Proficiency (3)
GEN ED EXPLORE: Math and Life/Natural Sciences (3)
Elective (3)



Check once completed

Year

2

FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

ECON 1002: Macroeconomics (3)
POL SCI 2400: Public Administration (3)
GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities and Fine Arts (3)
Elective (3)
Elective (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

INFSYS 1800: Computers and Information Systems (3) or CMP SCI 1250: Intro to Computing (3)
POL SCI 2420: Introduction to Public Policy (3)
POL SCI XXXX: Policy Concentration Course (3)
GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities and Fine Arts (3)
Elective (3)



Year

3

FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

POL SCI 3000: Political Analysis (3)
POL SCI XXXX: Policy Concentration Course (3)
Elective (3)
Elective (3)
Elective (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

ENGL 3100: Junior-Level Writing or Equivalent (3)
POL SCI XXXX: Policy Concentration Course (3)
Elective (3)
Elective (3)
Elective (3)

