PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MPA

Dr. Leah Pieper, *Director*
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Mission and Goals

The mission of the MPA program is to prepare students to be ethical and effective leaders in public, governmental, and non-profit agencies. Students will develop skills in human resource management, ethical decision making, local government administration and finance, and organizational management. Students can choose electives that focus on general administration and policy to develop additional skills like policy analysis, program evaluation and leadership. Alternatively, students can choose the criminal justice electives to develop skills applicable to the administration of justice in law enforcement, correctional, or judicial agencies.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

a. Explain relevant issues that face public administrators using knowledge and fundamental concepts of the practice of public administration.
b. Evaluate the ethical implications of decisions made by public administrators' decisions.
c. Analyze public policy, public programs, and/or public services using critical thinking skills.
d. Apply financial knowledge to make economically sound and ethical decisions in the public interest.
e. Demonstrate the decision-making skills necessary for leadership in the public sector.

Admission Requirements:

- A minimum GPA of 2.5 from a regionally accredited post-secondary institution verified by official transcripts.
- A statement of purpose of around 250-500 words describing how your current experience or education prepare you for the Master of Public Administration degree, and how this degree will contribute to your future goals or career development.
- Two academic/professional letters of reference.
- Curriculum Vita/Resume.

Interested Applicants

Visit the MPA Program webpage (https://www.clayton.edu/graduate/programs/mpa/) for more information, including course maps, FAQs, and instructions on how to apply. Please contact the director for questions about the program by email (LeahPieper@clayton.edu) or by phone at: (678) 466-4602.

Requirements
Public Administration, MPA

In order to earn a MPA degree, students must complete a minimum of 36 semester hours of coursework with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. At least 26 of these credits must be taken at Clayton State University. Students also have the option to earn a certificate in a specialized area of public administration by completing a specific set of electives within the MPA degree.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Master of Public Administration Required Courses		**18**
POLS 5010	Public Administration	3
POLS 5050	Research Methods & App Stats	3
POLS 5210	Ethics in Public Admin.	3
POLS 6060	Public Admin HR Management	3
POLS 6230	Local Govt Admin & Finance	3
POLS 6250	Org. Theory and Management	3
Capstone Experience		**3**
Choose one from the following. (Students should complete an internship unless they currently have full-time employment in the field.) [1]		
POLS 6940	Internship in Public Admin	
POLS 6980	Project in Public Admin	
Electives		
Choose electives from the following:		15
POLS graduate level (5000 or 6000 level) courses		
CRJU graduate level (5000 or 6000 level) courses		
Approved graduate level (5000 or 6000 level) courses		
Total Credit Hours		**36**

[1] Students working full-time in the public or non-profit sector may choose to complete POLS 6980 Project in Public Admin in place of the internship. Students should consult with the MPA program director to obtain approval prior to the semester the course is taken.

Public Policy Certification

The Public Policy Certification allows students to gain a more in-depth understanding of public policy, including the policy process and evaluation and analysis of implemented policies and programs. To be eligible for certification, students must be enrolled in the MPA program. The certification must be earned simultaneously with the MPA and will be awarded in conjunction with the degree via a notation on the transcript.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Public Policy Certification Requirements		
Complete the following three courses:		
POLS 5030	Public Policy	
POLS 6040	Policy Analysis	
POLS 6051	Program Evaluation	
Total Credit Hours		**9**

Faculty

Christie Burton
Jason Davis
Lisa Holland-Davis
Antoinette France-Harris
Andrea Allen-Jacques
Bryan LaBrecque

LaKeisha Levy
Joshua Meddaugh
Leah Pieper

Suggested Course Sequence

The suggested course sequence below is the accelerated option for students intending to complete their degree in 12 months.

Please see the Course Maps (https://www.clayton.edu/graduate/programs/mpa/course-maps/) on our program page (https://www.clayton.edu/graduate/programs/mpa/) for sample schedules for regular full-time and part-time options.

Fall Semester Start

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
Fall Semester		
POLS 5010	Public Administration	3
POLS 5210	Ethics in Public Admin.	3
POLS 5050	Research Methods & App Stats	3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Second Semester		
Spring Semester		
POLS 6060	Public Admin HR Management	3
POLS 6250	Org. Theory and Management	3
POLS 6230	Local Govt Admin & Finance	3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Third Semester		
Summer Semester		
POLS 6940 or POLS 6980	Internship in Public Admin or Project in Public Admin	3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**6**
	Total Credit Hours	**36**

Spring Semester Start

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
Spring Semester		
POLS 6060	Public Admin HR Management	3
POLS 6250	Org. Theory and Management	3
POLS 6230	Local Govt Admin & Finance	3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Second Semester		
Summer Semester		
POLS 6940 or POLS 6980	Internship in Public Admin or Project in Public Admin	3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**6**

		Credit Hours
Third Semester		
Fall Semester		
POLS 5010	Public Administration	3
POLS 5210	Ethics in Public Admin.	3
POLS 5050	Research Methods & App Stats	3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
POLS/CRJU Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
	Total Credit Hours	**36**