Master in Public Affairs (MPA)

The MPA is a professional diploma designed to prepare students to build competencies and develop creative solutions for challenges in finance, leadership, human resource and project management. The degree will prepare students for carrying out administrative and leadership responsibilities in government and nonprofit settings. The specific outcome objectives for students who graduate with the MPA degree are:

- An understanding of the philosophical, theoretical and legal foundations of public management, policymaking and leadership in government and nonprofit settings.
- Proficiency in organizational and decision analysis, research and evaluation practice, and quantitative and qualitative techniques.
- Sound preparation for advanced study aimed at research centers.
- Mastery of persuasive written and oral communication.

Program Description
Students must complete at least 36 credit hours to earn a Master of Public Affairs. This includes:

- 24 semester credit hours of required core
- 9 semester credit hours of directed electives within a chosen specialization
  - Public Management
  - Local Government Management
  - Nonprofit Management
  - Policy Analysis
- 3 semester credit hours of Capstone Seminar

All students must achieve at least a 3.0 grade point.

Admission Requirements
- Online Application
- Baccalaureate degree
- 3.0 undergraduate grade point average
- Three letters of recommendation
- Admission essay
Visit [www.utdallas.edu/admissions/graduate](http://www.utdallas.edu/admissions/graduate) for application and detailed admission steps

Prerequisites
While there are no specific prerequisites required for any MPA course, students who lack background in particular areas may be advised or required to take preparatory courses. In particular, students without a background or experience in American political institutions and policymaking, mathematics and micro computing may be required to develop proficiency in these areas before being admitted into certain courses. Leveling courses will not count toward the MPA degree.

Non-degree Graduate Certificates
Students who complete one of the Public Affairs graduate certificates can count those hours toward the MPA degree.

Deadline
Students are admitted for the fall, spring, and summer terms. For official UT Dallas deadlines, visit [www.utdallas.edu/enroll/apply/fees.php](http://www.utdallas.edu/enroll/apply/fees.php).

Contact
For questions regarding the application process and specific admission requirements, contact Interim Graduate Program Administrator Rita Medford at 972-883-4932 or by email at rmedford@utdallas.edu.

Other inquiries can be directed to the Masters Academic Advisor:
Nora Hernandez at nora.hernandez@utdallas.edu.