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 careers in the public and nonprofit sectors.
- 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
- 3 semester credit hours of Internship will be required for students without public or nonprofit work experience

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 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.

Contact
For questions regarding the application process and specific admission requirements, contact Graduate Program Administrator Katie Doctor at 972-883-4936 or by email at kdoctor@utdallas.edu.

Other inquiries can be directed to the Masters Academic Advisors according to last name:
A – M: Nora Hernandez at nora.hernandez@utdallas.edu.
N – Z: Christina Rhodes at christina.rhodes@utdallas.edu.