PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MPA

School of Public Administration, College of Public Affairs & Community Service

Vision Statement
The mission of the Master of public administration program is to strengthen the public service in a democratic and diverse society by educating students to manage and lead public and nonprofit institutions effectively, ethically and democratically.

Program Contact Information
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402.554.3480
mvangelder@unomaha.edu


Admissions
Application Deadlines
• Fall: June 1
• Spring: October 1
• Summer: NA

Program-Specific Requirements
• The general prerequisite for admission to the MPA program is a four-year bachelors’ degree with a minimum 3.0 GPA in the junior and senior years (last 50-60 credit hours)
• Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the U.S., OR a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a pre-determined country on the waiver list (https://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/prospective-students/Proof%20of%20English%20Proficiency-%20International.pdf), must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission. They must complete the TOEFL exam with a score of 550 paper-based, 213 computer-based, 80 internet-based, 6.5 IELTS, or 53 PTE

• Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score:
  • Applicants to the UNO School of Public Administration (MPA) program may be granted a waiver from the GRE requirement, under one or more of the following circumstances:
  • The applicant is enrolled in the UNO Grace Abbott School of Social Work (MSW) program and has completed at least four courses within the minimum GPA of 3.2 and no less than a "B" in any course.
  • The applicant is enrolled in the UNO College of Information Science and Technology MS in MIS program and has completed at least four courses with a minimum of 3.2 and no less than a "B" in any course.
  • The applicant has GMAT or LSAT scores less than five years old.
  • The applicant has previously received a graduate or terminal degree from a regionally-accredited US institution of higher education.

These degrees may include, for example, an MS, MA, MPH, MSW, MD, PhD, or JD.
• The applicant is enrolled in the UNO School of Public Administration certificate of public management program and has completed at least two courses in the program with a minimum grade point average of 3.2 and no less than a B in any course.

• Two (2) Letters of Recommendation
• Statement of Purpose/Admissions Essay
  • The essay should be two to four pages (doubled-spaced) and answer the following questions:
  • Please tell us about the factors in your background that will help us understand your interest in a profession in the public or nonprofit sectors.
  • What are your professional goals? Ten years from now, what do you hope to be doing professionally?
  • How can an MPA from UNO help you to achieve these goals?

• Resume

Generally, students will be admitted unconditionally if they have a strong undergraduate record, demonstrate good communication skills in their admission essay, receive favorable recommendations, score well on the GRE exam, and have goals consistent with the mission of the MPA program.

Degree Requirements

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<th>Required Courses</th>
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<tr>
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<td>FOUNDATIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 8090</td>
<td>ORGANIZATION THEORY AND BEHAVIOR</td>
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<td>PA 8400</td>
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<td>PA 8300</td>
<td>POLICY DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION</td>
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<td>PA 8530</td>
<td>PLANNING AND EVALUATION</td>
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Concentrations
See MPA Concentrations

General Elective Courses
See MPA General Electives below

Specializations
See MPA Specializations below

At the end of the program, students complete a Capstone Project or a Thesis:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>PA/AVN 8980</td>
<td>THERESIS</td>
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<td>PA 8990</td>
<td>CAPSTONE PROJECT IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</td>
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Total Credits
39-42

1 Must maintain a grade point average (gpa) of 3.2 or above during the first twelve (12) hours of public administration coursework in PA 8050, PA 8090, PA 8100 and PA 8120. Provisional students can earn no grade below a “B” in the first twelve (12) hours of coursework or the student will be dismissed or placed on academic probation. A grade of “C-” or below results in automatic dismissal.
Exit Requirements

- Capstone - 3 hours PA 8990 or
- Thesis - 6 hours PA 8980 For the thesis option, candidates should carefully review the Graduate College requirements related to forming the Supervisory Committee, Thesis/Thesis Equivalent Proposal Approval Forms, and final approval and submission of the thesis.

Total Credit Hours

Non-Thesis Option: 39
Thesis Option: 42

The Non-Thesis Option requires students to complete the 21-hour core, nine hours in an area of concentration, six hours of general elective courses, and the Capstone Project.

The Thesis Option requires students to complete a 21-hour core, nine hours in an area of concentration, six hours of general elective courses, and six hours of thesis. The thesis must be assigned a total of at least six hours on the approved plan of study. The thesis should be initiated no later than one semester before the anticipated date of graduation in order to provide sufficient time for research, writing and examination. It is the responsibility of the student to follow all regulations found here (http://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/current-students/thesis-format.php). The student must orally defend his or her thesis. At that time, the supervisory committee must sign the acceptance page of the thesis. Approval of a thesis by every member of the thesis supervisory committee is required.

MPA General Electives

Students take two general elective courses. Any 8000 level Public Administration course may be taken as elective (other than the required core and concentration classes). Courses from other departments may also be used as elective courses, but require approval in advance.

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<td>ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR PUBLIC MANAGERS</td>
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<td>PA 8106</td>
<td>MARKETING IN PUBLIC, NON-PROFIT AND AVIATION ORGANIZATIONS</td>
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<td>PA 8130</td>
<td>MANAGING DIGITAL GOVERNANCE</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY ORGANIZING &amp; SOCIAL CHANGE</td>
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<td>PUBLIC POLICY EVALUATION</td>
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<td>PUBLIC WORKS MANAGEMENT</td>
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<td>PA 8496</td>
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<td>ISSUES IN PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION</td>
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<td>SEMINAR IN GRANT WRITING</td>
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<td>HEALTH CARE FINANCE</td>
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<td>THE U.S. HEALTH CARE SYSTEM</td>
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<td>SEMINAR IN METROPOLITAN PLANNING</td>
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<td>INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW &amp; REGULATIONS</td>
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<td>AVN 8086</td>
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AVN 8360 TRANSPORTATION SAFETY 3
AVN 8370 AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT 3
AVN/PA 8480 SEMINAR IN PUBLIC FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION 3
AVN/TED 8510 AEROSPACE EDUCATION WORKSHOP 3
AVN 8605 INTERNATIONAL AVIATION 3
AVN 8626 AIRPORT PLANNING AND DESIGN 3
AVN 8750 TRANSPORTATION FINANCE 3
AVN/PA 8896 CRITICAL ISSUES IN AVIATION ADMINISTRATION 3
AVN 8906 SPECIAL TOPICS IN AVIATION 1-3
AVN 8920 READING IN AVIATION ADMINISTRATION 1-3
AVN 8940 RESEARCH IN AVIATION ADMINISTRATION 1-3
AVN 8996 AIR TRANSPORTATION 3
EMGT 8060 PLANNING, PREPAREDNESS, AND MITIGATION 3
EMGT 8430 RESPONSE, RECOVERY & RESILIENCE 3
Gero/PA 8516 LONG-TERM CARE ADMINISTRATION 3
GERO/HED 8556 HEALTH ASPECTS OF AGING 3
GERO 8676 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY 3
GERO 8696/ SOWK 8046 WORKING WITH MINORITY ELDERLY 3
HED 8850 HEALTH ASPECTS OF STRESS MANAGEMENT 3
HED 8600 HEALTH BEHAVIOR 3
HED 8706 WOMEN'S HEALTH AND ISSUES OF DIVERSITY 3
UBNS/BLST 8020 RACE, ETHNICITY, AND AMERICAN URBAN CULTURE 3
UBNS 8060 INTRODUCTION TO URBAN PLANNING 3
GEOG 8126 URBAN GEOGRAPHY 3
CRCJ 8010 NATURE OF CRIME 3
CRCJ 8020 SEMINAR IN ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE 3
CRCJ 8040 SEMINAR IN POLICE AND SOCIETY 3
CRCJ 8100 CRIMINAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATION, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT 3
CRCJ 8230 TERRORISM 3
CRCJ 8800 SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE 3
CRCJ 8060 SEMINAR IN THE CRIMINAL COURT SYSTEM
CRCJ 8080 SEMINAR IN JUVENILE JUSTICE
CRCJ 8130 SEMINAR IN WOMEN AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRCJ 8230 TERRORISM
CRCJ 9030 SEMINAR ON RACE, ETHNICITY, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRCJ 9040 COMPARATIVE CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS
CRCJ 9090 SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN RESEARCH METHODS
CRCJ 9150 SPECIAL TOPICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH
CRCJ 9160 SEMINAR IN COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONS
CRCJ 9170 SEMINAR ON INSTITUTIONAL CORRECTIONS

Total Credits 9

Other graduate courses in criminology & criminal justice may be appropriate depending upon the student’s interests and background. CRCJ 8090 is not recommended.

Information Management Specialization
Please note: A module needs to be complete prior to enrolling in the specialization courses.

Code | Title | Credits
---|---|---
PA 8110 | MANAGING INFORMATION IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR | 3
ISQA 8206 | INFORMATION AND DATA QUALITY MANAGEMENT | 3

Elective Course
Select one of the following:
- ISQA 8196 | PROCESS REENGINEERING WITH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- ISQA 8230/ CSCI 8220 | TELECOMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT
- ISQA 8250 | FACILITATION OF COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING
- ISQA 8420 | MANAGING THE I.S. FUNCTION
- ISQA/CYBR 8570 | INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY AND ETHICS
- ISQA 8736 | DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEMS
- ISQA 8810 | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT FUNDAMENTALS

Total Credits 9

Concentrations

Emergency Management Concentration

Code | Title | Credits
---|---|---
EMGT 8060 | PLANNING, PREPAREDNESS, AND MITIGATION | 3
EMGT 8430 | RESPONSE, RECOVERY & RESILIENCE | 3
PA 8566 | INTERGOVERNMENTAL MANAGEMENT | 3

Total Credits 9

MPA Specializations

Criminology and Criminal Justice Specialization

Required Course
PA 8410 | PUBLIC HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT | 3

Elective Courses
Select two of the following: 6
- CRCJ 8010 | NATURE OF CRIME
- CRCJ 8020 | SEMINAR IN ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE
- CRCJ 8040 | SEMINAR IN POLICE AND SOCIETY
- CRCJ 8050 | SEMINAR IN CORRECTIONS

Total Credits 9
### Health Administration Concentration

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### Local Government Concentration

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<td>PA 8470</td>
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<tr>
<td>or PA 8410</td>
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<td>PA 8710</td>
<td>FUND RAISING IN PUBLIC AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS</td>
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### Public Management Concentration

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### Public Policy Concentration

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