PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MPA AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, MS (MPA/MIS)

School of Public Administration, College of Public Affairs & Community Service, Department of Information Systems & Quantitative Analysis, College of Information Science & Technology

Vision Statement
In government and non-profit organizations, there is a significant need and a long-term demand for persons with advanced skills in information management technology. The primary purpose of this dual degree option is to prepare students to manage and lead organizations in the future. To meet this need, the School of Public Administration and the College of Information Science & Technology offer the option to complete both the MPA and the MS in MIS degree jointly by completing 54-57 hours of course work beyond foundation requirements. This joint degree program is designed for dedicated students who are able to successfully complete graduate intensive study from two perspectives—public administration and management information systems—while achieving a synergy between the two fields. As such, the program involves graduate coursework in both public administration and information systems, with integrative experiences that will attain the desired synergy. Students interested in this option will work closely with a faculty mentor to develop an integrated plan of study at an early stage.

Program Contact Information
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Admissions
Application Deadlines (Spring 2021, and Fall 2021)
• Fall: June 1
• Spring: October 1

Program-Specific Requirements
• 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 United States, OR a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a predetermined country on the waiver list, must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission.
  • The minimum TOEFL requirement is 563, 85 internet-based, 6.5 IELTS, or 53 PTE.
  • The general prerequisite for admission to the program is a four-year bachelors’ degree with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA of the junior-senior year (last 50-60 credit hours).
• Graduate Record Exam (GRE)
  • Applicants to the UNO School of Public Administration (MPA) program may be granted a waiver from the GRE requirement if 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 GPA of 3.2 and no less than a ’B’ in any course.

  • Two (2) letters of recommendation
  • Statement of Purpose
  • Writing Sample
    • From work or previous academic experiences. Alternatively, if you do not have a writing sample, please submit a two-page double-spaced word processed essay that addresses the following two topics:
      • Two accomplishments that demonstrate your potential for success in the graduate program
      • Your unique personal qualities and life experiences that distinguish you from other applicants to our graduate program
  • Resume indicating your work experience and background
  • Applicants with International Transcripts: Any applicant to this program who has completed undergraduate or graduate coursework at an international higher education institution outside of the United States may submit transcripts and degree certificates (with an English translation) in lieu of a course-by-course transcript evaluation from World Education Services (https://www.wes.org/) (WES), Educational Credential Evaluators (https://www.ecce.org/) (ECE), or Educational Perspectives (https://www.edperspective.org/). This graduate program will conduct an in-house credential evaluation of your transcript(s).
    • UNO reserves the right to require a course-by-course evaluation from WES, ECE, or Educational Perspectives if the program is unable to complete an evaluation or should there be any questions or concerns about the documentation that is received. You will be notified by the individual program if an external course-by-course evaluation is required.
    • *Note: If you are admitted, official transcripts and degree certificates (with an English translation)/official course-by-course
transcript evaluation, and any applicable official exam scores are required.

**Degree Requirements**

**MPA/MIS Foundation Courses**
A student must have completed some basic courses either as an undergraduate student or prior to enrolling in the first MS in MIS course. Students may start MPA courses while completing the MIS foundation courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Six (6) hours of programming coursework or equivalent experience:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIST 1400</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SCIENCE I</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 4900</td>
<td>FULL STACK DEVELOPMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISQA 8030</td>
<td>INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND ETHICS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIST 2500</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO APPLIED STATISTICS FOR IS&amp;T</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ISQA 8040</td>
<td>AN OVERVIEW OF SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ISQA 4110 &amp; ISQA 4120 &amp; ISQA 3310</td>
<td>INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYSIS and SYSTEM DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION and MANAGING THE DATABASE ENVIRONMENT</td>
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**Required Courses**

**MPA Core Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA 8050</td>
<td>FOUNDATIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 8090</td>
<td>ORGANIZATION THEORY AND BEHAVIOR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA/AVN 8100</td>
<td>ADVANCED MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP FOR PUBLIC AND NONPROFIT PROFESSIONALS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 8400</td>
<td>PUBLIC AND NONPROFIT BUDGETING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 8300</td>
<td>POLICY DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA 8530</td>
<td>PLANNING AND EVALUATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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**MS in MIS Core Courses**

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 8210</td>
<td>MANAGEMENT OF SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 8220</td>
<td>ADVANCED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND DESIGN</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 8310</td>
<td>IT INFRASTRUCTURE &amp; CLOUD COMPUTING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 8380</td>
<td>ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE AND SYSTEMS INTEGRATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 8410</td>
<td>DATA MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 8420</td>
<td>MANAGING THE I.S. FUNCTION</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Methods Course**

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA/AVN 8120</td>
<td>ANALYSIS AND DECISION MAKING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 8060</td>
<td>RESEARCH IN MIS</td>
<td></td>
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**MPA/MIS Electives**

Select one of the following: 12

- Take a minimum of 6 hours each of ISQA elective courses and PA elective courses
- Or select a MPA/MIS Specialty Area (see below)
- Select one of the following (see below): 6
  - Capstone Option
  - Thesis Option

Total Credits 57

**MPA/MIS Specialty Areas**
Students may choose to specialize in the following areas (see details below), or in another area with the approval of their faculty advisor (all courses must be at the 8000-level):

- **Program Management**
  - PA 8450 | SEMINAR IN ADVANCED MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC AGENCIES | 3 |
  - ISQA 8810 | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT FUNDAMENTALS | 3 |
  - ISQA 8820 | PROJECT RISK MANAGEMENT | 3 |
  - PA/AVN 8480 | SEMINAR IN PUBLIC FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION | 3 |

Total Credits 12

- **Financial Management Information Systems**
  - PA/AVN 8480 | SEMINAR IN PUBLIC FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION | 3 |
  - ISQA 8596 | IT AUDIT AND CONTROL | 3 |
  - ISQA/CYBR 8570 | INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY AND ETHICS | 3 |

Total Credits 9

- **Health Care Information Systems**
  - ISQA/CYBR 8570 | INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY AND ETHICS | 3 |
  - PA 8760 | THE U.S. HEALTH CARE SYSTEM | 3 |

Integrative Experience (Required) 3-6

Total Credits 9-12

**MPA/MIS Exit Requirements**

**Capstone Option**

**MPA Capstone Course:**

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<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA 8990</td>
<td>CAPSTONE PROJECT IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

The MPA Capstone Course is taken at the end of the program, with no more than nine credit hours remaining. All Public Administration core classes must be completed prior to taking the Capstone Course.

- **MIS Capstone Course:**
  - ISQA 8950 | CAPSTONE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS | 3 |

Six credit hours or fewer may be left in the program. All MIS core courses must have been completed.
Thesis Option

To take this option, a student will be required to enroll in six (6) hours of thesis credit.

Either in the MPA program:

<table>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA/AVN 8980</td>
<td>THESIS</td>
<td>6</td>
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</table>

or in the MIS program:

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISQA 8990</td>
<td>THESIS</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The thesis must be in an area that relates to both the public administration and information systems domains.

Total Credit Hours: 57