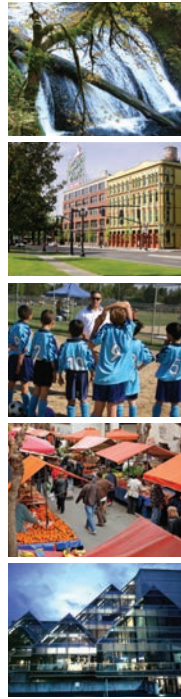


Master of Public Administration

Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

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Admissions deadline: February 1

pppm.uoregon.edu

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Cover photos:

Left: Haystack Rock at Cannon Beach, Oregon.
Middle: Students on the University of Oregon
campus. Right: Silver Falls State Park near
Salem, Oregon; White Stag Block, Portland;
youth soccer team; Portland Saturday Market,
Hult Center for the Performing Arts, Eugene.



Pioneer Mother on the University of Oregon campus

**“Knowing is not enough; we must apply.
Willing is not enough; we must do.”**

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 1788

OUR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY AND MANAGEMENT CURRICULUM

A central focus of the master of public administration program is to prepare students to become evidence-based policy makers, analysts, and managers. Evidence-based policy making is a concept that has been gaining widespread acceptance in the policy community, both in the U.S. and abroad. It is based on the idea that the formulation of policy and its implementation should be based on evidence of effectiveness. Executive managers in government and nonprofit organizations must also base their decisions on a solid base of evidence.

Fostering informed decision making requires a closer connection between research and practice.

On one hand, it requires researchers to ask policy-relevant questions and conduct meaningful and timely analyses that can support the policy process. On the other hand, it requires that policy makers, managers, and leaders think critically about research and integrate appropriate evidence in the implementation and formulation of policy and practice. The master of public administration curriculum trains students in applied research and provides opportunities for real-world applications. Our faculty members strive to support evidence-based policy making and management through our research and community outreach activities as well as our teaching.

The State of Oregon is an exciting place to study public administration. As a "laboratory of democracy" it has a long and distinguished record of policy innovation. Most recently, Oregon has been on the forefront of innovations in land use, health care, and environmental policy. Oregon is also a beautiful place to live and be a graduate student. The University of Oregon is located in the Willamette Valley with easy access to snow-capped mountains and scenic coastlines.

Recent graduates of our master of public administration program work as advisors, policy analysts, program managers, and strategic planners in all levels of government and in the nonprofit sector in Oregon, throughout the U.S., and around the globe.

FIELDS OF INTEREST

**arts management and policy
community development
economics
environment
government management
grantmaking
housing
human services
international development
nonprofit management
planning
public advocacy
social and health policy
and many other fields**



Heceta Head Lighthouse, Lane County, Oregon



Second-year MPA students meet outside Hendricks Hall and start off their school year with the 48-hour intensive policy research and presentation event.

FACULTY MEMBERS



Robert Choquette, MUP, has been involved in grant writing and development and project management for more than 20 years. He has served as program manager for the Sustainable City Year, a program of the Sustainable Cities Initiative. He serves as the department's graduate programs coordinator. He teaches Grant Proposal Writing, Strategic Planning for Management, Project Management, and Nonprofit Management.



Colleen Chrisinger, PhD, conducts research related to economic mobility, poverty, job creation, and workforce development. She has worked or consulted for the Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, and the Washington Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board. She teaches Research Methods, Program Evaluation, Public Management, and the Master of Public Administration Capstone.



Renee Irvin, PhD, has published research on nonprofit regulation, citizen participation, philanthropy, nonprofit competition, and policies affecting asset accumulation and wealth distribution. She served as chair of the nonprofit section of the National Association for Schools of Public Affairs and Administration and on its executive council. Her current research focuses on evaluating financial health of nonprofit organizations. She teaches Public and Nonprofit Financial Management, Fundraising for Nonprofit Organizations, and Philanthropy and Grant Making.



Grant Jacobsen, PhD, specializes in environmental economics and policy, with a particular emphasis on policies related to household energy use. His research focuses on topics related to renewable energy, energy efficiency, climate change awareness, carbon offsets, and building codes. Outside of the university, he has been involved with the Eugene Water and Electric Board as they have considered a transition to smart meters. He teaches Environmental Policy and Quantitative Methods.



Laura Leete, PhD, specializes in policy analysis and conducts research on topics relating to labor market outcomes and the well being of low-income families. She has studied occupational mobility, housing, and labor market access, access to food, gender and race discrimination, and welfare reform, among other topics. She has published in journals including the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organizations*, and *Urban Studies* and is coauthor of *Staircases or Treadmills: Labor Market Intermediaries and Economic Opportunity in a Changing Economy* (Russell Sage Press, 2007). Leete teaches Public Policy Analysis. She also teaches electives relating to Social Policy and Cost-Benefit Analysis.



Rebecca Lewis, PhD, researches the efficacy of state land-use policy, local comprehensive plan quality, state and local finance, infrastructure, and urban form. She is currently conducting a study of historic land efficiency in Oregon for the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. She is a faculty affiliate of the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education. She teaches Public Budget Administration, Human Settlements, Green Cities, and Land Use and Growth Management.



Rich Margerum, PhD, researches collaborative approaches to governance with a particular emphasis on large scale ecosystems, metropolitan regions, and natural resources management. He is the author of more than twenty-five refereed publications, and is actively involved in natural resources policy and watershed management efforts in Oregon. His book, *Beyond Consensus: Improving Collaborative Planning and Management* (MIT Press, 2011), has been called “an invaluable resource for anyone who seeks practical ways to resolve complex and controversial resource management issues.” Margerum teaches Collaborative Planning and Management.

FACULTY MEMBERS



Dyana Mason, PhD, conducts research on nonprofit organizations with a specific focus on nonprofit governance, leadership, strategy, and fundraising, and was the recipient of the 2013 Emerging Scholar Award by the Association of Research on Nonprofit and Voluntary Associations. She has worked for nonprofit organizations in various capacities, including development officer, events planner, communications consultant, and executive director. In 2006–10, she served on the Virginia Human Rights Council, appointed by then-governor Warner and reappointed by then-governor Kaine. She teaches Public Sector Theory, Managing Nonprofit Organizations, and Nonprofit Consultancy.



Nicole Ngo conducts research on environmental health in the context of urban sustainability. Her current work examines the health impacts of air pollution and climate change in the US, China, and Africa, with particular focus on the role of environmental and health policies. She teaches Health Policy and International Sustainability. She is also interested in incorporating interdisciplinary methodologies into her research, specifically from economics, public health, and earth science.



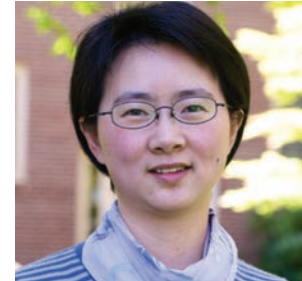
Gerardo Sandoval, PhD, has published extensive research on community economic development and government interventions in immigrant communities. His articles and book chapters include topics such as immigrants' roles in community revitalization, governments' responses to their presence, and how transnational relationships shape immigrants' spaces. His book provides an in-depth understanding of how a low-income Latino immigrant community in Los Angeles, California, was able to take advantage of a large-scale urban redevelopment project and revitalize the community. He teaches Public Participation and Diverse Communities and Urban Revitalization.



Marc Schlossberg, PhD, focuses his research on sustainable transportation, measuring the relationship between urban form and active transportation, community empowerment with mobile geographic information systems (GIS) technology, and walkability of the built environment. He serves as associate director of the university's National Institute for Transportation and Communities projects and cofounded and codirects the Sustainable Cities Initiative, which the *New York Times* describes as "perhaps the most comprehensive effort by a U.S. university to infuse sustainability into its curriculum and community outreach."



Rhonda Smith, MA public affairs, brings her background in career development and human resources to the master of public administration program. She works individually with students to chart a path of skill-building experiences that may include internships, volunteer opportunities, and memberships on boards or commissions. As an alumna who completed domestic and international internships, she knows first-hand the value of integrating theory and practice. She serves as director of the department's Internship Program.



Yizhao Yang, PhD, researches residential location choice as it relates to urban form and active transportation. In particular, she has been focusing on children's active school commuting and the factors that influence family choices. More recently, her work has been examining urban development, urbanization, and housing satisfaction in China. For the past several years, Yang has been organizing joint conferences and forums with researchers at the UO and in China—at the China Academy of Urban Planning and Design and Tsinghua University. She teaches Urban GIS.

CORE CURRICULUM

(33 CREDITS)

PPPM 618	Public Sector Theory (4)
PPPM 628	Public Sector Economics (4)
PPPM 629	Public Budget Administration (4)
PPPM 633	Public Management (4)
PPPM 636	Public Policy Analysis (4)
PPPM 656	Quantitative Methods (5)
PPPM 657	Research Methods in Public Policy and Management (4)
PPPM 684	Public and Nonprofit Financial Management (4)

INTERNSHIP

(3 CREDITS, required in most cases)

PPPM 604	Internship (3)
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The internship requires students to complete a substantive administrative project under the supervision of the on-site mentor as well as the department's internship director.

SAMPLE FIELDS OF INTEREST

(24 ELECTIVE CREDITS)

The master of public administration offers flexible but suggested curricula for fields of interest in many areas as shown below. Allied academic units with possible electives include environmental studies, business, law, and many other departments at the University of Oregon.

- Public policy
- Environmental policy
- Social policy
- Transportation policy
- Public management
- Nonprofit management
- Economic development
- International development
- Planning
- Research methods

CAPSTONE

In the second year of the master of public administration program, students enroll in a two-term project sequence that serves as the synthesizing capstone of the curriculum. Working as student consultant groups, students conduct real-world applied policy or management research for public agencies and nonprofit organizations.

Students have worked on applied research projects for the federal government, state government, local government, and nonprofit organizations. Projects the students have conducted include program and management evaluations, needs assessments, and a review of other states' policy approaches.

Examples of previous Capstone clients

- Bonneville Power Administration
- City of Salem, Oregon
- State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- USDA Forest Service
- Oregon Court Appointed Special Advocates Network
- State of Oregon Governor's Office
- State of Oregon: Oregon Health Authority
- Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation



MPA graduate students await their assigned 48-hour topic.

In the Capstone, students not only carry out the applied research, but they develop skills in teamwork and project management. They develop a larger professional network and put the “public” in public university through their service to the profession.



From left to right: Graduate students Holly Mar, Luis Sandoval, Kayleigh Frater, Maria Cortez, and Jonathan Bennett at the completion of the 48-hour project. Bennett speaks for the group's findings on analysis of a potential tuition-free community college system.

CONCURRENT DEGREE OPTIONS

Students in the master of public administration program frequently pursue concurrent degrees in complementary fields, adding further focus to their professional preparation. With a well-planned schedule, dual master's degrees can be completed in little more than two years. Common concurrent degree plans include pairing the master of public administration with master's degrees in nonprofit management, community and regional planning, business administration, arts management, international studies, environmental studies, or law, among others. If you are interested in pursuing a concurrent degree option, master of public administration advisors can help you plan the best schedule for doing so.

ADMISSIONS

The public and nonprofit sectors attract leaders from a variety of backgrounds. Therefore, we welcome high-achieving applicants with any undergraduate major at various stages in their professional careers. Some applicants have completed other graduate degrees or are completing a concurrent graduate degree at the UO.

Applications for admission are due February 1 for students entering the program the following fall term. In exceptional cases, students may be admitted at other times of the year.

Please see our website for complete admissions information.

pppm.uoregon.edu/grad/mpa

The master of public administration program encourages students from all backgrounds to apply. We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all faculty and staff members and students regardless of ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexual orientation, ability, socioeconomic standing, cultural beliefs, and traditions. We welcome students from a full spectrum of professional and academic backgrounds because a broad range of experience enriches the learning environment and challenges us to widen our perspectives. We believe a diverse program better prepares our students to be effective leaders in the public and nonprofit sectors.

RECENT ALUMNI



Alumna Kayla Bowcutt, MPA '13, MNPM '13, stands with her coworkers of MountainStar Family Relief Nursery, where she works as the development director. MountainStar is a child-abuse and neglect prevention program that works with families and children from birth to three in Central Oregon. The staff members pictured here at "Birdies4Babies," a fundraising event put on by a local golf community that raised a record \$40,000 for the nonprofit this summer. From left, Kayla Bowcutt, Tim Rusk, executive director, Ashley McLean, business manager, Jen Rusk, and Abbie Rexroad, parenting coach.



Serena Parcell, MPA '12, a fellow for the Global Health Corps, stands with other Global Health Corps fellows Jonnathan Mtaula (left) and Madalitso Tolani (right) in New York City. Parcell will work with the Clinton Health Access Initiative as an early infant diagnosis system analyst in Lilongwe, Malawi.

Welcome!

Now that you've read about the master of public administration program, we would like to encourage you to contact us regarding any further questions you might have. We also welcome visits from prospective students throughout the year. You will find our program to be rich in experiential learning with a number of unique features including:

- **48-hour project**
As a countdown clock mercilessly ticks down the minutes, teams of students read relevant policy research and supporting documentation, write an executive policy memo detailing the evidence base and policy recommendations, and give an oral presentation at the end of the 48-hour period on a topic for which they had no prior warning. This simulation exercise prepares career-ready students to think and analyze on their feet.
- **Strategic planning**
In this course, students work in teams to prepare strategic plans for several local agencies each year.
- **Philanthropy and grant making seminar**
A \$15,000 grant provided to the class by a regional foundation allows students to step into the grant making role by performing due diligence, evaluating nonprofit organizations, and choosing the winning organization each year.
- **Career development**
Our career development and internship services are specifically tailored for master of public administration students. Students complete competitive internships in the U.S. and abroad in preparation for top-tier fellowships with programs such as the Presidential Management Fellows, the International City-County Management Association (ICMA), Global Health Corps, and American India Foundation.

We wish you all the best in your graduate studies and look forward to hearing from you.



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

School of Architecture and Allied Arts

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

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