



## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

The graduate programs in Political Science and Public Administration are designed to expand students' knowledge and to develop their skills of analysis and professional communication. The programs are of value to both recent college graduates and those seeking to advance their careers. Among those it serves are students preparing for doctoral work or law school, school teachers seeking to improve their professional competence, promising scholars wanting to teach in community colleges, present and prospective public administrators, and those preparing for careers or advancement in nonprofit organizations, international organizations, the military, and private business. In addition to being public servants at the local, state, and national level, graduates have served in the state legislature, the White House, and the Pentagon; directed a state agency; and worked as professional lobbyists and campaign consultants.

## **Degree Requirements: Master of Public Administration (MPA)**

This program is designed for those seeking a career in public service and those wanting to enhance their current career. The program prepares professionals for work in government at the local, state, or national level; nonprofit organizations; and many areas of business.

The MPA degree requires a total of 42 semester credit hours: 24 hours of core courses taken by all students, a 12 hours concentration selected by the student in consultation with the graduate advisor, and 6 hours of internship. Students will be required to pass a comprehensive examination at the end of the course of study. Students must be enrolled in the University the semester or summer session in which the comprehensive exam is administered.

**Core Courses:** Twenty-four semester credit hours of required core courses:

PA 581 Dynamics of Public Administration (3 hours)

PA 583 Program Evaluation (3 hours)

PA 584 Organizational Theory and Behavior (3 hours)

PA 586 Leadership and Human Resource Management (3 hours)

PA 587 Government and Non-Profit Budgets and Financial Management (3 hours)

PA 588 Ethics in Government (3 hours)

POL 577 Scope and Methods of Political Science (3 hours)

POL 586\* Grant Research and Writing (3 hours)

**Internship:** Students without relevant job experience will be required to take six semester credit hours of an internship of at least twelve months. Students currently employed in a relevant position may use this employment as their internship.