

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 09/06/16 9:44 am

Viewing: **PADMMP : Public Administration and Nonprofit Studies, Master of Public Administration**

Last edit: 09/22/16 3:32 pm

Changes proposed by: pkford

In Workflow

1. ARSC Dean Initial
2. GRAD Dean Initial
3. Director of Program Assessment and Review
4. Registrar Initial
5. PLSC Chair
6. ARSC Curriculum Committee
7. ARSC Dean
8. Global Campus
9. Provost Review
10. University Course and Program Committee
11. Graduate Committee
12. Faculty Senate
13. Provost Final
14. Provost's Office-- Notification of Approval
15. Registrar Final
16. Catalog Editor Final

Approval Path

1. 09/06/16 10:21 am
jdurdik: Approved for ARSC Dean Initial
2. 09/06/16 10:24 am
pkoski: Approved for GRAD Dean Initial
3. 09/07/16 4:51 pm
agriffin: Approved for Director of Program Assessment and Review
4. 09/08/16 1:28 pm
lkulcza: Approved for Registrar Initial
5. 09/08/16 2:43 pm
jgaber: Approved for PLSC Chair

- 6. 10/10/16 5:02 pm
fspiegel: Approved for ARSC Curriculum Committee
- 7. 10/10/16 6:45 pm
jdurdik: Approved for ARSC Dean
- 8. 10/11/16 4:43 pm
pritchey: Approved for Global Campus
- 9. 10/13/16 5:14 pm
tmartin: Approved for Provost Review

Catalog Pages Using this Program [Public Administration and Nonprofit Studies \(PADM\)](#)

Submitter: User ID: **pkford**
Phone: **56434**

Academic Level Graduate

Select a reason for the proposed change: Making Minor Changes to an Existing Degree (e.g. changing 15 or fewer hours, changing admission/graduation requirements, adding Focused Study)

Program Status **Active**

Academic Unit **Major/Field of Study**

Are you adding, changing or deleting a concentration? **No**

Action	Proposed Code	Proposed Name

Are you adding, changing or deleting a track? **No**

Action	Proposed Code	Proposed Name

Are you adding, changing or deleting a focused study? **No**

Action	Proposed Code	Proposed Name

Effective Catalog Year **Fall 2017** ~~Summer 2014~~

College, School, Division Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences (ARSC)

Department Code Department of Political Science (PLSC)

Program Code PADMMP

Degree Master of Public Administration

CIP Code	44.0401 - Public Administration.
Program Title	Public Administration and Nonprofit Studies, Master of Public Administration
Method of Delivery	On Campus
Is this program interdisciplinary or use courses from another College?	No
Does this change the total hours needed to complete the program?	No

Program Requirements, Description and 8-Semester Plan

Prerequisites for Admission to the M.P.A. Degree Program:

1. Admission to the Graduate School
2. Minimum scores of 155 on the verbal portion and 145 on the quantitative portions of the current Graduate Record Examinations (GRE). (GRE scores may be waived under certain circumstances at the discretion of the PLSC Admissions Committee. Examples of possible exceptions include the successful completion of a master's degree or the submission of GMAT or LSAT scores in lieu of GRE scores).
3. 3.20 minimum grade-point average in the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework.
4. A written essay, submitted in accordance with standards set by the PLSC Admissions Committee.
5. Three letters of recommendation from persons competent to judge the applicant's academic/work experience.
6. Academic prerequisites: the PLSC Admissions Committee may require appropriate coursework related to an understanding of governmental processes and activities to cover deficiencies in past education.
7. All requirements listed above must be completed and reported before the beginning of the student's second semester or the student will not be admitted to courses that semester.

Requirements for the Master of Public Administration Degree: The M.P.A. requires a total of 42 semester hours of which 27 hours are to be 5000-level courses or above.

Required Courses (18 hours):

PLSC 5113	Seminar in Human Resource Management (Fa)	3
PLSC 5163	Public Policy (Sp)	3
PLSC 5193	Seminar in Public Administration (Fa)	3
PADM 5803	Quantitative Methods Analysis (Fa)	3
PADM 5813	Methods in Public Management Information (Sp)	3
PADM 5913	Policy Analysis: Theory and Practice (Fa)	3
Select one of the following (3 hours):		3
PLSC 5103	Human Behavior in Complex Organizations (Fa)	
PLSC 5123	Public Budgeting and Finance (Fa)	
Select two courses from the following (6 hours):		6

- [PLSC 4283](#) Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations (Even years, Sp)
- [PLSC 5103](#) Human Behavior in Complex Organizations (Fa) ((may be used for either this requirement or to satisfy the 21 hour core requirement))
- [PLSC 5123](#) Public Budgeting and Finance (Fa) ((may be used for either this requirement or to satisfy the 21 hour core requirement))
- [PLSC 5133](#) Nonprofit Management (Irregular)
- [PLSC 5143](#) Administrative Law (Sp)
- [PLSC 5153](#) Environmental Politics and Policy (Even years, Fa)
- [PLSC 5173](#) Community Development (Irregular)
- [PLSC 5243](#) Seminar in State Politics and Policy (Even Years, Fa)
- [PLSC 5983](#) Mixed Methods Research Design (Sp)
- [PADM 5823](#) Grant Writing for the Social Sciences (Irregular)
- [PADM 584V](#) Special Topics in Public Administration (Sp)
- [PADM 5903](#) Risk and Public Policy (Sp)

Special Interest Areas: Fifteen graduate semester hours, depending on exercise of the internship, may be chosen in PLSC/PADM and other disciplines with approval of the M.P.A. Program Director. The M.P.A Program Director, in consultation with the student, will develop a set of relevant graduate courses that will help the student in meeting career objectives. Concentrations may be developed for students interested in fields such as community development, environmental policy and sustainability, health services administration, higher education administration, non-profit management, public policy analysis, and recreation and tourism. Other concentrations may be exercised with the consent, advice and approval of the M.P.A. Program Director.

~~Students who elect to take only nine hours of course work may satisfy the remainder of the required degree hours with optional thesis or professional development/internship credit (please see below). Mandatory Comprehensive Examination: All students will be required to take a written comprehensive examination covering their M.P.A. program or complete a six-hour thesis. The comprehensive exam will be graded by at least a three-person faculty committee selected by the M.P.A. Program Director. Students pursuing the thesis option are not required to take a written examination. Rather, successful defense of their thesis satisfies this requirement. In addition to the successful completion of all course requirements and a passing grade on the written comprehensive examination (if taken), each student must present a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 3.00. Thesis Option: Students wishing to exercise the thesis option should consult with the graduate coordinator of the Department of Political Science. The thesis committee must be composed of at least three faculty members. The chair and another faculty member must be Political Science faculty. Thesis credit is six hours. Professional Development/Internship: (1-6 semester hours). The professional development/internship is recommended but not required. It will be offered on a credit/non-credit basis only. The number of semester hour credits depends on the length and full/part-time nature of the internship. A maximum of six professional development/internship hours may be applied to the fifteen hours of required special interest area coursework.~~

All students must either pass a portfolio exam (production and oral defense of a professional portfolio) or successfully complete six hours of thesis.

Portfolio Exam Option: Students must produce a portfolio for examination near the end of the MPA program covering relevant content and acquired skills and knowledge or complete a six hour thesis. The portfolio exam will be graded by a faculty committee composed of no fewer than three members.

Thesis Option: Students wishing to exercise the thesis option should consult with the graduate coordinator of the Department of Political Science. The thesis committee must be composed of at least three faculty members. The chair and another faculty member must be Political Science faculty. Thesis credit is six hours and may be used to satisfy six of the fifteen hours of required special interest area coursework. Students may not apply both internship and thesis hours to the fifteen hours of required special interest area coursework.

~~The number of semester hour credits depends on the length and full/part-time nature of the internship.~~

Are Similar Programs

available in the area? **No**

Estimated Student Demand for Program: **15 students per year enrolled on average**

Scheduled Program Review Date: **2019-2020**

Goals:

A. Graduate MPA students in a timely fashion.

B. Provide an examination process that adequately assesses MPA students in terms of their academic achievements from degree coursework.

Program Goals and Objectives:

C. Provide the opportunity for MPA students to apply what they learn in class to next-step professional goals.

Objectives: Effectively assess students in meeting the MPA degree requirements within the same semester they are scheduled to graduate.

Students develop skills and opportunities to advance as practicing administrators and managers.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will understand financial accountability and general management skills.

The Master of Public Administration and Nonprofit Studies program in the Political Science Department at the University of Arkansas, is designed to prepare graduates for professional or academic careers in the public or nonprofit sectors. It is our commitment to our students to equip them with various essential skills encompassing critical thinking, problem solving, informatics and data analytics, effective communication, and the ability to function in a team of professionals.

We have adopted the “portfolio” exam approach as a better means to better support our students in the pursuit of their professional goals. The portfolio exam process is designed to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and real-world application the student has mastered through coursework and participation in professional development opportunities. The portfolio exam process also serves to offer greater quality feedback by providing each student with a tailored assessment of his or her professional development and the opportunity to efficiently address any shortcomings in a timely manner. Portfolio exams are an excellent resource for prospective employers or interning agencies to evaluate the professional competencies and potential of the student, even before they have completed the program.

The portfolio exam process will replace our traditional comprehensive exam and we refer to it in our catalog and program handbook as “portfolio exam”. In contrast to a traditional comprehensive exam, or a take-home exam the portfolio exam has the advantage of taking student maturation into consideration. It also allows the students to better align their work products to career goals as they emerge throughout the two-year program. Students will produce, present, and give an oral defense of their completed portfolio.

Description and justification of the request:

agriffin (09/02/16 4:21 pm): Rollback: To assure your catalog changes are reflected accurately, please submit the proposed changes directly into the Program Requirements, Description field in the Program Management system. Also, please change your program review date to 2019-2020.

agriffin (09/07/16 4:36 pm): Bolded portfolio exam headline.

ddraper (09/22/16 3:32 pm): Made minor edits to clarify the requirements per request of the Fulbright College curriculum committee and with the consent of the PLSC department.

Program reviewer comments

Uploaded

attachments: