Master of Public Administration

v 2 Graduate Program Change 2019-20

I. General Information

Select *Program* below.

Type of Program*
- ⦿ Program
- ◯ Shared Core

Read before you begin

TURN ON help text before starting this proposal by clicking 🛈 in the top right corner of the heading. You will need to turn on help text again after any actions that refresh the page including after saving proposals, importing information, or running impact reports.

IMPORT curriculum data from the Catalog by clicking ⬇ in the top left corner. <u>Do not make any changes to any information until the proposal has been launched in Step 4.</u> Changes will only be tracked after proposal is launched. FILL IN ONLY fields required marked with an * after importing data. You will not be able to launch the proposal without completing required fields.

LAUNCH proposal by clicking ▶ in the top left corner.
After launching the proposal, make all changes and fill in all additional fields.

Finish the launch of your proposal by clicking the icon ✅ located in the Proposal Toolbox on left side at top. Make your decision, comment is optional, and click on "Make decision".

You can check the status of the proposal by clicking ≡ in Proposal Toolbox to verify that the proposal has gone to the next step.

College/ Department*	School of Public Policy and Leadership
Degree Type*	Master of Public Administration
Program Type*	Master's
Program Title*	Master of Public Administration

Program Title	Master of Public Administration
Program Code*	PUAMPA

II. Program Changes

Are you changing admission requirements?*	◯ Yes ⦿ No
Are you changing course requirements?*	⦿ Yes ◯ No
Are you changing degree completion requirements?*	◯ Yes ⦿ No
Are you changing the primary instructional mode?*	◯ Yes ⦿ No
Are you changing program learning objectives?*	◯ Yes ⦿ No
If yes, describe changes to learning objectives:	
Provide a Brief Summary of Proposed Changes*	Removing the writing intensive requirement for the MPA program subplans: Subplan 1 currently requires students to take 9 credit hours of electives and 3 credit hours of writing intensive courses. This proposal seeks to do away with the 3 credit hour writing intensive requirement and increase the 9 credit hours of electives to 12 credit hours. This will result in students doing 12 credit hours of electives with no writing intensive requirement. Subplan 2 currently requires students to take 12 credit hours of Nonprofit Management courses. The catalog currently says 9 hours, with 3 additional hours of writing intensive course work. This confusion is requiring students to take an additional 3 credit hours to fulfill the program requirements. The program is supposed to be a 36 hour program, but it currently lists 39 hours of requirements. This proposal seeks to do away with the writing intensive requirement and just require students to take 9 hours of Nonprofit Management courses, where none are required to be designated as writing intensive. Under subplan 2, PUA 773 is listed as an optional Nonprofit Management course. However, this course is no longer offered and does not exist in the catalog. Therefore, this course should be removed from the program's catalog page.
Provide a rationale for each proposed change*	This proposal seeks to reduce administrative redundancy. All 700 level courses within the MPA program require a specific degree of writing intensity and rigor. Therefore, this precludes the need for a student to declare a course as a writing intensive course. Additionally, the program does not specifically designate which courses are considered writing intensive, neither does it designate which courses have less writing intensity than others, making this an arbitrary process.

An assessment of courses throughout our program has revealed that this requirement does nothing to lend towards student success or the attainment of competencies. Likewise, this requirement contributes nothing towards the MPA program's accreditation or the maintaining of its accreditation.

Finally, this course requirement was requiring some students (subplan 2) to have to take an additional course. So, instead of the program being a 36 hour program for all students, some were being forced to finish the program with 39 hours.

Follow these steps to build the new program curriculum:

Step1

Click on ☰ "View Curriculum Schema." Edit existing cores or click 'Add Core' and name your core (please use a comparable degree program in the current graduate catalog as a template). Edit or add any descriptive text (do not add courses until Step 2). Descriptive text is generally used in the following cores: Plan Description, Plan Admission Requirements, Plan Requirements, Plan Graduation Requirements.

Step 2

☰ There are two options for adding courses (see Step 3 to remove courses): "Add Course" and "Import Course." For courses already in the catalog, click on "Import Course" and find the courses needed. For new classes going through a Curriculog Approval Process click on "Add Course"-- a box will open asking you for the Prefix, Course Number and Course Title.

Step 3

Click on ☰ "View Curriculum Schema." Click on the area/header of the program where you would like to add courses. When you click on "Add Courses" it will bring up the list of courses available from Step 2. Select the courses you wish to add. For removing courses click on the ✖ and proceed.

Do not make any changes to any information until the proposal has been launched in Step 4.

Prospective
Curriculum*

Plan Description

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree is the professional degree for the field of public administration and it serves to provide public sector practitioners with an understanding of the inner workings of governmental environments. Our program is the only MPA program nationally accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) in the state of Nevada. Our goal is to prepare students to become public service professionals within

organizations that serve the public and nonprofit sectors. Additionally, our program serves career military personnel and private sector

professionals whose responsibilities involve extensive contact with governmental agencies. Graduates of the MPA program will have an understanding of the inner workings of governmental organizational structures, the key principles of public management and administration, and the basic methods of researching and analyzing public policy issues. Graduate work in the program provides an awareness of the organizational and policy contexts in which public sector administrators make and implement decisions. The learning objectives of our program are designed to provide students with skills and expertise that demonstrate their proficiencies within five core competency areas. For more information about your program, including your graduate program handbook and learning outcomes please visit the Degree Directory.

Plan Admission Requirements

Application deadlines Applications available on the UNLV Graduate College website. While admissions to the MPA program entails specific requirements, consideration for admissions may also include previous professional and academic experience. All applicants are required to have: An earned bachelor's degree in an acceptable field of undergraduate study from a regionally accredited college or university. A GPA of at least 2.75 overall or 3.00 in the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate study on a 4.0 scale. Satisfactory score on either the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT). Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of 3.5 and five years of responsible administrative or professional work experience in the public or nonprofit sector need not submit GRE or GMAT scores. Applicants who have completed the department's Graduate Certificate in Public Management with a GPA of 3.5 or higher need not submit GRE or GMAT scores. The GRE scores should be sent directly to the School of Public Policy and Leadership. Three reference letters that speak to the applicant's character, work ethic and ability to conduct graduate work. A resume indicating educational and professional experience sent to the School of Public Policy and Leadership. A personal statement describing how the MPA fits into the applicant's professional goals. An official transcript from the college or university where the applicant received a bachelor's degree should be sent to the School of Public Policy and Leadership and Graduate College. All domestic and international applicants must review and follow the Graduate College Admission and Registration Requirements. Students are accepted into a degree program as described in the Graduate Catalog. The faculty and corresponding sub-disciplines and sub-plans within the described programs are subject to change at any time.

Plan Requirements

See Subplan Requirements below. Subplan 1: Public Administration Concentration Subplan 2: Nonprofit Management Concentration

Subplan 1 Requirements: Public Administration Concentration

Total Credits Required: 36

Course Requirements

Required Courses – Credits: 15

PUA 701 Governance and the Urban Community

PUA 703 Seminar In Organization Theory

PUA 705 Public Goods and Public Finance

PUA 707 Law and Public Policy

PUA 708 Organizations and Organizational Behavior

Analytic Skills Courses – Credits: 3

PUA 723 Research and Analytical Methods

Elective Courses - Credits: 12

Complete 12 credits of elective coursework from any graduate-level Public Administration (PUA) course or graduate-level social science, business, or other relevant course with the approval of the graduate coordinator or department chair.

Culminating Experience– Credits: 6

Complete the following courses in sequence

PUA 725 Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation
PUA 729 MPA Capstone Experience

Degree Requirements

See Plan Degree Requirements below.

Graduation Requirements

See Plan Graduation Requirements below.

Subplan 2 Requirements: Nonprofit Management Concentration

Total Credits Required: 36

Course Requirements

Required Courses – Credits: 18

PUA 701 Governance and the Urban Community
PUA 703 Seminar In Organization Theory
PUA 705 Public Goods and Public Finance
PUA 707 Law and Public Policy
PUA 708 Organizations and Organizational Behavior
PUA 770 Nonprofit Management and

PUA 770 Nonprofit Management and
Theories of the 3rd Sector

Analytic Skills Courses – Credits: 3

**PUA 723 Research and Analytical
Methods**

Nonprofit Management Courses – Credits: 9

Complete 9 hours of the following courses:

**PUA 610 Grant Writing for Public and
Nonprofit Managers**

PUA 611 Policy Advocacy and Lobbying

**PUA 612 Performance Measurement for
Public and Nonprofit Organizations**

**PUA 613 Leadership and Ethics for
Public and Nonprofit Managers**

**PUA 771 Grant Writing and Evaluation
Field Study**

**PUA 774 Community Outreach and
Volunteerism**

**PUA 775 Strategic Planning and
Program Evaluation for Nonprofits**

**PUA 776 Development for Nonprofit
Managers**

Culminating Experience – Credits: 6

Complete the following courses in sequence

**PUA 725 Policy Analysis and Program
Evaluation**

PUA 729 MPA Capstone Experience

Degree Requirements

See Plan Degree Requirements below.

Graduation Requirements

See Plan Graduation Requirements below.

Plan Degree Requirements

Completion of a minimum of 36 credit hours with a minimum GPA of 3.00. All students entering the program must start with PUA 701 - Governance & Urban Community, a class designed to provide a general overview of the field. With this foundation, the student then embarks upon the rest of the program. Students may enroll in PUA 725 only after they have completed at least 24 credit hours toward the MPA degree. The order of the end-of-course sequence (PUA 725) is determined by when the student completes the required 24 credit hours. Students enroll in PUA 729 - MPA Capstone Experience to complete their final project which is taken after completing PUA 725. The final project applies analytical skills to an issue of interest to a governmental or nonprofit agency and should be completed near the end of a student's program of study. Students must obtain a B average in order to graduate. A student can have no more than one grade less than a B-. It is assumed that students working full time and taking courses on a part-time basis can complete the MPA program in two and one-half years of study. For students without appropriate professional administrative experiences, the degree requires an internship and a total of 39 hours.

Plan Graduation Requirements

The student must submit all required forms to the Graduate College and then apply for graduation up to two semesters prior to completing his/her degree requirements. The student must complete the two end of program capstone courses (PUA 725 and PUA 729).

The [Degrees Directory](#) provides current and consistent degree information. Submission of this form indicates acknowledgment and understanding that every department is responsible creating and maintaining accurate and updated program information on the UNLV Degrees Directory.

If the changes included on this form impact the program handbook attach the updated handbook before submitting this form. If you need a Word version of the most recent handbook please email GradCurriculum@unlv.edu.

Degrees Directory Program Entry* ☑ Check this box to acknowledge the above statement.

Changes will be applicable to* ○ Current students
○ New students
◉ Both current and new students

If applicable to current students, changes are	◯ Mandatory ◯ Optional

Effective Date*	Fall 2019

III. Department Vote Information

Date faculty voted on proposal	4/5/2019
Result of vote	12/0/0
Manner of vote	Face to face

IV. Unit Vote Information

Date faculty voted on proposal	5/10/19
Result of vote	5-0 in favor
Manner of vote	Online

V. Graduate College Use Only

Program Alerts (E.g. This program is no longer accepting applications)	This program is accredited by: NASPAA. More information can be found at: unlv.edu/provost/vpaa/accreditation
Processing Notes	

Acalog Processing Date	Initials

VI. Registrar Use Only

Processing Notes	

PS Processing Date	Initials