

JSGS 883: Self-Assessment, Personal Objectives, and Learning Plans

Part 1:

Mark the appropriate box to self-assess your level of development for each of the six JSGS MPA attributes at the beginning of your MPA program.

Reflect on how you arrived at this self-assessment (200-500 words). What experience do you bring to the MPA program that has helped you to develop to the level that you are at? What are you hoping to gain from this program? Are there any particular gaps in your knowledge or skills that you can already identify? Are there any attributes for which you're unsure of your level of competency?

MPA Attribute	Novice	Developed	Professional
1. Management, Governance, and Leadership			
2. Communication and Social Skills			
3. Systems Thinking and Creative Analysis			
4. Public Policy and Community Engagement			
5. Continuous Evaluation and Improvement			
6. Policy Knowledge			

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Part 2:

Identify at least two personal objectives regarding the progress you would like to see for each attribute (including the sub-competencies) by the end of your MPA program. Your objectives should be framed as a “SMART” goals: specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound.

Then, create a learning plan for each objective: the steps you will take to achieve that objective. Every learning plan should each include at least 3 concrete actions. Actions might include participating in the JSGS policy shop, attending workshops put on by Graduate Studies or other units providing student supports, attending a certain number of presentations by guest speakers at JSGS or other departments, taking on particular responsibilities in team projects, or other actions. Choose activities for your learning plan that you can document and that will allow you to reflect on how they helped you to achieve your competency development goals.

Attribute: Management, Governance, and Leadership

Sub-competencies:

- Administrative concepts and principles
- Values and ethics
- Management skills

Personal Objectives:

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Attribute: Communication and Social Skills

Sub-competencies:

- Group work
- Communication with diverse audiences
- Clear writing and speaking
- Networking and negotiation

Personal Objectives:

Learning Plans:

Attribute: Systems Thinking and Creative Analysis

Sub-competencies:

- Organizational issues
- Statistical concepts
- Economic principles and methods
- Ethics
- Critical thinking

Personal Objectives:

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Attribute: Public Policy and Community Engagement

Sub-competencies:

- Structure of policy making
- Impact of policy
- Basic concepts of good public management

Personal Objectives:

Learning Plans:

Attribute: Continuous Evaluation and Improvement

Sub-competencies:

- Change management
- Performance monitoring for organizations and programs
- Objective self-assessment

Personal Objectives:

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Attribute: Policy knowledge

Sub-competencies:

- Policy analysis theory and methods
- Evidence-based policy making
- Policy implementation and evaluation

Personal Objectives:

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