



▶▶ Master of Public Administration (MPA)



▶▶ About the MPA Program

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) program, accredited by the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration (CAPPA), is designed to prepare students for careers in public administration and policy work in diverse areas such as non-government organizations, industry associations, and, of course, the public service. MPA students are exposed to core concepts in policy formation and analysis, and have the opportunity to explore substantive areas such as social policy, health policy, innovation policy, trade and immigration policy, resource and environmental policy, and public sector management. This combination of theory, application and research ensures that our graduates are well prepared to:

- > develop strategic planning, leadership and management skills;
- > draft policy papers and decision documents;
- > engage in basic and applied policy research;
- > work with governments and advocacy groups to identify and promote specific policy measures; and
- > participate in and lead teams of individuals or groups seeking to examine problems, identify issues, promote solutions and evaluate and assess outcomes of policy measures.

The MPA program can be completed in one year with the appropriate selection of courses; however, the program can be extended beyond one year for those students who need more time, are working or whose first language is not English.

Students entering the program are required to participate in the "Get Connected!" academic orientation offered in the fall.

Program Curriculum

MPA students are required to complete 30 credit units, consisting of five core courses (15 credit units) and five elective courses (15 credit units).

All MPA students are required to complete the following set of core courses:

- > **JSGS 801** - Governance and Administration
- > **JSGS 802** - Public Finance
- > **JSGS 805** - Economics for Public Policy Analysis
- > **JSGS 806** - Public Policy Analysis
- > **JSGS 807** - Statistics for Public Managers

All MPA students are required to complete at least one elective from the following list of public management/administration courses:

- > **JSGS 808** - Ethical Leadership and Democracy in Public Service
- > **JSGS 815** - Strategic Human Resource Management: Legal and Policy Issues
- > **JSGS 831** - Seminar on Public Administration
- > **JSGS 836AA-ZZ** Selected Topics in Public Administration (U of R)
- > **JSGS 838** - Public Sector Financial Management
- > **JSGS 898** - Special Topics in Public Management/Administration (U of S)

All MPA students are required to complete at least one elective

from the following list of public policy courses:

- > **JSGS 816** - Tax Policy and Fiscal Federalism
- > **JSGS 817** - Health Policy

OREOLUWA OGUNRINDE, MPA GRADUATE, UNIVERSITY OF REGINA CAMPUS

"The MPA program at the JSGS has enhanced my knowledge of public policy, research and theory. The quality and experience of the professors and the opportunity to network with professionals within the field was truly a rewarding experience. In addition, the JSGS has strong links with the government and large funding bodies, which provides students with opportunities to intern and receive hands-on training."

Oreoluwa has also attained her BKin, Health Studies, University of Regina, 2008

"As a part of the first cohort that went through the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Saskatchewan, I saw first-hand the dedication and hard work required to get the program running. The result of the dedication of the faculty and staff is a program, which despite being new, has become highly regarded not only Saskatchewan, but also across the rest of Canada. Shortly after the completion of my degree, I was offered work with two levels of government, as well as with the Saskatoon Health Region. The knowledge and skills I obtained while at the JSGS continue to serve me on a daily basis, allowing me to fulfill my duties at a level that exceeds expectations. The high calibre of the faculty is quickly making the JSGS a national leader in public administration; I am both thankful and privileged to have had the opportunity to learn from them."

Patrick has also attained his Bachelor of Physical Activity Studies, University of Regina, 2002; MA, Physical Education and Recreation Studies, University of Manitoba, 2006

PATRICK R. FALASTEIN, PROJECT MANAGER - STRATEGIC PLANNING, PLANNING, POLICY & PERFORMANCE, SASKATOON HEALTH REGION; MPA GRADUATE, UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN CAMPUS

- > **JSGS 818** - Program Evaluation
- > **JSGS 819** - Gender and Public Policy
- > **JSGS 822** - Comparative Public Policy
- > **JSGS 840** - Public Policy and Public Opinion
- > **JSGS 849** - Social Economy and Public Policy
- > **JSGS 854** - Higher Education Policy
- > **JSGS 859** - Innovation Policy
- > **JSGS 863** - Aboriginal Peoples and Public Policy
- > **JSGS 864** - Social Policy: Interdisciplinary Perspectives
- > **JSGS 868** - Resource and Environmental Policy
- > **JSGS 872** - International Trade and Commercial Policy (online)
- > **JSGS 875** - Politics of International Trade (online)

The three remaining elective courses (9 credit units) must be selected from the courses offered by the school and can be taken at either campus. **JSGS 872** and **JSGS 875**, which are on the list of approved public policy restricted electives, are both online courses. Students wishing to take online courses other than these two must first have approval from the graduate chair at their home campus. Please note, space is limited in online courses and priority will be given to students enrolled in the MIT program. For all courses taken, the rules and regulations of the university through which the course is taken will apply to the student. Please visit www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca for a complete list of courses.

Students must also complete **JSGS 990** (U of S) or **JSGS 990AB** (U of R) Public Policy Seminar Series (continuous registration required). In their first term of study, students at the U of S campus must also complete **GSR 960** Introduction to Ethics and Integrity, while students at the U of R campus must complete **GRST 800AA** Academic Integrity Tutorial. These are non-credit courses required by Graduate Studies and Research at each campus and are offered at no cost to the student.

Please note that the MPA program is subject to revision at any time. For the most current information on the program, please visit our website.

Internships

The Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy offers MPA students the opportunity to enhance their post-graduate work with an internship in areas such as the federal and provincial public service, municipal and local governments, and in health services research. The many concrete benefits to interns in the Johnson-Shoyama Executive

Internship Program include initial internship placement, valuable career preparation and experience, the development of an extensive professional network, as well as accelerated professional growth and advancement.

Application Qualifications

University of Regina: All applicants must meet the entrance requirements of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research. Applicants must have completed a four-year undergraduate degree in any area with a cumulative average of at least 75%.

University of Saskatchewan: Applicants must have completed a four-year undergraduate degree from a recognized university. An average of 75% or better must be maintained during the final two years (60 credit units) of the undergraduate program or in the graduate program if students are entering the MPA after a graduate degree.

Program Competitiveness

Admission to the MPA program is very competitive. The number of applications received greatly exceeds the number of available places and not all qualified applicants will be offered admission (i.e., successful candidates will typically have an average in excess of 75% [or upper second class]). Typically 25-30 students are admitted each year per campus.

Additional Information

Students will enter the program from a wide variety of disciplines - including everything from the fine arts to the humanities to the social sciences to the physical sciences to professional college disciplines. While it is not necessary, some knowledge of economics, statistics and social science is generally an advantage.

Application Deadlines

All students accepted into the MPA program begin in September. There are two application deadlines: February 1 and May 1.

Funding

The school offers a limited number of scholarships for MPA students. All complete applications received by February 1 will be considered for funding. Complete applications received by May 1 will be considered for a scholarship if any funding remains.

For more information regarding this program, including courses, prerequisites and tuition, please visit www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca