

Graduate Center for Public Policy and Administration  
California State University, Long Beach

# **MPA Student Handbook**



MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

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**Faculty and Staff**

**Graduate Center for Public Policy and Administration**

Director.....Dr. Adam Butz

Graduate Advisor.....Dr. Tina Zhao

DLMPA .....

## **Master of Public Administration Program (MPA)**

The general MPA program is designed with a professional emphasis and provides graduate students with a broad knowledge of specific competencies. The program also develops the student's ability to apply acquired knowledge and skills to the solution of public problems. In addition to the general MPA degree, the GCPPA offers the MPA degree with options in Urban Affairs and Public Works Management. Students may also earn certificates in Employer-Employee Relations and Personnel Management, Public Management Analysis, and Public Sector Financial Management. More information can be found online at <https://www.csulb.edu/college-of-health-human-services/public-policy-and-administration>

## **Application**

### Core Courses in the MPA Program

You must complete these courses to earn an MPA degree. You must complete all core courses before you can enroll in PPA 697. You should take PPA 500 in your first semester. You can take courses in any sequence. Be sure to note PPA 555 has a prerequisite microeconomics course and PPA 696 has a prerequisite statistics course.

PPA 500	Foundation of Public Policy and Administration	3 units
PPA 555	Government Budgeting and Finance	3 units
PPA 577	Public Sector Human Resources Management	3 units
PPA 660	Seminar in Organization Theory and Behavior	3 units
PPA 670	Policy Issue Analysis	3 units
PPA 696	Research Methods in Public Administration	3 units

### MPA Options

The Public Works Option has one more core course-PPA 554 Public Works Facilities and one less elective course. All other requirements for the MPA degree are the same.

The Urban Affairs Option has one more core course-PPA 610 Seminar Urban Affairs and one less elective course. All other requirements for the MPA degree are the same.

### Elective Fields

You may select your elective courses from among those offered by the GCPA as well as from graduate level courses numbered 500 or 600 offered by other departments at the University.



Advancement to candidacy requirements:

1. Completion of at least six units

## **Maintaining Enrollment**

A student who has been admitted to the University and accepted in the MPA program is expected to maintain continuous enrollment.





**Canvas**

Canvas is the University's e-learning environment. It provides students with the opportunity to stay connected with their instructors and classmates. Canvas may be a component of some or all of a student's courses as either a supplement to the course, as an element of a hybrid course, or as the structure for a completely online course.

**Bob Murphy Access Center**

The Bob Murphy Access Center (BMAC), a department within the Student Services Division, ensures access to