PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)

Brooks School of Public Policy

Program Website (https://publicpolicy.cornell.edu/masters/mpa/)

CIP: 44.0401 | **HEGIS:** 2102.00 | **NYSED:** 17040

Program Description

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) program is designed for people who aspire to management and leadership roles across the field of public affairs in public, private, and non-profit sectors. It is a two-year, full-time, on-campus professional degree for people ready to tackle the world's most pressing policy problems in careers that serve the greater good. Students choose from seven concentrations, each designed to equip them with specialized knowledge and skills that support their career growth in their chosen field.

Concentrations

- Data science
- Economic policy
- Environmental and sustainability policy
- International policy management
- Public and nonprofit management
- Science and technology policy
- Social policy: health, education, and inequality

Academic Standards

Program Policies

MPA students are expected to meet policies set by the Brooks School of Public Policy and the University for professional master's students. Please review Brooks School Policies and Procedures (https://catalog.cornell.edu/public-policy/#policiesandproceduresteext) for detailed information on academic policies and requirements, as well as Cornell University Academic Integrity (https://catalog.cornell.edu/policies-disclosures/academic-integrity/) policies.

Petitions

Course substitutions may be permitted based on prior mastery of a subject or to request a relevant course not listed within the catalog year's curriculum requirements. These petitions must be approved by the Brooks MPA Program Director.

MPA students must be in-residence for all semesters of the program. They must also attend classes according to the modality offered by the course and cannot request an alternative form of attendance/participation.

Students who face an extenuating circumstance may petition the MPA Program Director for an exception to an MPA program academic policy.

Academic Standing

Residential master's students are expected to meet the following academic standards:

- Maintain a minimum semester and cumulative grade point average of 3.0.
- Receive a grade of C or better in all courses applied toward degree requirements.
- Carry no more than two incomplete grades at any time.
- Complete at least 12 credits each fall and spring term, unless an approved petition for a reduced course load has been granted.
- Remain in residence unless participating in an approved off-campus activity with prior written approval from the program director.
- Make satisfactory progress toward completion of a Brooks School master's degree.

For additional information regarding the academic standing review process, refer to the Brooks School Policies and Procedures (https://catalog.cornell.edu/public-policy/#policiesandproceduresteext).

Complementary Degree Pathways

Master of Public Administration (MPA) – Juris Doctor (JD) Pathway

As of May 2026, admissions to MPA-JD pathway is on pause. Students who received acceptance into both programs prior to May 2026 remain eligible to participate.

This pathway enables students to earn a JD degree alongside their MPA degree by applying up to twelve credits across both programs.

Master of Public Administration (MPA) - Master of Business Administration (MBA) Pathway

As of May 2025, admissions to the MPA-MBA pathway is on pause. Students who received acceptance into both programs prior to May 2025 remain eligible to participate.

This pathway enables students to earn an MBA degree alongside their MPA degree by applying up to twelve credits across both programs.

Program Information

- Program Mode of Delivery: In Person
- Program Location: Ithaca, NY
- Minimum Credits for Degree: 62
- Length of Program: Two years (four full-time semesters)

Program Requirements

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required. Students must receive a grade of C or better in all degree requirements. If a course offers a letter grade option, it must be taken for a letter grade. If a course is only offered with SX/UX grading, a grade of SX must be received.

Core (34 credits)

Code	Title	Hours
Complete all of the following:		
PUBPOL 5009	Career Management for Public Affairs	1.5
PUBPOL 5111	Public Administration	3
PUBPOL 5120	Global Citizenship	3
PUBPOL 5160	Diversity, Dialogue and Ethical Leadership	3
PUBPOL 5180	Strategic Planning for Nonprofit & Government Organizations	1.5
PUBPOL 5210	Intermediate Microeconomics for Public Affairs	3
PUBPOL 5310	Applied Econometrics for Public Policy	4
PUBPOL 5414	Project Management	3
PUBPOL 5418	Strategic Stakeholder Engagement	1.5

PUBPOL 5425	Fundamentals of Accounting and Financial Management for Public and Nonprofit Organizations	3
PUBPOL 5432	Public and Nonprofit Marketing	3
PUBPOL 5441	Effective Writing for Public Policy	1.5
PUBPOL 5750	Causal Analysis and Impact Evaluation in Public Policy	3
Total Hours		**34**

Concentration (9 credits)

Complete one of the seven concentration options. Each student will declare their concentration upon matriculation. To request to change your concentration contact BrooksRegistrar@cornell.edu. A maximum of 4 credits of PUBPOL 5920 Public Affairs Externships may apply towards any concentration.

Data Science

Required Core Course

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5072	Using Big Data to Solve Economic and Social Problems	3

Electives

Complete at least 6 credits of coursework with the MPA-DATSCI attribute listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
ECON 6590	Empirical Strategies for Policy Analysis	3
GDEV 6080	Demographic Techniques	3
GOVT 6998	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5060	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5155	Data Management and Programming for Policy and Society	3
PUBPOL 5211	Artificial Intelligence: Law, Ethics, and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5360	Program Evaluation for Community Organizations	4
PUBPOL 5390	Foundations of Machine Learning for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5525	Economic and Policy Implications of Artificial Intelligence	3
PUBPOL 5679	Desktop and Modeling Solutions	3
PUBPOL 5725	Ethics in Data, Data Science, and AI for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5830	Randomized Controlled Trials for Policy and Society	3
PUBPOL 5840	Data Visualization for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5860	Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Developing Country Contexts	3
PUBPOL 5881	Dialogue Across Differences for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5902	Special Topics in Public Administration	0.5-1
PUBPOL 5920	Public Affairs Externships	1-8
PUBPOL 6040	Qualitative, Survey, and Mixed Method Approaches to Policy Research	3
PUBPOL 6060	Demographic Techniques	3
PUBPOL 6090	Empirical Strategies for Policy Analysis	3
PUBPOL 6950	Spatial Demography	3
SOC 6150	Qualitative, Survey, and Mixed Method Approaches to Policy Research	3
SOC 6950	Spatial Demography	3

Economic Policy

Required Core Course

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5220	Public Finance: Economics of the Public Sector	3

Electives

Complete at least 6 credits of coursework with the MPA-ECONPL attribute listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
GOVT 6998	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
ILRGL 6066	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5015	Climate Economics and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5060	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5080	Economics of the U.S. Social Safety Net	3
PUBPOL 5130	Behavioral Economics and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5132	Legal Aspects of Public Agency Decision-Making	3
PUBPOL 5190	Nonprofits and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5281	The Economics and Regulation of Risky Health Behaviors	3
PUBPOL 5340	Regulation and Infrastructure Policy	3
PUBPOL 5370	Economics of Health Care Markets	3
PUBPOL 5380	Markets, Policy and Sustainability	3
PUBPOL 5400	Economics of Consumer Policy	4
PUBPOL 5410	Nonprofit Finance, Management, and Fundraising	3
PUBPOL 5411	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5472	Technology Strategy for Public and Nonprofit Management	1.5
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5571	Corporate Responsibility	3
PUBPOL 5612	Politics and Processes of State and Local Government	3
PUBPOL 5658	Fixing the Future: Policy Solutions for Development Dilemmas	1.5
PUBPOL 5660	Strategic Management and Organizational Design of Health Care Systems	3
PUBPOL 5725	Ethics in Data, Data Science, and AI for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5755	Infrastructure Financing	3
PUBPOL 5780	Artificial Intelligence and Public Sector Decision Making	3
PUBPOL 5860	Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Developing Country Contexts	3
PUBPOL 5881	Dialogue Across Differences for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5902	Special Topics in Public Administration	0.5-1
PUBPOL 5920	Public Affairs Externships	1-8

PUBPOL 5940	Consulting for Nonprofit and Government Organizations	3
PUBPOL 5970	Economics and Environmental Policy	3

Environmental and Sustainability Policy

Required Core Course

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5730	Comparative Environmental Policy	3

Electives

Complete at least 6 credits of coursework with the MPA-ENPO attribute listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
GOVT 6998	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
ILRGL 6066	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5010	Contemporary Security Policy	3
PUBPOL 5011	Food Systems and Environmental Policy	3
PUBPOL 5015	Climate Economics and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5060	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5130	Behavioral Economics and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5132	Legal Aspects of Public Agency Decision-Making	3
PUBPOL 5135	World Food Systems and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5220	Public Finance: Economics of the Public Sector	3
PUBPOL 5380	Markets, Policy and Sustainability	3
PUBPOL 5410	Nonprofit Finance, Management, and Fundraising	3
PUBPOL 5411	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5472	Technology Strategy for Public and Nonprofit Management	1.5
PUBPOL 5480	Sustainability Education Policy in the U.S. and Ecuador	4
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5571	Corporate Responsibility	3
PUBPOL 5590	Environmental Justice and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5607	Global Policy Challenges	3
PUBPOL 5612	Politics and Processes of State and Local Government	3
PUBPOL 5717	Energy Transition: Policy, Financial, and Business Interactions	3
PUBPOL 5734	Disasters, Vulnerability, and Resilience	3
PUBPOL 5755	Infrastructure Financing	3
PUBPOL 5780	Artificial Intelligence and Public Sector Decision Making	3
PUBPOL 5860	Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Developing Country Contexts	3
PUBPOL 5881	Dialogue Across Differences for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5902	Special Topics in Public Administration	0.5-1
PUBPOL 5920	Public Affairs Externships	1-8
PUBPOL 5940	Consulting for Nonprofit and Government Organizations	3
PUBPOL 5970	Economics and Environmental Policy	3

International Policy Management

Required Core Course

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5451	International Public and NGO Management	3

Electives

Complete at least 6 credits of coursework with the MPA-INTPMN attribute listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
AMST 6510	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4
GOVT 6512	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4
GOVT 6998	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
ILRGL 6066	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5010	Contemporary Security Policy	3
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5041	U.S. Immigration Law and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5050	Refugee Resettlement Policy	3
PUBPOL 5060	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5072	Using Big Data to Solve Economic and Social Problems	3
PUBPOL 5080	Economics of the U.S. Social Safety Net	3
PUBPOL 5130	Behavioral Economics and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5132	Legal Aspects of Public Agency Decision-Making	3
PUBPOL 5135	World Food Systems and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5151	Gender Inequality and Global Policy	3
PUBPOL 5190	Nonprofits and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5200	International Human Rights Policy	3
PUBPOL 5220	Public Finance: Economics of the Public Sector	3
PUBPOL 5230	Comparative Education Policy	3
PUBPOL 5280	Population Health for Health Managers	3
PUBPOL 5281	The Economics and Regulation of Risky Health Behaviors	3
PUBPOL 5330	Children's Law and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5340	Regulation and Infrastructure Policy	3
PUBPOL 5380	Markets, Policy and Sustainability	3
PUBPOL 5400	Economics of Consumer Policy	4
PUBPOL 5410	Nonprofit Finance, Management, and Fundraising	3
PUBPOL 5411	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5450	Democracy Promotion in Modern U.S. Foreign Policy	3
PUBPOL 5455	Comparative Public and Healthcare Administration	2
PUBPOL 5472	Technology Strategy for Public and Nonprofit Management	1.5
PUBPOL 5480	Sustainability Education Policy in the U.S. and Ecuador	4
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5510	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4

PUBPOL 5560	Market Design for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5571	Corporate Responsibility	3
PUBPOL 5590	Environmental Justice and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5607	Global Policy Challenges	3
PUBPOL 5612	Politics and Processes of State and Local Government	3
PUBPOL 5619	Politics, Policy, and Political Management	3
PUBPOL 5658	Fixing the Future: Policy Solutions for Development Dilemmas	1.5
PUBPOL 5670	Health Policy	3
PUBPOL 5680	Towards a Policy of Democratic Unity	3
PUBPOL 5717	Energy Transition: Policy, Financial, and Business Interactions	3
PUBPOL 5730	Comparative Environmental Policy	3
PUBPOL 5734	Disasters, Vulnerability, and Resilience	3
PUBPOL 5755	Infrastructure Financing	3
PUBPOL 5780	Artificial Intelligence and Public Sector Decision Making	3
PUBPOL 5860	Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Developing Country Contexts	3
PUBPOL 5881	Dialogue Across Differences for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5902	Special Topics in Public Administration	0.5-1
PUBPOL 5920	Public Affairs Externships	1-8
PUBPOL 5940	Consulting for Nonprofit and Government Organizations	3
PUBPOL 5970	Economics and Environmental Policy	3

Public and Nonprofit Management

Required Core Course

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5410	Nonprofit Finance, Management, and Fundraising	3

Electives

Complete at least 6 credits of coursework with the MPA-PUBNON attribute listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
AMST 6510	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4
GOVT 6051	Being Native in the 21st Century: American Indian & Alaska Native Politics, History, and Policy	4
GOVT 6271	Constitutional Law: An Introduction	4
GOVT 6512	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4
GOVT 6998	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
ILRGL 6066	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5010	Contemporary Security Policy	3
PUBPOL 5020	Being Native in the 21st Century: American Indian & Alaska Native Politics, History, and Policy	4
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5041	U.S. Immigration Law and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5050	Refugee Resettlement Policy	3
PUBPOL 5060	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5072	Using Big Data to Solve Economic and Social Problems	3
PUBPOL 5080	Economics of the U.S. Social Safety Net	3
PUBPOL 5130	Behavioral Economics and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5132	Legal Aspects of Public Agency Decision-Making	3
PUBPOL 5135	World Food Systems and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5151	Gender Inequality and Global Policy	3
PUBPOL 5190	Nonprofits and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5200	International Human Rights Policy	3
PUBPOL 5220	Public Finance: Economics of the Public Sector	3
PUBPOL 5230	Comparative Education Policy	3
PUBPOL 5270	Constitutional Law: An Introduction	4
PUBPOL 5280	Population Health for Health Managers	3
PUBPOL 5281	The Economics and Regulation of Risky Health Behaviors	3
PUBPOL 5320	Mental Health Care Delivery and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5330	Children's Law and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5340	Regulation and Infrastructure Policy	3
PUBPOL 5370	Economics of Health Care Markets	3
PUBPOL 5380	Markets, Policy and Sustainability	3
PUBPOL 5400	Economics of Consumer Policy	4
PUBPOL 5411	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5450	Democracy Promotion in Modern U.S. Foreign Policy	3
PUBPOL 5451	International Public and NGO Management	3
PUBPOL 5455	Comparative Public and Healthcare Administration	2
PUBPOL 5472	Technology Strategy for Public and Nonprofit Management	1.5
PUBPOL 5480	Sustainability Education Policy in the U.S. and Ecuador	4
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5510	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4
PUBPOL 5560	Market Design for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5571	Corporate Responsibility	3
PUBPOL 5590	Environmental Justice and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5607	Global Policy Challenges	3
PUBPOL 5612	Politics and Processes of State and Local Government	3
PUBPOL 5619	Politics, Policy, and Political Management	3
PUBPOL 5658	Fixing the Future: Policy Solutions for Development Dilemmas	1.5
PUBPOL 5670	Health Policy	3
PUBPOL 5680	Towards a Policy of Democratic Unity	3
PUBPOL 5717	Energy Transition: Policy, Financial, and Business Interactions	3
PUBPOL 5730	Comparative Environmental Policy	3
PUBPOL 5734	Disasters, Vulnerability, and Resilience	3
PUBPOL 5755	Infrastructure Financing	3
PUBPOL 5780	Artificial Intelligence and Public Sector Decision Making	3

PUBPOL 5860	Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Developing Country Contexts	3
PUBPOL 5881	Dialogue Across Differences for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5902	Special Topics in Public Administration	0.5-1
PUBPOL 5920	Public Affairs Externships	1-8
PUBPOL 5940	Consulting for Nonprofit and Government Organizations	3
PUBPOL 5970	Economics and Environmental Policy	3

Science and Technology Policy

Required Core Course

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5780	Artificial Intelligence and Public Sector Decision Making	3

Electives

Complete at least 6 credits of coursework with the MPA-SCITEC attribute listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
GOVT 6998	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
ILRGL 6066	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5010	Contemporary Security Policy	3
PUBPOL 5015	Climate Economics and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5060	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5132	Legal Aspects of Public Agency Decision-Making	3
PUBPOL 5211	Artificial Intelligence: Law, Ethics, and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5220	Public Finance: Economics of the Public Sector	3
PUBPOL 5340	Regulation and Infrastructure Policy	3
PUBPOL 5410	Nonprofit Finance, Management, and Fundraising	3
PUBPOL 5411	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5525	Economic and Policy Implications of Artificial Intelligence	3
PUBPOL 5571	Corporate Responsibility	3
PUBPOL 5607	Global Policy Challenges	3
PUBPOL 5612	Politics and Processes of State and Local Government	3
PUBPOL 5658	Fixing the Future: Policy Solutions for Development Dilemmas	1.5
PUBPOL 5717	Energy Transition: Policy, Financial, and Business Interactions	3
PUBPOL 5725	Ethics in Data, Data Science, and AI for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5755	Infrastructure Financing	3
PUBPOL 5830	Randomized Controlled Trials for Policy and Society	3
PUBPOL 5860	Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Developing Country Contexts	3
PUBPOL 5881	Dialogue Across Differences for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5902	Special Topics in Public Administration	0.5-1
PUBPOL 5920	Public Affairs Externships	1-8
PUBPOL 5940	Consulting for Nonprofit and Government Organizations	3

Social Policy: Health, Education, and Inequality

Required Core Course

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5230	Comparative Education Policy	3
or PUBPOL 5485	Sustainability Education Policy in the U.S. and Ecuador	

Electives

Complete at least 6 credits of coursework with the MPA-SOCPOL attribute listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
AMST 6510	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4
GOVT 6051	Being Native in the 21st Century: American Indian & Alaska Native Politics, History, and Policy	4
GOVT 6271	Constitutional Law: An Introduction	4
GOVT 6512	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4
GOVT 6998	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
ILRGL 6066	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5010	Contemporary Security Policy	3
PUBPOL 5020	Being Native in the 21st Century: American Indian & Alaska Native Politics, History, and Policy	4
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5041	U.S. Immigration Law and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5050	Refugee Resettlement Policy	3
PUBPOL 5060	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5072	Using Big Data to Solve Economic and Social Problems	3
PUBPOL 5080	Economics of the U.S. Social Safety Net	3
PUBPOL 5130	Behavioral Economics and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5132	Legal Aspects of Public Agency Decision-Making	3
PUBPOL 5135	World Food Systems and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5151	Gender Inequality and Global Policy	3
PUBPOL 5190	Nonprofits and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5200	International Human Rights Policy	3
PUBPOL 5220	Public Finance: Economics of the Public Sector	3
PUBPOL 5230	Comparative Education Policy	3
PUBPOL 5270	Constitutional Law: An Introduction	4
PUBPOL 5280	Population Health for Health Managers	3
PUBPOL 5281	The Economics and Regulation of Risky Health Behaviors	3
PUBPOL 5320	Mental Health Care Delivery and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5330	Children's Law and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5340	Regulation and Infrastructure Policy	3
PUBPOL 5370	Economics of Health Care Markets	3
PUBPOL 5380	Markets, Policy and Sustainability	3
PUBPOL 5400	Economics of Consumer Policy	4

PUBPOL 5410	Nonprofit Finance, Management, and Fundraising	3
PUBPOL 5411	Technological Change at Work	3
PUBPOL 5450	Democracy Promotion in Modern U.S. Foreign Policy	3
PUBPOL 5451	International Public and NGO Management	3
PUBPOL 5455	Comparative Public and Healthcare Administration	2
PUBPOL 5472	Technology Strategy for Public and Nonprofit Management	1.5
PUBPOL 5480	Sustainability Education Policy in the U.S. and Ecuador	4
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5510	United We Stand - Divided We Fall: The Rise of Polarization and Social Division - and What it Means	4
PUBPOL 5560	Market Design for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5571	Corporate Responsibility	3
PUBPOL 5590	Environmental Justice and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5607	Global Policy Challenges	3
PUBPOL 5612	Politics and Processes of State and Local Government	3
PUBPOL 5619	Politics, Policy, and Political Management	3
PUBPOL 5658	Fixing the Future: Policy Solutions for Development Dilemmas	1.5
PUBPOL 5670	Health Policy	3
PUBPOL 5680	Towards a Policy of Democratic Unity	3
PUBPOL 5717	Energy Transition: Policy, Financial, and Business Interactions	3
PUBPOL 5730	Comparative Environmental Policy	3
PUBPOL 5734	Disasters, Vulnerability, and Resilience	3
PUBPOL 5780	Artificial Intelligence and Public Sector Decision Making	3
PUBPOL 5860	Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Developing Country Contexts	3
PUBPOL 5881	Dialogue Across Differences for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5902	Special Topics in Public Administration	0.5-1
PUBPOL 5920	Public Affairs Externships	1-8
PUBPOL 5940	Consulting for Nonprofit and Government Organizations	3
PUBPOL 5970	Economics and Environmental Policy	3

Colloquium (1 credits)

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5012	Professional Development for Public Affairs [1]	.5

[1] Students must take the course twice, once in each year of the MPA program.

Politics and Policy (3 credits)

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		
PUBPOL 5200	International Human Rights Policy	3
PUBPOL 5607	Global Policy Challenges	3
PUBPOL 5612	Politics and Processes of State and Local Government	3
PUBPOL 5619	Politics, Policy, and Political Management	3

Microeconomics (3 credits)

Take at least 3 credits of coursework with the MPA-ME attribute listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
PUBPOL 5011	Food Systems and Environmental Policy	3
PUBPOL 5015	Climate Economics and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5080	Economics of the U.S. Social Safety Net	3
PUBPOL 5130	Behavioral Economics and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5190	Nonprofits and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5220	Public Finance: Economics of the Public Sector	3
PUBPOL 5281	The Economics and Regulation of Risky Health Behaviors	3
PUBPOL 5340	Regulation and Infrastructure Policy	3
PUBPOL 5380	Markets, Policy and Sustainability	3
PUBPOL 5400	Economics of Consumer Policy	4
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5525	Economic and Policy Implications of Artificial Intelligence	3
PUBPOL 5560	Market Design for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5581	Economic Development and Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5970	Economics and Environmental Policy	3

Data Analytics in Public Policy (3 credits)

Take at least 3 credits of coursework with the MPA-DA attribute listed below[2].

Code	Title	Hours
ECON 6590	Empirical Strategies for Policy Analysis	3
GDEV 6080	Demographic Techniques	3
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5155	Data Management and Programming for Policy and Society	3
PUBPOL 5211	Artificial Intelligence: Law, Ethics, and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5360	Program Evaluation for Community Organizations	4
PUBPOL 5390	Foundations of Machine Learning for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5679	Desktop and Modeling Solutions	3
PUBPOL 5725	Ethics in Data, Data Science, and AI for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5830	Randomized Controlled Trials for Policy and Society	3
PUBPOL 5840	Data Visualization for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 6040	Qualitative, Survey, and Mixed Method Approaches to Policy Research	3
PUBPOL 6060	Demographic Techniques	3
PUBPOL 6090	Empirical Strategies for Policy Analysis	3
PUBPOL 6950	Spatial Demography	3
SOC 6150	Qualitative, Survey, and Mixed Method Approaches to Policy Research	3
SOC 6950	Spatial Demography	3

[2] Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) level courses (6000+) may require instructor permission to enroll.

Tools in Public Affairs Electives (6 credits)

Take at least 6 credits of coursework with the MPA-TPA attribute listed below. A maximum of 4 credits of PUBPOL 5920 Public Affairs Externships may apply.

Code	Title	Hours
AEM 5241	Finance	3
AEM 5415	Pre-Engagement with Social Enterprises in Emerging Markets	1.5
AEM 5420	Emerging Markets	3
AEM 5421	Research and Strategy in Emerging Markets	3
AEM 6050	Agricultural Finance and Development	1.5
AEM 6681	Impact Finance	3
CRP 6720	International Institutions	3
DEA 6540	Policy Meets Design: High-Impact Facilities of the 21st Century	3
GDEV 6080	Demographic Techniques	3
GOVT 6998	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
ILRHR 5680	Staffing Organizations	3
ILRHR 6620	Organization and Work Design	3
INFO 5240	Designing Technology for Social Impact	3
LAW 6430	Financial Markets and Institutions	3
LAW 6652	Managerial Finance	2.5
NBA 5035	Philanthropic Leadership	3
NBA 5100	Social Entrepreneurship	1.5
NBA 5180	Design and Innovation	1.5
NBA 5420	Investment and Portfolio Management	3
NBA 5430	Financial Markets and Institutions	3
NBA 5980	Behavioral Finance	1.5
NBA 6030	Strategies for Sustainability	1.5
NBA 6060	Evaluating Capital Investment Projects	1.5
NBA 6190	Leaders in Sustainable Global Enterprise	1.5
NBA 6430	Managerial Spreadsheet Modeling	1.5
NBA 6820	Negotiation I: Negotiation Essentials	1.5
NCC 5060	Managerial Finance	2.5
PUBPOL 5015	Climate Economics and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5040	Social Demography	3
PUBPOL 5060	Experiential Learning in Policy Making in Washington, DC	4
PUBPOL 5072	Using Big Data to Solve Economic and Social Problems	3
PUBPOL 5132	Legal Aspects of Public Agency Decision-Making	3
PUBPOL 5140	Political Journalism	4
PUBPOL 5211	Artificial Intelligence: Law, Ethics, and Policy	3
PUBPOL 5220	Public Finance: Economics of the Public Sector	3
PUBPOL 5360	Program Evaluation for Community Organizations	4
PUBPOL 5410	Nonprofit Finance, Management, and Fundraising	3
PUBPOL 5431	Fundraising, Grantmaking, and Lobbying	1.5
PUBPOL 5451	International Public and NGO Management	3
PUBPOL 5455	Comparative Public and Healthcare Administration	2
PUBPOL 5472	Technology Strategy for Public and Nonprofit Management	1.5
PUBPOL 5490	Economics of Consumer Protection and the Law	3
PUBPOL 5525	Economic and Policy Implications of Artificial Intelligence	3
PUBPOL 5571	Corporate Responsibility	3
PUBPOL 5658	Fixing the Future: Policy Solutions for Development Dilemmas	1.5
PUBPOL 5679	Desktop and Modeling Solutions	3
PUBPOL 5725	Ethics in Data, Data Science, and AI for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5755	Infrastructure Financing	3
PUBPOL 5780	Artificial Intelligence and Public Sector Decision Making	3
PUBPOL 5830	Randomized Controlled Trials for Policy and Society	3
PUBPOL 5860	Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Developing Country Contexts	3
PUBPOL 5881	Dialogue Across Differences for Public Policy	3
PUBPOL 5902	Special Topics in Public Administration	0.5-1
PUBPOL 5920	Public Affairs Externships	1-8
PUBPOL 5930	Writing Professional Reports for Public Affairs	1.5
PUBPOL 5940	Consulting for Nonprofit and Government Organizations	3
PUBPOL 6040	Qualitative, Survey, and Mixed Method Approaches to Policy Research	3
PUBPOL 6060	Demographic Techniques	3
PUBPOL 6950	Spatial Demography	3
SOC 6150	Qualitative, Survey, and Mixed Method Approaches to Policy Research	3
SOC 6950	Spatial Demography	3
SYSEN 6450	Policy Meets Design: High-Impact Facilities of the 21st Century	3

Practical Experience

This requirement can be met via one of the following internship experiences or course sequences. This requirement may overlap with other program requirements.

Code	Title	Hours
Select one of the following:		
Brooks School Cornell in Washington DC Connect Program		
Capstone		
Complete all of the following:		
PUBPOL 5910	Master of Public Administration Capstone I	1.5
PUBPOL 5911	Master of Public Administration Capstone II	2
PUBPOL 5912	Master of Public Administration Capstone III	1.5
Community Impact Analysis in Development Policy		
Complete all of the following:		
PUBPOL 5790	Community Impact Analysis in Development Policy I	1
PUBPOL 5791	Community Impact Analysis in Development Policy II	2

PUBPOL 5792	Community Impact Analysis in Development Policy III	1
Capital Semester Program		
Environmental Finance and Impact Investing (EFII) experience		
Complete all of the following:		
NBA 5979	Environmental Finance & Impact Investing Practicum	1.5
NBA 6030	Strategies for Sustainability	1.5
NBA 6380	Finance and Sustainable Global Enterprise Colloquium (must be taken twice)	1
Infrastructure Project Management and Finance (IPMF) experience		
Program Evaluation		
PUBPOL 5360	Program Evaluation for Community Organizations	4
Student Multidisciplinary Applied Research Teams (SMART) Program		
Complete both of the following:		
AEM 5415	Pre-Engagement with Social Enterprises in Emerging Markets	1.5
AEM 5421	Research and Strategy in Emerging Markets	3
Summer internship between first and second year		
Sustainability Education Policy		
PUBPOL 5480	Sustainability Education Policy in the U.S. and Ecuador	4

Professional Writing Requirement (3-8 credits)

Complete all courses in one of the options below. This requirement may overlap with the practical experience requirement.

Code	Title	Hours
Capstone		
PUBPOL 5910	Master of Public Administration Capstone I	1.5
PUBPOL 5911	Master of Public Administration Capstone II	2
PUBPOL 5912	Master of Public Administration Capstone III	1.5
Community Impact Analysis in Development Policy		
PUBPOL 5790	Community Impact Analysis in Development Policy I	1
PUBPOL 5791	Community Impact Analysis in Development Policy II	2
PUBPOL 5792	Community Impact Analysis in Development Policy III	1
Environmental Finance and Impact Investing		
NBA 5979	Environmental Finance & Impact Investing Practicum	1.5
NBA 6030	Strategies for Sustainability	1.5
NBA 6380	Finance and Sustainable Global Enterprise Colloquium (Must be completed twice)	1
Thesis		
PUBPOL 5002	Master's Thesis and Research	3-5
Professional Writing Report		
PUBPOL 5930	Writing Professional Reports for Public Affairs	1.5
PUBPOL 5000	Special Studies	1.5
State Policy and Advocacy Clinic		
PUBPOL 5960	State Policy and Advocacy Clinic I	4
PUBPOL 5961	State Policy and Advocacy Clinic II	4

University Graduation Requirements

Requirements for All Students

In order to receive a Cornell degree, a student must satisfy academic and non-academic requirements.

Academic Requirements

A student's college determines degree requirements such as residency, number of credits, distribution of credits, and grade averages. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of the specific major, degree, distribution, college, and graduation requirements for completing their chosen program of study. See the individual requirements listed by each college or school or contact the college registrar's office (https://registrar.cornell.edu/service-resources/college-registrar-directory) for more information.

Non-academic Requirements

Conduct Matters. Students must satisfy any outstanding sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed or agreed to under the Student Code of Conduct (Code) or Policy 6.4. Where a formal complaint under the Code or Policy 6.4 is pending, the University will withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the adjudication process set forth in those procedures is complete, including the satisfaction of any sanctions, penalties or remedies imposed.

Financial Obligations. Outstanding financial obligations will not impact the awarding of a degree otherwise earned or a student's ability to access their official transcript. However, the University may withhold issuing a diploma until any outstanding financial obligations owing to the University are satisfied.

Learning Outcomes

- Interpret and explain the theory and use of tools applicable to the development and evaluation of policy.
- Develop the skills required for effective delivery of evidence used for policy formation and evaluation, including written, spoken, and visual presentation.
- Work with others toward the goal of serving the public interest.
- Foster an inclusive learning environment in which diverse approaches and points of view can help guide government actions.
- Evaluate and scrutinize data to inform policy evaluation.

Admissions

Application Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadlines

Please visit the Brooks School website to view application deadlines.

Requirements Summary

Admission to the MPA Program is designed to foster academic and professional talent, welcoming applicants from various disciplines and professional backgrounds. While no specific undergraduate major is required, applicants with demonstrated experience in policymaking or policy implementation are especially encouraged to apply. Each application is reviewed holistically and in the context of the overall applicant pool for that admission cycle. To be considered for admission, applicants must submit a complete application package as outlined below.

- Transcripts from all colleges or universities attended
- Two letters of recommendation

- Resume
- Statement of purpose
- Online video interview
- TOEFL or IELTS scores, if applicable

Visit the Graduate School Admissions site (https://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/prepare/english-language-proficiency-requirement/) for more information regarding the English language proficiency requirement, including standing exemptions.