

mpa program phd & information

Before classes start

For a complete checklist of what you should be doing between now and August 18, see the Graduate School website, here: <http://www.grad.uga.edu/orientation-to-do.html>

Explore our website and other UGA websites (more information below). The Fall course schedule and online syllabi will make advising and registration easier.

Fill out this form for your graduate student profile on the Department's website. Also provide a professional looking vertical headshot to be included. If you do not have a professional looking headshot, email bdcamp@uga.edu to schedule to have one taken before or after your advising appointment.

MPA students should fill out the Student Interest Form, located on the website, and send a one-page resume to bdcamp@uga.edu for the MPA directory. It is important that the resume is only one page.

Advising and Registration

- You will receive instructions on making an advising appointment during orientation.
- Once advised, Melody Herrington (Enrolled Students Coordinator) can clear you for access to the computerized registration system (Athena). Melody's information is 706-542-3510 or melodyh@uga.edu.
- Melody is your contact for any problems or questions regarding:
 - Registration rules
 - Program and Graduate School requirements, deadlines, and paperwork
 - Graduation paperwork and requirements
 - The MPA and PhD listservs
 - Comprehensive exams (MPA and PhD)
 - Scheduling Prospectus and Dissertation Defenses
- Returning students must schedule advising appointments online. Students near graduation are given preference for earlier advising appointments to assure them spaces in high demand courses.

Computer Labs

Two computer labs are solely for SPIA graduate students. One is in Baldwin Hall (BDAC), and the other is in Candler Hall (CDAC). Contact Anoush Ebrahimi at anoush@uga.edu after you arrive to set up personal access to BDAC.

UGA Website

Additional information can be found on the UGA website:

- Registrar's Office: <http://www.reg.uga.edu>
 - Academic Calendar
 - Registration dates and rules
 - Student FAQs
 - Change of Address and Petition for In-State Residency
 - Commencement Ceremony Information
- Bursar's Office: <http://www.bursar.uga.edu>
 - Tuition Payment Amounts
 - Tuition Payment Deadlines
 - Questions about existing student loans or financial disbursement
- Athena: <https://athena.uga.edu/>
 - Schedule of Classes
 - Registration
 - Payment of Student Account
 - Flags
- Graduate School Website: <http://grad.uga.edu>
 - Graduate Student bulletin
 - Administrative forms
 - Graduate School Deadlines

PADP Website

Our departmental website is your first stop for answers to questions regarding our programs:

- Departmental news and events
- Contact information for faculty and staff
- Faculty profiles, including research interests and publications
- Student profiles
- Details of PhD and MPA program requirements
- Course schedules, descriptions, and syllabi
- Departmental and Graduate School forms
- Career Services
- Handy links to Athena, UGA Mail, Graduate School, Financial Aid office, etc.

Communication from the Department

UGA and the department use email as the official means of communication. Open a UGA email account; maintain and check it regularly. The Department will send all communications to your UGA email account. If you prefer to use a different email account, you must have your email forwarded from your UGA email account to your preferred email account. Set up your UGA email account at <http://myid.uga.edu/>.

Occasionally, the Department will also distribute materials in hard copy. All students have mail folders in room 101X of Baldwin Hall for these materials. We can snail mail these materials to Gwinnett students. The Department assumes that students check these mail folders regularly.