ALUMNI COMMITTED TO PUBLIC SERVICE

“UGA’s MPA program provided me with invaluable experience in key elements of public administration that gave me a strong foundation as I began my career. As my roles in public service have grown and changed over the years, I’ve continued benefit from my time in the program and connections with a network of other alumni across the state, country, and globe.”  

-Mercy Montgomery, Economic Development Director, City of Sugar Hill, Georgia

“The combination of my MPA with my work experience makes me more of a diverse candidate. I really think the MPA has helped me get to where I am in the government today.”  

-Amelia Hines Dortch, State Public Affairs Specialist with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

“I chose the UGA MPA program because it has a tremendous reputation and is heralded as one of the nation’s best. And because it is offered at the Gwinnett campus, it is incredibly convenient.”  

-Ted Pestorius, Deputy Director, Global Health Office of Management and Overseas Operations, CDC
RANKINGS: BY THE NUMBERS

3rd Nationally in Public Finance and Budgeting*

4th Nationally in Public Management and Leadership*

5th Nationally in Public Affairs Masters Programs*

5th World Wide in Public Administration**

*National Ranking by U.S. News and Word Report 2019
**World Ranking by Academic Ranking of World Universities 2019
CURRICULUM

A total of 41 semester hours are needed for the completion of the MPA program. A mandatory socialization sequence and five core courses introduce the student to the various fields of public administration and the economic foundations of public policy. In addition, two required courses in research methods assist students in developing a familiarity with quantitative techniques in public decision making. Students must also select six courses from a number of available elective specializations to complete their degree. Students attending full-time can expect to complete the program in two years (four semesters).

The following provides an outline of the MPA Curriculum:

1. Socialization Seminar (1 semester hour)
   PADP 6980 Socialization Seminar

2. Public Management Core (15 semester hours)
   PADP 6910 Public Administration and Democracy
   PADP 6920 Public Personnel Administration
   PADP 6930 Public Financial Administration
   PADP 6950 Economic Foundations of Policy Analysis
   PADP 6960 Public Management

3. Research Methods Sequence (6 semester hours)
   PADP 7110 Research Methods in Public Administration
   PADP 7120 Data Applications in Public Administration

4. Elective Courses (18 semester hours)
   Six Classes taken outside of the core requirements toward a specialization or generalist degree

5. Internship (may be waived with fulltime public service work experience)

6. Capstone Paper and Portfolio (1 semester hour)
GWINNETT CAMPUS: FOR ATLANTA PROFESSIONALS

You’ll find MPA courses with the same faculty and resources as those at our home campus in Athens, but delivered at our convenient Gwinnett campus just off I–85, only 15 minutes from both downtown Duluth and Lawrenceville. Parking is on location and free. Most classes are small (about 15–20 students) and allow students to pursue an advanced degree while continuing to work full time. Two evening classes per semester (including summer) are offered at our Gwinnett campus. All MPA students may register for classes at either the Athens or Gwinnett campus to complete the program. Part-time students typically earn their MPA in 2.5 to 3 years.
GWINNETT CAMPUS: THE FACTS

60,000 square feet
21 state of the art classrooms

approximate class size: 15 students
average age: 35
age range: 22-62

61% of Gwinnett students are age 30 or older
ADMISSIONS: THE PROCESS

To be considered for admission to the MPA program, students must hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university. No specific courses related to public administration are required prior to beginning the MPA program.

Applicants should submit the following:

- Graduate School application ($75)
- Statement of Purpose
- GRE (required for all applicants)
- Copy of undergrad transcript
- Letters of recommendation (3)
- Resume

Students can begin classes during the spring, summer, or fall semesters according to the application deadlines below:

- May 1: Summer semester
- July 1: Fall semester
- November 15: Spring semester