

PUBLIC AND NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT AND POLICY (MPA)

Public and Nonprofit Management and Policy (MPA) Website (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/mpa-public-nonprofit-management-policy/>)

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Program Description

Gain practical experience in public service with NYC as your urban laboratory.

How will you shape your impact in public service in five or ten years? It's almost impossible to say. The boundaries between roles and sectors are blurring, and to be effective, you'll need a broad education and a firm grasp of how skills and ideas translate across varying real-world contexts. With NYU Wagner's interdisciplinary MPA-PNP coursework in finance, policy, and management, you'll be prepared to address the most pressing issues of our time in the many fields, sectors, and policy arenas that your career will span.

What is an MPA Degree?

A Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree is earned with graduate-level training that prepares students for meaningful work in public service, government, nonprofit organizations, and related fields.

Programs typically cover wide-ranging subjects, including public policy, management, finance, economics, ethics, and organizational behavior.

NYU Wagner's MPA-PNP creates leaders through an interdisciplinary curriculum that combines finance, policy, and management in the vibrant backdrop of New York City.

Program Highlights

- Convenience & Flexibility.** Our program offers flexible scheduling for both full-time and part-time students, with start terms available in both the Fall and Spring. Full-time students who begin in the Fall can complete the program in as little as two years. Part-time students typically finish in three to four years.
- Real-World Experience.** A year-long capstone project (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/capstone/>) is the pinnacle of your graduate experience, offering an opportunity to apply your skills and knowledge to real-world challenges. Collaborating with peers and expert faculty mentors, you'll approach pressing issues facing communities locally and globally.
- Distinguished Faculty.** Learn from premier scholars in a variety of disciplines, including economics, finance, management, political science, law, planning, and healthcare. These highly-accomplished industry leaders will prepare you to effectively address issues across sectors and policy arenas.
- Tangible Career Outcomes.** MPA graduates work in government agencies, non-profits, international organizations, corporate social responsibility departments, and a multitude of other sectors. That includes organizations ranging from the American Red Cross, APCO

Worldwide, Ernst & Young, Everytown for Gun Safety, NY Green Bank, United Nations, and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Specializations

The Public and Nonprofit Management and Policy MPA offers the following specializations:

Advocacy and Political Action

The Advocacy and Political Action specialization prepares you to magnify your impact and create meaningful change in the civic engagement, political, and advocacy arenas. Whether your passion for social justice and human rights is in immigration, criminal justice, food security, the environment, or any other issue, you'll need to expand your skillset and learn the strategies and tactics to successfully mobilize people, organizations, and systems.

You'll jump right into studying advocacy and organizing, while building on your strong foundation in management, finance, and policy from your core coursework. You can develop deep knowledge in the specific issue area you most care about through a variety of electives, and understand how to apply your learnings to issue campaigns, grassroots organizing, lobbying, and political campaigns. You'll hit the ground running, bringing your skills to the field through Advocacy Lab and Capstone—working with real-world organizations.

You'll graduate prepared to organize members of your community, lead a nonprofit issue advocacy campaign, run for elected office, and be a catalyst for positive change around the world.

Financial Management and Public Finance

The Finance specialization prepares you for a career planning and managing organizational resources across the nonprofit, public, and private sectors. The program combines theory with skill-based tools and frameworks so that students graduate with the knowledge and experience that are prerequisites for a successful career.

In public service organizations, finance is practiced through both a management and policy lens. That's why in this specialization you'll study the field of finance from both an internal managerial perspective (financial management) and an external policy perspective (public finance). Students interested in a deep dive into one or the other are encouraged to explore a focus area. You'll learn an array of analytical tools: economics, budgeting, financial accounting, capital financing, investment management, debt management, and financial statement analysis. When you graduate, you'll be ready to fill a wide range of roles—our graduates are budget analysts, consultants, finance directors, grants managers, program auditors, hospital administrators, bond raters, and more.

International Development Policy and Management

A career in international development or other global fields requires a broad understanding of international institutions, economics and politics, but some people with specific interests or career aspirations may wish to gain a deeper understanding of particular sub-fields. Accordingly, there are a number of relevant areas that Wagner offers greater depth in through regular course offerings, including economic growth and inequality, organizations and management in international contexts, international public and social finance, environment and sustainability, human rights and humanitarian aid, global health and food security, and global governance. A few of these areas cover broad territory and are further organized into more refined clusters of courses.

Management and Leadership

The specialization in Management and Leadership gives you the practical knowledge and applied skills necessary to effectively lead and manage organizations from nonprofits and public agencies to global institutions and private corporations with a social mission.

Today's complex and interconnected world demands that public service leaders ignite innovative thinking, initiate transformational change, and drive collective action. From strategically positioning your organization to managing its day-to-day footprint, you'll need a unique blend of both management and leadership skills to make an impact.

Public Policy Analysis

The Public Policy Specialization gives you tools play a leading role in creating, advocating for, and evaluating policies that better serve the public good, whether from within government, nonprofit organizations, or private sector firms that work adjacent to the public sector.

You'll learn the analytical skills and frameworks you'll need to design and assess policy responses to important public issues, and will have the option to deepen your quantitative skills. You'll graduate ready to address big questions: Which public policies are doing what they're designed to do, and which could do their job better? How can cities create and implement policies for growth and development? What are the next steps to reducing poverty? Which policies are most effective at minimizing racial disparities? How can education policy improve the performance and equity of US educational systems?

Social Impact, Innovation, and Investment

The Social Impact, Innovation, and Investment (SI3) specialization provides students with the training to practice across sectors (private, nonprofit and public) as agents of social change. By learning the language and tools of both business and policy, you will be able to innovate products, services, delivery systems, enterprises, and investment approaches necessary to improve lives and solve major domestic and global challenges. You will also be uniquely qualified to assess and measure the social impact that arises from these innovative approaches. Students in the specialization are provided a foundation with required courses traversing ideation, entrepreneurship, and social finance.

Graduates will be prepared to enter the burgeoning social innovation sector as social entrepreneurs, impact investors, impact measurement specialists, corporate social responsibility managers, and a variety of consultant or for-profit and nonprofit management roles where the combined tools of seeking both financial return and social impact are becoming increasingly important.

Admissions

Submit your online application along with two essays (with an optional video essay), a resume or curriculum vitae, two letters of recommendation from academic or professional sources, transcripts from all institutions attended, and standardized test scores if applicable. You will also need to submit the \$85 application fee and review any additional requirements specific to international applicants (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/admissions/degree-checklist/international/>).

To make sure you have everything you need, we created a complete application checklist (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/admissions/degree-checklist/mpa/>).

Dual-Degree Options

You can earn the Public and Nonprofit Management and Policy MPA alongside a second NYU graduate degree in one of the dual-degree programs listed below. Please note that entry to a dual-degree program requires separate application (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/admissions/degree-checklist/dual/>) and admission to each participating school.

- MPA-JD program (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/dual-degree-program/mpamup-jd/>) with NYU's School of Law
- MPA-MA in Hebrew and Judaic Studies program (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/dual-degree-program/mpa-judaicstudies/>) with NYU's Graduate School of Arts and Science
- MPA (International Development Specialization)-MA in International Relations program (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/dual-degree-program/MPA-international-development-MA-international-relations/>) with NYU's Graduate School of Arts and Science
- MPA-MBA program (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/dual-degree-program/mpa-mba/>) with NYU's Leonard N. Stern School of Business
- MPA-MPH (Global Health Concentration) program (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/dual-degree-program/mpa-mph/>) with NYU's School of Global Public Health
- MPA (Policy Analysis Specialization)-MS in Applied Statistics program (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/dual-degree-program/mpa-statistics/>) with NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

Program Requirements

The program requires the completion of 45 credits. Students must choose one of the following specializations:

Advocacy and Political Action

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
<i>Core Requirements</i>		
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3
CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3
<i>Specialization Requirements</i>		
PADM-GP 2106	Community Organizing	3
PADM-GP 2407	Advocacy Lab	3
PADM-GP 2411	Policy Formation and Policy Analysis	3
Capstone		
Select one of the following:		
CAP-GP 3401 & CAP- GP 3402	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I and Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	3
CAP-GP 3148 & CAP- GP 3149	Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis I and Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis II	3
Electives		

Other Elective Credits	18	CAP-GP 3226 & CAP-GP 3227	Capstone: Advanced Projects in International Policy & Management I and Capstone: Advanced Projects in International Policy and Management II
Total Credits	45	CAP-GP 3148 & CAP-GP 3149	Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis I and Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis II
Financial Management and Public Finance			
Course	Title	Credits	
Major Requirements			
<i>Core Requirements</i>			
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3	Electives
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3	Other Elective Credits
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3	Total Credits
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3	45
CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3	
Specialization Requirements			
PADM-GP 2140	Public Economics	3	Management and Leadership
PADM-GP 2142	Financial Management II	3	Course
Select one of the following: ¹		3	Title
PADM-GP 2147	Corporate Finance and Public Policy	3	Major Requirements
PADM-GP 2902	Multiple Regression and Introduction to Econometrics	3	<i>Core Requirements</i>
Capstone			
Select one of the following:		3	CORE-GP 1011
CAP-GP 3401 & CAP-GP 3402	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I and Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	3	Statistical Methods
CAP-GP 3148 & CAP-GP 3149	Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis I and Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis II	3	Microeconomics
Electives			
Other Elective Credits	18	CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership
Total Credits	45	CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management
Select one of the following:			
CAP-GP 3401	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I and Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	3	CORE-GP 1022
PADM-GP 2110	Strategic Management and Leadership	3	Introduction to Public Policy
PADM-GP 2135	Human Resources: Leading Talent Development	3	
PADM-GP 2170	Performance Measurement & Management	3	
Capstone			
Select one of the following:		3	
CAP-GP 3401 & CAP-GP 3402	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I and Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	3	
CAP-GP 3148 & CAP-GP 3149	Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis I and Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis II	3	
Electives			
Other Elective Credits	18		
Total Credits	45		
¹ Students are encouraged to complete both courses, but only one is required.			
International Development Policy and Management			
Course	Title	Credits	
Major Requirements			
<i>Core Requirements</i>			
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3	Course
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3	Title
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3	Credits
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3	Major Requirements
CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3	<i>Core Requirements</i>
Specialization Requirements			
PADM-GP 2201	Institutions, Governance, and International Development	3	CORE-GP 1011
PADM-GP 2202	Politics of International Development	3	Statistical Methods
PADM-GP 2203	Economics of International Development	3	Microeconomics
Capstone			
Select one of the following:		3	CORE-GP 1020
PADM-GP 2201	Institutions, Governance, and International Development	3	Management and Leadership
PADM-GP 2202	Politics of International Development	3	Financial Management
PADM-GP 2203	Economics of International Development	3	Introduction to Public Policy
Public Policy Analysis			
Course	Title	Credits	
Major Requirements			
<i>Core Requirements</i>			
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3	
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3	
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3	
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3	
CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3	
Specialization Requirements			
PADM-GP 2140	Public Economics	3	
PADM-GP 2171	Evaluating Programs and Policies	3	
Select one of the following:		3	
PADM-GP 2411	Policy Formation and Policy Analysis	3	

PADM-GP 2902	Multiple Regression and Introduction to Econometrics	3
Capstone		
Select one of the following:		3
CAP-GP 3401	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I	
& CAP-GP 3402	and Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	
CAP-GP 3148	Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis I	
& CAP-GP 3149	and Capstone: Advanced Research Projects in Quantitative Analysis II	
Electives		
Other Elective Credits		18
Total Credits		45

Social Impact, Innovation, and Investment

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
<i>Core Requirements</i>		
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3
CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3
<i>Specialization Requirements</i>		
PADM-GP 2132	Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation	3
PADM-GP 2145	Design Thinking	3
PADM-GP 2311	Impact Investing	3
Capstone		
CAP-GP 3301	Capstone: Advanced Lab in Social Innovation I	3
& CAP-GP 3302	and Capstone: Advanced Lab in Social Innovation II	
Electives		
Other Elective Credits		18
Total Credits		45

Additional Program Requirements

Professional Experience Requirement (PER)

NYU Wagner is deeply committed to education outside of the classroom. First-hand work experience in your field of choice can be a pivotal experience, and our New York City location offers countless opportunities for career exploration. To this end, NYU Wagner requires all MPA and MUP students to graduate with professional experience that is directly related to their degree program and field of interest. See Professional Experience Requirement (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/portal/students/careers/resources/per/>) for more information.

Sample Plan of Study

Advocacy and Political Action

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3

CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3
Credits		
2nd Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3
PADM-GP 2106	Community Organizing	3
PADM-GP 2407	Advocacy Lab	3
PADM-GP 2411	Policy Formation and Policy Analysis	3
Credits		
3rd Semester/Term		
CAP-GP 3401	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I	1.5
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credits		
4th Semester/Term		
CAP-GP 3402	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	1.5
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credits		
Total Credits		45

Financial Management and Public Finance

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3
Credits		
2nd Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3
PADM-GP 2140	Public Economics	3
PADM-GP 2142	Financial Management II	3
PADM-GP 2147	Corporate Finance and Public Policy or PADM-GP 2902	3
Credits		
3rd Semester/Term		
CAP-GP 3401	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I	1.5
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credits		
4th Semester/Term		
CAP-GP 3402	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	1.5
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credits		
Total Credits		45

International Development Policy and Management

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3

PADM-GP 2201	Institutions, Governance, and International Development	3	CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3
	Credits	12		Credits	12
2nd Semester/Term					
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3	CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3	PADM-GP 2140	Public Economics	3
PADM-GP 2202	Politics of International Development	3	PADM-GP 2171	Evaluating Programs and Policies	3
PADM-GP 2203	Economics of International Development	3	PADM-GP 2411 or PADM-GP 2902	Policy Formation and Policy Analysis or Multiple Regression and Introduction to Econometrics	3
	Credits	12		Credits	12
3rd Semester/Term					
CAP-GP 3226	Capstone: Advanced Projects in International Policy & Management I	1.5	CAP-GP 3401	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I	1.5
Elective		3	Elective		3
Elective		3	Elective		3
Elective		3	Elective		3
	Credits	10.5		Credits	10.5
4th Semester/Term					
CAP-GP 3227	Capstone: Advanced Projects in International Policy and Management II	1.5	CAP-GP 3402	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	1.5
Elective		3	Elective		3
Elective		3	Elective		3
Elective		3	Elective		3
	Credits	10.5		Credits	10.5
	Total Credits	45		Total Credits	45

Management and Leadership

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3
CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3
	Credits	12
2nd Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3
PADM-GP 2110	Strategic Management and Leadership	3
PADM-GP 2135	Human Resources: Leading Talent Development	3
PADM-GP 2170	Performance Measurement & Management	3
	Credits	12
3rd Semester/Term		
CAP-GP 3401	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy I	1.5
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credits	10.5
4th Semester/Term		
CAP-GP 3402	Capstone: Advanced Projects in Policy, Management, Finance, and Advocacy II	1.5
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credits	10.5
	Total Credits	45

Public Policy Analysis

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3

Social Impact, Innovation and Investment

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1011	Statistical Methods	3
CORE-GP 1020	Management and Leadership	3
CORE-GP 1021	Financial Management	3
CORE-GP 1022	Introduction to Public Policy	3
	Credits	12
2nd Semester/Term		
CORE-GP 1018	Microeconomics	3
PADM-GP 2132	Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation	3
PADM-GP 2145	Design Thinking	3
PADM-GP 2311	Impact Investing	3
	Credits	12
3rd Semester/Term		
CAP-GP 3301	Capstone: Advanced Lab in Social Innovation I	1.5
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credits	10.5
4th Semester/Term		
CAP-GP 3302	Capstone: Advanced Lab in Social Innovation II	1.5
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credits	10.5
	Total Credits	45

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will:

1. Align organizational and institutional policies and practices with mission, strategy, culture, and broader policy objectives.
2. Secure and manage financial resources in a way that aligns with mission and strategy.

3. Demonstrate understanding of the policy lifecycle and the impact of social, economic, demographic, political, environmental, and regulatory factors.
4. Evaluate policies using appropriate, evidence-based methods and tools, including measuring differential impact on sub-populations.
5. Deploy conceptual frameworks to break down problems into constituent elements and to develop solutions.
6. Critically assess and synthesize existing research to identify its contributions and limitations, as well as possible research alternatives.
7. Demonstrate understanding of causality, including distinguishing between correlation and causation, the challenges to estimating causal relationships, and the importance of causality for determining impact.
8. Prepare succinct, well-argued, and well-organized written materials and verbal presentations with appropriately incorporated tables, graphs, and other visuals.
9. Translate awareness of the impact of individual and group demographics and identities into appropriate organizational, institutional, and societal policies and practices.
10. Lead projects, programs, and people, and manage resources in ways that adapt to changing social, economic, demographic, technological, and political conditions.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

Wagner Policies

Additional academic policies can be found on the Wagner academic policy page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/public-service/academic-policies/>).