Accelerated Master's Program

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science to Master of Public Administration

General Requirements

The School of Public Affairs in collaboration with the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, offers a unique opportunity for highly qualified undergraduate Political Science majors to begin pursuing the Master of Public Administration (MPA) while simultaneously completing the Bachelor of Arts (BA).

The MPA is a generalist degree designed to prepare students for a variety of positions in public and nonprofit management and policy analysis. The BA in Political Science enables students to understand and write about political and legal questions of governance of global, national, regional and local significance. This Accelerated Master's Program (AMP) will help students cultivate self-awareness and understanding of their local, national, and global impact and be prepared to participate effectively in a society that encompasses diverse experiences, perspectives, and realities.

Eligibility Requirements

Both current UCCS and new transfer students are eligible to apply after meeting the following criteria:

- Current UCCS student with at least 30 credit hours completed at UCCS.
- Junior class standing or higher.
- Cumulative CU GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Completed at least 15 credit hours in the Political Science major.
- Declared Political Science major.
- Any Minimum Academic Preparation Standards (MAPS) deficiencies must be completed prior to admission to the AMP program.
- Meet the standards and admissions requirements for the BA in Political Science and MPA programs, as outlined in the UCCS Academic Catalog.
- Submit a one-page (double-spaced, one-inch margins) essay outlining the student's career goals.

To apply for the AMP, ensure you meet the criteria above, and then complete an intent form at uccs.edu/spa.

Students accepted into the AMP program may apply directly to the Master of Public Administration in the final year of their Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Course Requirements

Accelerated Master's Program (AMP) students may count up to nine credit hours towards the BA in Political Science and towards electives in the MPA from the following list:

- PSC 5025 Congressional Processes
- PSC 5080 U.S. Electoral Process
- PSC 5230 United States in World Politics
- PSC 5280 International Political Economy
- PSC 5451 Environmental Law
- PSC 5460 Administrative Law
- PSC 5470 Constitutional Law
- PSC 5480 Civil Rights and Liberties

In order for courses to be double-counted, the following conditions must be met:

- Must be taken for graduate credit (5000 level or above).
- Must be completed with a B or better.
- Must be from approved course list above.
- Student must be admitted to AMP program prior to taking dual-counted courses. Retroactive approval is not permissible.

Course descriptions can be found in the UCCS Academic Catalog at catalog.uccs.edu.

For further information, contact the School of Public Affairs at 719.255.4993 or spa@uccs.edu

Academic Office Building, room 303
Bachelor of Arts Political Science Requirements

The BA in Political Science requires completion of a minimum of 120 semester credit hours including the UCCS BA Political Science adaptation of the UCCS general education courses, political science major requirements (no more than 54 credit hours) and a minimum of 45 credit hours of upper-division course work (3000 and above.) 36 credit hours in the major, 21 of which must be upper-division (3000+ level), to include the following courses:

- PSC 1010 Introduction to Global Politics
- PSC 1100 The American Political System
- PSC 2070 Might and Right Among Nations or PSC 2450 American Political Thought
- PSC 3420 Political Theory
- PSC 3500 Introduction to Political Inquiry

One course from American Political Institutions and Behavior:
PSC 2100, PSC 3030, PSC 3050, PSC 3200, PSC 3430, PSC 3450, PSC 3480, PSC 4020, PSC 4025, PSC 4040, PSC 4080, PSC 4390, PSC 4440, PSC 4451, PSC 4470, or PSC 4480, PSC 4481.

One course from Global Politics: PSC 2090, PSC 3110, PSC 4140, PSC 4180, PSC 4210, PSC 4220, PSC 4230, PSC 4240, PSC 4260, PSC 4270, PSC 4280, PSC 4290, PSC 4300, PSC 4530, PSC 4560, PSC 4570, PSC 4580, PSC 4590, or PSC 4600.

One course from Public Administration, Policy and Law: PSC 3200, PSC 3430, PSC 3450, PSC 3980, PSC 4020, PSC 4025, PSC 4060, PSC 4070, PSC 4320, PSC 4350, PSC 4451, PSC 4460, PSC 4470, PSC 4480, PSC 4481, PSC 4490, PSC 4510, PSC 4540, PSC 4550, or PSC 9480.

One Capstone course from: PSC 4020, PSC 4025, PSC 4080, PSC 4210, or PSC 4470.

Complete an additional 9 credit hours of PSC electives to meet total and upper-division credit hours.

Complete the Political Science department portfolio. (Contact department for details).

Master of Public Administration Requirements

The MPA degree requires completion of a minimum of 36-39 credit hours, depending on internship requirements.

**Core Courses (18 credit hours)**

- PAD 5001 Intro to Public Administration and Public Policy
- PAD 5002 Organizational Management and Behavior
- PAD 5003 Research and Analytic Methods
- PAD 5004 Economics and Public Finance
- PAD 5005 The Policy Process and Democracy
- PAD 5006 Ethics and Leadership

**Elective Courses**

(select 12-15 credit hours)*

*Number of hours depends on Capstone or Thesis selection

- Internship (3 credit hours)
- PAD 6910 Internship**

**Required of those students lacking significant public or nonprofit administrative experience.

- Capstone or Thesis (3 - 6 hours)
- PAD 5361 Capstone Seminar (3 credit hours, final semester)
- OR
- PAD 6950 Master’s Thesis (6 credit hours, final two semesters)

*To view course descriptions and electives offered in the School of Public Affairs, please refer to the UCCS Academic Catalog at catalog.uccs.edu.*