

**University of Colorado Colorado Springs
College of Public Service
MPA Degree Plan
As of Fall 2018**

**THE MPA DEGREE REQUIRES COMPLETION OF 36-39 CREDIT HOURS
DEPENDING ON INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

Name: _____ **Student ID** _____ **Beginning Term** _____

Advisor Name: _____ **Advisor Email:** _____

Core Courses (18 HOURS)

Course	Title	Hours	Semester	Grade
PAD 5001 *	Intro to Public Administration and Public Service	3		
PAD 5002	Organizational Management and Behavior	3		
PAD 5003 **	Research and Analytic Methods	3		
PAD 5004	Economics and Public Finance	3		
PAD 5005	The Policy Process and Democracy	3		
PAD 5006	Ethics and Leadership	3		

*PAD 5001 should be taken within the first 2 semesters. ** PAD 5003 should not be taken in the first semester of study.

Elective Courses:

(12-15 HOURS DEPENDING ON CHOICE OF CAPSTONE OR THESIS)

Course	Title	Hours	Semester	Grade
		3		
		3		
		3		
		3		
		3		

Internship (3 HOURS, UNLESS WAIVED)

Course	Title	Hours	Semester	Grade
PAD 6910 *	Internship	3		

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

Capstone or Thesis (3 - 6 HOURS)

Course	Title	Hours	Semester	Grade
PAD 5361 or PAD 6950 *	Capstone Seminar or Master's Thesis	3-6		

*This will be your final course and should be taken alone, if possible. All core courses must be complete before enrolling in Capstone or Thesis. Contact your faculty advisor for more information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ACCEPTABLE GRADES

Grades of B- or better are required in all courses applied to the program for those students beginning in Fall 2016 catalog or later. Grades of B- or better are required in core courses and Capstone/Thesis; and C or better in electives for those students beginning in an earlier catalog. In order to remain in good academic standing and to receive his/her degree, a student is required to maintain at least a B (3.0) GPA, which includes all work required for the MPA degree while taken at UCCS (classified and unclassified) and may differ from the University GPA.

REPEATING COURSES

A student who receives a grade below B in a course may repeat that course once, with the approval of the MPA program director, provided the course has not been previously applied toward a degree. The grade received in a repeated course may substitute for the original grade and only the latter grade will be used in calculating the student's MPA GPA for graduation; however, all grades received during the student graduate school experience will appear on the student's transcript and will be used in calculating the student's UCCS GPA.

CERTIFICATES

Students may choose to focus electives so as to earn one or more graduate certificates concurrently with the MPA degree. Graduate certificates available for MPA students through UCCS include: Nonprofit Management; Criminal Justice; Homeland Security and Emergency Management Leadership; National Security Intelligence; and Grant Writing, Management, and Program Evaluation. You must submit a Certificate Declaration form to the Graduate Student Services Specialist in the College of Public Service in order to pursue a certificate(s).

INTERSHIPS

Pre-Service Students must complete an internship. Must have completed as least 9 hours of coursework to enroll in PAD 6910. Graded Pass/Fail but is added as 3 credits hours. Preservice students must complete 39 Credits hours for the MPA. The internship is required for students lacking significant experience in the public or nonprofit fields. PAD 6910 is not available for in-service students. Eligibility is determined at the time of admission.

Internship guidelines are set forth in the MPA Handbook at spa.uccs.edu. The director of the MPA program examines each student's application to the program and determines whether an internship is appropriate or should be waived. Students are notified of this decision in their admission letter. Students who believe vital experiences have been overlooked may ask the MPA program director to reconsider the decision by submitting a written request. The internship course is not available for in-service students.

CAPSTONE VS THESIS

Please discuss your options with your faculty advisor early in your program. A Capstone/Thesis orientation is held in both the fall and spring and is open to all College of Public Service graduate students. All core courses must be completed before enrolling in Capstone or Thesis.

GRADUATION

Students should meet with their faculty advisor or the Graduate Student Services Specialist periodically to ensure they are meeting the requirements for graduation. Please apply for graduation at the beginning of the semester in which you intend to graduate. Deadlines and forms are found here: <https://graduateschool.uccs.edu/>.