Master of Public Administration
Purdue University Fort Wayne
Department of Public Policy
Brian L. Fife, Director of Graduate Studies
Neff Hall 260 – 481-6351
www.ipfw.edu/public-policy

The faculty members in the Department of Public Policy are dedicated to applied, interdisciplinary learning in the study of public affairs and are committed to the core mission of teaching, research, and public service.

The interests of the faculty and professional staff generally fall into one or more of the following areas:

- Public affairs and administration
- Criminal justice
- Healthcare management
- Law and public policy
- Nonprofit management

The department’s faculty, staff, and students work collaboratively and individually to address public policy challenges that require the department’s unique, in-depth knowledge in the social, behavioral, and administrative sciences.

The faculty in the department come from a variety of backgrounds, including:

- Political science and public administration
- Sociology
- Criminal justice
- Health
- Law

Experienced government managers, practicing judges and lawyers, law enforcement officials, and healthcare administrators are utilized to teach specialized topics in the curriculum.

The organizational design of the department reinforces a wide network of continuing relations with a large number of public agencies in the greater community.

Admission to the Master of Public Administration Program

Regular admission to the MPA program requires a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution with an undergraduate grade-point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale). Any major is acceptable. Applicants must include official transcripts of all undergraduate work (unofficial transcripts from Purdue University are fine); professional references from two individuals familiar with a student’s academic or professional abilities or potential (original documents with original signatures are required); and a $60 nonrefundable university application fee.

Provisional admission may be granted for students who are nearing completion of an undergraduate degree or for students who do not meet some of the criteria for regular admission.

Nondegree admission may be granted to visiting students who wish to take courses for one semester without being formally admitted into the MPA program.

Master of Public Administration Requirements (39 credit hours)
The MPA degree is an interdisciplinary professional program structured around concepts and skills essential to management, policy, and planning activities within governmental, quasi-governmental, and not-for-profit organizations.

The course of study requires completion of 39 credit hours with four components:

- (1) core requirements; (2) concentration requirements; (3) the experiential requirement; and (4) one elective.

- The MPA core requirements (21 credits) include courses that are designed to provide foundation-level knowledge that is applicable to general public management and therefore function as an appropriate context for either concentration.

- The three concentrations require 12 credit hours and include Health Systems Administration and Policy; Nonprofit Management; and Public Administration and Policy.

- Students may focus on an area of concentration that best reflects their own interests and career aspirations.

MPA Core Requirements (21 credit hours)

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<tr>
<th>Cr.</th>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 50200 Public Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 50600 Statistical Analysis for Effective Decision Making</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 50900 Administrative Ethics in the Public Sector</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 56000 Public Finance and Budgeting</td>
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<td>PPOL 56200 Public Program Evaluation</td>
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<td>PPOL 56600 Executive Leadership</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 60000 Capstone in Public and Environmental Affairs</td>
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MPA Concentrations (12 credit hours)

Health Systems Administration and Policy (12 credit hours)
Policies and programs in the health field are examined in this concentration. Particular emphasis is placed on organizational and economic analysis.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 51700 Managerial Epidemiology</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 54300 Health Services Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 54500 The U.S. Healthcare System</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 54600 Health Services Utilization</td>
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Nonprofit Management (12 credit hours)

Nonprofit organizations and their role in society are examined in this concentration. Particular emphasis is placed on management issues and public policies affecting the nonprofit and voluntary sector.

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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 52100 The Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector</td>
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<td>PPOL 52500 Management in the Nonprofit Sector</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 55700 Proposal Development and Grant Administration</td>
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<td>PPOL 55800 Fund Development for Nonprofits</td>
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Public Administration and Policy (12 credit hours)
Quantitative and qualitative skills are developed in the context of this concentration that are necessary for public and not-for-profit management. Particular emphasis is placed on political, organizational, and economic analysis.

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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 50400 Public Organizations</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 51200 Public Policy Process</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 53900 Management Science for Public Affairs</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PPOL 54000 Law and Public Affairs</td>
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Experiential Component (3 credit hours)
Each MPA student must complete the 3 credit hour experiential component. Students with at least one year of full-time management and/or policy experience can apply for an exemption. Students who do not meet this criterion must take PPOL 58500 (Practicum in Public Affairs) for 3 credits.

Elective (3 credit hours)
PPOL courses may be completed to satisfy the elective requirement. Other PFW graduate courses must be approved by the director of graduate studies.

39 credit hours total

Academic Regulations: The following academic regulations supplement those that apply to all PFW students.

Transfer Credit: With the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies, students may transfer up to 9 graduate credit hours of appropriate course work with grades of a B (3.00) or better earned at other accredited institutions. No more than 12 graduate credits completed as a non-degree student will be counted toward the MPA.

Academic Probation: Students are placed on probation and are so notified whenever their cumulative GPA is less than 3.0. Unless the GPA is increased to a 3.0 during the next semester of enrollment, a student will not ordinarily be allowed to continue as a Purdue degree candidate. Only courses with grades of C (2.0) or better are counted for degree requirements; however, grades below C are used in computing the cumulative GPA, even if a course is repeated and a higher grade is earned.

Fees and Expenses: For current PFW fee information, contact the bursar’s office at 260-481-6824 or see www.ipfw.edu/offices/bursar/ tuition-fees.

Financial Aid: Sources of financial aid for graduate students include, but are not limited to the following:

- Federal Stafford Loans, federal Work Study, department assistantships and scholarships, and alternative loans through lenders based on several eligibility factors.

- More information can be obtained by contacting the financial aid office at 260-481-6820 or at www.ipfw.edu/offices/financial-aid.

For financial aid purposes, graduate students are considered to be full time when they enroll in at least 9 credit hours per semester, three-quarter time students when enrolled in at least 6 credits hours per semester, or half-time students when enrolled in at least 4.5 credits per semester.

Graduate Faculty
- Nurgul Aitalieva, (Ph.D., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2014, political science), assistant professor
- Brian L. Fife, (Ph.D., State University of New York at Binghamton, 1990, political science), professor, chair and director of graduate studies
- Jospeter M. Mbuba (Ph.D., Louisiana State University, 2004, sociology/criminology), associate professor
- Koichiro Otani (Ph.D., St. Louis University, 2000, health services research), professor
- Rachel L. Rayburn (Ph.D., University of Central Florida, 2011, applied sociology), associate professor
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

General Requirements:
1. Only courses with grades of C (2.0) or above are counted for degree requirements; however, grades below C are used in computing the cumulative GPA, even if a course is repeated and a higher grade is earned.
2. A student is placed on probation whenever the cumulative GPA is less than 3.0. Unless the GPA increases to a 3.0 during the next semester of enrollment, a student will not ordinarily be allowed to continue as a degree candidate.
3. Up to nine credit hours of appropriate course work with grades of B or better may be transferred to the MPA degree with approval of the Director of Graduate Studies.
4. No more than 12 hours of graduate credit completed as a non-degree student may be applied to the MPA degree.
5. A maximum of three credit hours may be granted under the experiential component.

Experiential Component:
Each MPA student must obtain relevant professional experience through an approved internship (PPOL 58500). This requirement is automatically satisfied if a student is granted credit for management or policy experience under the experiential component.

Elective: One PPOL course (3 credit hours). Other PFW graduate courses must be approved by Director of Graduate Studies.

Degree Requirements (39 credit hours)

I. Core Requirements
   (7 courses; 21 credit hours)
   - PPOL 50200 Public Management
   - PPOL 50600 Statistical Analysis for Effective Decision Making
   - PPOL 50900 Administrative Ethics in the Public Sector
   - PPOL 56000 Public Finance and Budgeting
   - PPOL 56200 Public Program Evaluation
   - PPOL 56600 Executive Leadership
   - PPOL 60000 Capstone in Public & Environmental Affairs

II. Concentrations
   A. Health Systems Administration and Policy
      (4 courses; 12 credit hours)
      - PPOL 51700 Managerial Epidemiology
      - PPOL 54300 Health Systems Management
      - PPOL 54500 The U.S. Healthcare System
      - PPOL 54600 Health Services Utilization

   B. Nonprofit Management
      (4 courses; 12 credit hours)
      - PPOL 52100 The Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector
      - PPOL 52500 Management in the Nonprofit Sector
      - PPOL 55700 Proposal Development & Grant Administration
      - PPOL 55800 Fund Development for Nonprofits

   C. Public Administration and Policy
      (4 courses; 12 credit hours)
      - PPOL 50400 Public Organizations
      - PPOL 51200 Public Policy Process
      - PPOL 53900 Management Science for Public Affairs
      - PPOL 54000 Law and Public Affairs

III. Experiential Component
     (3 credit hours)
     - PPOL 58500 Practicum in Public Affairs OR
     - At least one year of full-time administrative, management, and/or policy experience (students must apply for this credit)

IV. Electives
   (One course; 3 credit hours of PPOL graduate courses)

Other PFW graduate courses must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.