PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

CURRICULUM

Master of Arts

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA8100</td>
<td>Public Admin &amp; Governance</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8101</td>
<td>Policy Analysis and Challenges</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8102</td>
<td>The State &amp; the Economy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8103</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td>1</td>
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Two elective credits 2

AND one of the following Options:

**THESIS Option:**

- Master's Thesis (Milestone)

**MAJOR RESEARCH PROJECT Option:**

- Master's Research Project (Milestone)
- Two elective credits 2

**COURSE Option:**

- Four Elective credits 4

ELECTIVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA8200</td>
<td>Bureaucracy &amp; Organization</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA8201</td>
<td>Citizen Oriented Gov &amp; Globlzn</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA8202</td>
<td>Comparative Public Policy</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA8203</td>
<td>Comparative Public Admin</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA8204</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Relations</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA8205</td>
<td>Prov Gov &amp; Politics in Ont</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8206</td>
<td>Urban Governance</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8207</td>
<td>Public Sector Financial Mgmt</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA8208</td>
<td>Public Sect Union-Mgmt Relatns</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA8209</td>
<td>Chng Boundaries: Third Sector</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8210</td>
<td>Public Serv. Diversity &amp; Equity</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA8211</td>
<td>Topics in Public Admin</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8212</td>
<td>Directed Studies: Public Admin</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8213</td>
<td>Field Placement</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8214</td>
<td>Topics in Public Policy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8215</td>
<td>Values and Governance</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8216</td>
<td>Intl Devlpment Policy and Admin</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8217</td>
<td>Accountability and Ethics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA8218</td>
<td>Indigenous Law and Pol in Can</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>SS8000</td>
<td>Stat Analysis in Soc Sci Rsrch</td>
<td>1</td>
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COURSE LISTING

**Master's Thesis**

In the thesis option, students conduct an advanced examination of a topic in public policy or public administration. Students propose and carry out the research under the direction of a faculty supervisor and a thesis supervisory committee. On completion, the research is submitted in a thesis format to the supervisor and defended by the student before a thesis examining committee. This is a "Milestone." Pass/Fail

**Master's Research Project**

The research project option is intended for students following a professional career path in public policy or public administration. In the project, students propose and carry out research or applied work related to an issue or problem they are interested in studying. The project is conducted under the direction of a faculty supervisor and a project supervisory committee. The research project is
PA8100 Public Administration & Governance
This course focuses on the principles, organizational features and decision making processes of Canadian public administration in the broader context of shared governance, public sector reform and globalization. The course covers the relationship between the political and administrative institutions and actors of government; the role of public administration in a diverse democracy; the role of values and ethics in public administration; and the structures and processes of accountability for governance and public sector management. The course also introduces the enduring and current challenges facing public sector organisations and public administrators in Canada. 1 Credit

PA8101 Policy Analysis and Challenges
This course focuses on current challenges in public policy. It situates contemporary Canadian public policy in the environment in which it is lived and developed: first by examining the contemporary context of policy making; secondly by introducing some of the theoretical and methodological underpinnings and tools of policy analysis; and thirdly by examining contemporary challenges faced by policy makers and stakeholders relating to, for example, scale, diversity, global forces, and change. 1 Credit

PA8102 The State & the Economy
This course examines the changing nature of Canadian public finance and state-economy relations within the context of globalization. Emphasis will be placed on the shifting role of government in the economy, on the challenges of public financing in an era of fiscal crisis and tax restraint, and on the application of economic models in policy formulation. The role of the state within market society in providing public goods, in particular the balance struck between social policy and economic development, will be given special attention with a focus on macro level economic policy analysis. Topics include: the structural context in which state budgeting occurs, the role of federalism and global institutions such as NAFTA and WTO in shaping the limits of Canadian public finance, and new economic models and their impact on public policy. 1 Credit

PA8103 Research Methods
This course provides students with an understanding of the range of research methods applicable to public policy and administration, encourages them to think critically about research methods and approaches, and assists them in developing concrete research strategies. The topics covered include research design, quantitative and qualitative modes of inquiry, measurement, statistical analysis, survey research, content analysis, field research, archival and documentation research, the case study approach, and historical and comparative research. The course examines these various methods and statistical techniques in the context of how they are used in public policy and public administration. 1 Credit

PA8200 Bureaucracy and Organization
This course surveys different theoretical approaches to organization and bureaucracy in advanced industrial societies. While this course surveys the major theoretical contributions to the field of organization theory and covers the classics in the public administration literature, it also examines a number of areas about which traditional approaches have been relatively silent, especially organization theories having to do with race, gender and class. It examines the relationships between the processes of bureaucratization, industrial and economic change and the evolution of democracy. A major focus of the course is on the exercise of power, control and accountability in bureaucratic organizations. 1 Credit

PA8201 Citizen Oriented Governance & Globalization
This course examines contemporary struggles for democratization at a variety of scales in light of the historical struggles and debates of the last half of the twentieth century. Students will be introduced to literature on citizenship, democracy, and participatory governance. Topics include: the achievements, limits, and struggles for social citizenship and political inclusion in welfare states; the political economy of “development” and citizenship in the global South; contradictions in democracy and citizenship under neoliberalism; Aboriginal struggles for sovereignty; alternative traditions of governance and the challenge to liberal notions of citizenship; emerging institutions and practices of “global governance” and globalized struggles for democratization; the crisis of legitimacy and new experiments in citizen-oriented governance in liberal representative democracies and in the global South. 1 Credit

PA8202 Comparative Public Policy
Comparative public policy is the study of how and why different governments pursue particular courses of action or inaction. The course focuses on some of the major theoretical and methodological approaches to the comparative study of public policies and programs, helping students develop the skills needed to study and explain convergence and divergence in government policy and program choice, implementation, and outcomes. The course draws from approaches in comparative politics and policy studies, and uses domestic and global examples to consider and examine the factors that are shaping government decision-making today. 1 Credit

PA8203 Comparative Public Administration
Comparative public administration is the study of how, why and to what effect governments select certain instruments and organizational arrangements to implement policy decisions. These decisions have put public administration at the core of evolving neoliberal definitions of good governance and have resulted in a growing literature on comparative public administration. This course focuses on the varying impact of globalization on developed and developing countries, public sector reform in comparative context, emerging supra-national and global bureaucracies, and the role of international organizations in public administration and public sector reform. 1 Credit

PA8204 Intergovernmental Relations
This course examines the division of political and administrative power and the nature of relations between governments which result from Canadian federalism, including federal-provincial-municipal or “tri-level” relations. Specific topics will include the role of the courts in constitutional interpretations, the instruments of “fiscal federalism” (including equalization payments, conditional grants,
tax sharing arrangements and shared cost programs), regional, cultural and linguistic differences, administrative relationships, the intergovernmental challenge of Aboriginal self-government and the concept of "executive federalism". Finally, an investigation of intergovernmental policy capacity will provide an opportunity for a more intensive examination of the impact of intergovernmental relations on public policy and administration in Canada.  1 Credit

PA8205 Provincial Government & Politics in Ontario
This course examines the recent dramatic changes in Ontario politics. It evaluates both the historical and contemporary development of the government of Ontario, and the economic, social and political features which have shaped the evolution of this province and influenced its governance. The course looks at ideological, economic, social and political factors. Attention is devoted to: the political economy and political culture of Ontario; the determinants and structures of policy making and public administration; public policy fields and processes; the interactions and roles of government institutions including the premier, the cabinet, the legislature and the bureaucracy; the place of interest groups and social movements; mass media; elections; and specific policy issues. A comparative approach to other Canadian provinces will also be employed throughout the course. 1 Credit

PA8206 Urban Governance
Decisions affecting Canadian citizens in their daily lives are increasingly being made by a range of different actors and institutions that span global, national, provincial, and local interests. Through the lens of contemporary urban policy issues, this course examines the role of both urban governance and citizenship by addressing a selection of current subjects facing Canadian and selected comparative cities in the contemporary context. The interplay of institutions, interests, and ideas in shaping urban governance will be explored in the following areas of study: evolution of municipal government, finance, employment, immigration, intergovernmental relations, restructuring, civic participation, social inclusion, voluntary sector relations, diversity, and sustainability. 1 Credit

PA8207 Public Sector Financial Management
This course examines public sector budgeting: the raising of revenue, the allocation of expenditures and the evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of spending. A central theme of the course is the "politics" of the budgetary process. This includes the process of making budgetary decisions within government, the role of public sector organizations and interest groups in the budgetary process, and how government evaluates its direct spending and monies allocated to fund programs and services delivered by hospitals, schools and other public sector institutions through program evaluation, performance management, auditing and public reporting. The course will focus on what the study of public sector budgeting reveals about changes in the scope and nature of government responsibility and the potential for both greater public participation in the budgetary process and improved accountability. 1 Credit

PA8208 Public Sector Union-Management Relations
Public administration is conducted in a highly unionized environment. Public policies and services, therefore, are significantly affected by union-management relations. This course explores current issues and trends in public sector union-management relations. Particular emphasis is placed on the state's dual role as law-maker and employer, and whether this is compatible with labour rights, diversity and equity, and the public interest. Topics explored include: the rise of public sector unionism, current public sector labour relations legislation, employment restructuring in the public service, and public sector union resistance to government policy. Another major theme of the course will involve an analysis of the changing nature of work, focusing on how new information technologies and public sector reform have affected the distribution of power and control in the workplace with a focus on recent organizational changes in the public sector. 1 Credit

PA8209 Changing Boundaries: The Third Sector
This course offers an in-depth examination of the changing role of the Third Sector in our modern governance structures. Because of the influence of new political developments and public administration reforms such as reinventing government and alternative service delivery (ASD) the Third Sector has taken on a greater importance in society with respect to serving the public good. New partnerships between the state and nonprofit bodies have changed the boundaries in which we have traditionally come to view the public sector. This course will critically assess these developments with public administration and public policy and explore the various roles played by the Third Sector in contemporary Canadian society. 1 Credit.

PA8210 Diversity & Equity in the Public Service
Diversity and equity are important features of public policy and are central to the debate about the renewal of the public service in Canada. An increasing concern with human rights, significant demographic developments, and a citizenry conscious of both the democratic deficit and the need for a representative public service workforce, call into question the values and ethos of public service in Canada. The broader public sector has an opportunity now to make up ground in the representation of historically disadvantaged groups in ways that will help to create an exemplary workplace. The imperative to renew and rejuvenate the public service is matched with the reality of a labour market that is increasingly diverse. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Multiculturalism Act, the federal Human Rights Act and provincial Human Rights Codes have embedded in them a core set of rights, values and responsibilities. Part of the challenge in a democratic society like Canada is navigating between competing rights, claims and values. In this course specific emphasis is devoted to the following policy fields: immigration policy, multiculturalism, native self-government, human rights, employment equity, gender relations and language rights. 1 Credit

PA8211 Topics in Public Administration
This course focuses on selected topics in public administration. The content may vary from year to year. Through an examination of one or more policy areas this course will focus on analyzing the political, legal, social, economic complexities of public administration. 1 Credit

PA8212 Directed Studies
This course is designed for individual students with specialized interests that may not be satisfied through course offerings in a given year. It will normally be a directed reading course under the direct supervision of an assigned faculty member with expertise in the chosen subject field. It is also designed for students wishing to pursue research on a policy or public administration topic.
PA8213 Field Placement
Field Placements provide a mechanism for students to earn academic credit for relevant work experience (paid or unpaid), normally outside the university. Field Placements must be related to public policy and administration and to the student’s learning objectives in the program. Field Placements offer students the opportunity to link theory with practice, to conduct empirical research, to learn about professional practices in organizations in the field of public policy and administration, and to gain appropriate work experience. Pass/Fail. 1 Credit

PA8214 Topics in Public Policy
This course focuses on selected topics in public policy. The content may vary from year to year. Through an examination of one or more policy areas, this course will focus on analyzing the political, legal, social, economic and administrative complexities of various public policies and their implementation. 1 Credit

PA8215 Values, Political Culture and Governance
Political research over the past few decades has tracked declining levels of public trust and confidence in government. To regenerate citizen trust and confidence, public officials have launched task forces, reviews, and legislative reforms designed to make government appear more ethical, efficient and responsive. This course examines the political cultural environment that gave rise to these initiatives and assesses their successes and failures in light of the public’s attitudes and expectations of good governance. Current ethical challenges faced by governments and public officials will be anchored within Canada’s shifting political cultural landscape. Political cultural analyses are important to this topic because in the end, democratic legitimacy and citizenship can only be achieved if political institutions and the actors within them are perceived as accountable, trustworthy and ethical by the public. 1 Credit

PA8216 Intl Development Policy and Admin
The chief objective of this course is to enable students to acquire a deeper understanding of the processes and structures that shape the character and outcome of policy-making aimed at improving conditions of life in developing countries. The course begins by providing students with some historical and theoretical context to the emergence of international development as a field of study and practice. It then goes on to examine debates around policy-making and implementation in a number of key areas, such as environmental management, gender, education, health, poverty alleviation, agriculture, urban development, and post-conflict reconstruction and aid.

PA8217 Accountability and Ethics
This course examines critical challenges in accountability and ethics facing contemporary Canadian governments, how those issues arise, and alternative strategies for Responding to those challenges. It looks at the accountability framework within which the public service operates: public service law, management policy, conflict of interest rules, transparency obligations, financial management principles and practices, third party provider governance rules, and Parliamentary oversight. It will also explore the ethical framework governing public servants, ministers and legislators. 1 Credit

PA8218 Indigenous Law and Policy in Canada
This course takes a critical look at the legal issues which most affect the lives of Aboriginal peoples, their communities and organizations in Canada. The challenges faced by both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal governments in addressing legal issues such as Aboriginal and Treaty rights, Aboriginal title, land claims, Aboriginal identity and self-government are often played out in the courts, federalism and the bureaucracy. Some of the legal and policy decisions in Canada have advanced the position of Aboriginal peoples in Canada, while others have hampered progress. These legal decisions also have a significant impact on federal and provincial policies in relation to Aboriginal peoples. Similarly, Aboriginal communities must address these legal issues within their own governments and organizations. The objective of this course is to engage graduate students in thinking critically about these legal issues with a view to advancing their own ideas about how to address the resulting policy implications for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal governments in Canada. 1 Credit.

SS8000 Statistical Analysis in Social Science Research
See SOCIAL SCIENCE
SOCIAL SCIENCE

SS8000 Stat Analysis in Social Science Rsrch
This course introduces students to advanced quantitative methods for generating and analyzing large social science data sets such as those produced by Statistics Canada and other national and international statistics bureaus. Following a review of basic statistics and probability, the course will cover topics such as the linear probability model, logistic regression, models for categorical and count data and factor analysis. The substantive questions and particular data sets to which these tools will be applied will be driven by student interests. While students will gain knowledge of statistical theory, special attention will be paid to the practice of carrying out analysis of complex data. For example, issues related to coding, missing data and the reporting and presentation of quantitative results will be covered. 1 Credit

SS8001 Advanced Qualitative Methods
This course is specifically targeted at students who want to learn advanced qualitative research methods related to their MRPs, theses or dissertation projects. It will provide advanced understanding and analysis of qualitative research and methods. This course offers an opportunity to customize learning on various qualitative research methods directly related to graduate research projects.

SS8100 Urban Policy
This course is specifically targeted at graduate students from a number of different social science graduate programs who want to wait an understanding of the major urban problems facing cities today and the effectiveness of alternative policy solutions to address those problems. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on the Canadian case compared to cities around the world. 1 Credit.

SS8200 Justice Policy
Criminal Justice policy is an important part of social policy. This course will provide graduate studies with an understanding of criminal justice policy in Canada. This course will consider the process by which justice policies are established, revised, and administered as well as the social and economics issues associated with individual or group involvement in the criminal justice system. This course will provide foundations for further research in the criminal justice field. 1 Credit