Our mission
The Washington State University Vancouver program in public affairs brings theory and engaged scholarship to help those serving the public interest. The program offers an intersection between rigorous academic research and practical application. Our goal is to foster evidence-based reasoning and practice on the part of those working for the public good, including students, community members, legislators, practitioners, scholars and issue stakeholders.

Questions?
Contact Paul Thiers, Ph.D., director, at 360-546-9466 or pthiers@vancouver.wsu.edu

Learn more
Visit cas.vancouver.wsu.edu/public-affairs

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Become a leader in your community, your government and beyond.
Give your career a boost by earning a master’s degree in public affairs

The M.P.A. program is designed to meet the needs of working professionals as well as students. The degree can be completed entirely in the evenings—at your own pace—while working full or part time.

Currently working in the public or nonprofit sector or looking to break in?

Program description

The M.P.A. will prepare you for a variety of career opportunities—from state and local government and public policy analysis to personnel administration and strategic planning. You’ll also be prepared for many jobs outside of government service, such as nonprofit organizations.

Enhance your marketability, hone new skills and gain valuable experience with an internship placement at a wide variety of agencies—all while earning your degree from a renowned institution.

Tailored to your interests

Enjoy small class sizes with engaging lectures, group discussions and presentations. In addition to core courses, you can focus on public administration, applied policy studies, health policy and public service, justice studies or environmental policy. In consultation with an advisor, you may be able to tailor your program according to your interests.

Admission requirements

- Online application submitted to graduate school
- Bachelor’s degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Official GRE test scores
- Statement of intent
- Résumé
- Three letters of reference

Get started

Contact Annette Bradstreet, M.P.A. program coordinator, at 360-546-9640 or annette.bradstreet@vancouver.wsu.edu.

Learn more

Visit cas.vancouver.wsu.edu/public-affairs/master-public-affairs-mpa

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