The School of Public Policy & Administration offers the following graduate programs:

- Master of Public Administration
- M.A. in Urban Affairs & Public Policy
- Ph.D. in Urban Affairs & Public Policy
- M.A. in Historic Preservation
- M.S. in Disaster Science & Management
- Ph.D. in Disaster Science & Management

School of Public Policy
& Administration
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Educate • Explore • Engage • Empower

The Delaware Difference
Integrating Academic Excellence with Professional Experience

The School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA) integrates classroom instruction, research, and applied practice to equip our graduates with the leadership, project implementation, and critical-thinking skills necessary for professional success.

Our diverse, socially conscious community of faculty and staff are committed to teaching academic and professional best practices, and our active alumni network helps mentor and connect students with career opportunities.

A Career in Public and Nonprofit Service
If you want to make a difference in the world, have an impact on your community, and build a rewarding life for yourself with a career in the public or nonprofit sector, a Master of Arts degree from the School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA) at the University of Delaware is the first step!

Why Urban Affairs & Public Policy?
Urbanization affects all aspects of our lives—no matter where we happen to live. To create better living environments in the future, we must fully understand how communities grow and mature, and how we can make them better places to live, work and play. Our M.A. program is comprised of the intersection of two fields:

- Urban Affairs—how urban society functions physically, socially, economically, and culturally
- Public Policy—what we do, or should do, to solve urban problems and enhance the quality of urban life

Creating livable cities that meet the needs of their increasingly diverse populations is both an art and a science. SPPA students sharpen their analytical skills and at the same time also strengthen their ability to be creative leaders who can guide our public and nonprofit institutions in developing and implementing policies and programs that effectively address critical urban issues.

Customizable Research
Our M.A. program is broad-based and flexible, allowing students to pursue research in a wide range of domestic and international policy issues. Students have considerable discretion in choosing their term paper topics, and are able to take up to 9 credits in elective courses.

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Our Commitment to Diversity
Addressing complex and dynamic problems depends on understanding, respecting, appreciating, and valuing different perspectives and experiences. SPPA is committed to offering its students an interdisciplinary and multicultural education.

Personal Attention
Students interact closely with faculty and staff on academic matters and research projects. We are fully invested in the academic and professional success of our students.

Scholarships and Aid
Scholarships and financial assistance are awarded on an annual basis and governed by the availability of funding.

The M.A. in Urban Affairs & Public Policy at the University of Delaware

Admission
Admission requires a bachelor’s degree with a strong academic record; three letters of recommendation; GRE scores; TOEFL score (for international students); resume; personal statement; and a record of achievement in related work or volunteer experience.

In addition, applicants must include a non-refundable application fee and should complete a SPPA Supplementary Information Form. Preference is given to applicants who demonstrate a clear career interest in public service.

Applying is easy.... Do it today! Visit www.udel.edu/gradoffice/apply/

The 36-credit program usually is completed in two years of full-time study—part-time matriculation is also available. The curriculum consists of:

- Core courses—24 credits
- Elective courses—6-9 credits
- Policy Analysis Studio or Thesis—3-6 credits

Research Assistantships
SPPA’s competitive research assistantships provide students the opportunity to broaden their experiences beyond the classroom and gain insight into daily operations in public and nonprofit organizations or scholarly research.

Research assistants receive a stipend and tuition scholarship, and typically work 20 hours per week in one of these affiliated interdisciplinary research and public service centers:
- Center for Community Research and Service
- Institute for Public Administration
- Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research
- Center for Historic Architecture and Design
- Disaster Research Center

It is also possible for research assistants to work in external community agencies, the Delaware State Legislature (through the Legislative Fellows program), or with faculty and staff on other research and special projects.

Apply to the program by the Priority Deadline for maximum consideration for an assistantship.

Typical Curriculum

First Semester
- UAPP619 Contemporary Issues in Urban Affairs & Public Policy
- UAPP691 Quantitative Analysis in Public & Nonprofit Sector
- UAPP702 Research Methods in Urban & Public Policy

Second Semester
- UAPP701 Public Policy
- UAPP693 Economics in Public & Nonprofit Sectors
- UAPPxxx elective course

Third Semester
- UAPP613 Planning Theory & Urban Policy
- UAPP703 Urban Society & Public Policy
- UAPP707 Policy Analysis

Fourth Semester
- UAPPxxx Policy Analysis Studio OR Thesis
- UAPPxxx 1 or 2 elective courses

Subject Areas
The M.A. in Urban Affairs & Public Policy offers students a strong foundation in public policy theory and analysis, with a strong focus on solving a variety of societal problems. In the program, students have many opportunities to apply their new theoretical knowledge and analytical skills to real-world issues. This is done through the careful selection of elective courses and term paper topics, by participating in a policy analysis studio or writing a thesis, and by working with faculty and professional staff on their research and public service projects. These projects tend to be in the following subject areas:

- Disaster Science & Management
- Health Policy
- Historic Preservation
- Housing & Community Development
- Media & Public Policy
- Nonprofits & Philanthropy
- Urban & Regional Planning