



The Evergreen State College MPA Program

Where Will It Take You?



The Master of Public Administration prepares you to effectively serve the public good by advocating powerfully on behalf of the public, imagining new possibilities, and accomplishing positive change in your workplace and communities.

Graduates go on to careers in the public sector, tribal organizations, non-profit organizations, and businesses as leaders, managers, analysts, and effective advocates for positive change.

	Purpose	Competency: Critical Thinking	Competency: Analytical Thinking	Competency: Cultural Competency	Competency: Personal Skills
Concentration: Public and Non-Profit Administration	Begin or advance in careers as managers and administrators in public or nonprofit organizations.	Understanding the detailed contexts of public administration and tribal communities in order to work toward positive organizational and social change. Understanding the practices of management, budgeting, finance, policy, and administration, across many contexts.	Understanding the importance of research and analysis for administrative, development, community-based, policy and other public purposes. The ability to perform original research and analysis within the framework of indigenous research, focusing on achieving the political, economic, cultural, and community-based goals that contribute to sustainable tribal communities	Recognition of the importance of a strong personal and professional code of ethics that support socially and economically just, democratic public service. Recognition of inequities, differential impacts of policies and actions, differing definitions of fairness and equity, an understanding power dynamics, and that those with less power need to be a part of designing solutions.	Understanding team dynamics and the importance of working effectively in team and collaborative situations The ability to write and communicate clearly and effectively in a variety of settings and situations.
Concentration: Public Policy	Begin or advance in careers that support the public policy process such as policy and budget analysts.	Understanding policy creation, analysis and implementation The ability to be flexible and accepting of ambiguity and complexity; to identify and create strategies to remove barriers to positive change.	Understanding and ability to facilitate public policy creation, analysis, and implementation in all governments, and within the framework of the laws, processes, and legislative institutions specific to tribal governments.	Understanding international institutions and processes relevant to indigenous nations and the ability to participate in those arenas to build relationships and advocate for human rights. The ability to communicate, collaborate, and work across significant differences and through conflict.	The ability to communicate and work effectively in teams and collaborative situations. An understanding of different learning and work styles and how these translate into practices in organizational and community life.
Concentration: Tribal Governance	Begin or advance in careers in tribal governments and the agencies with which tribes interact.	The ability to create organizational designs for atypical institutions and to “think outside the box.” The ability to develop business plans, strategies, and structures for the successful management of tribal corporations, co-ops, and non-profits, and for the success of tribal communities.		The ability to develop leadership styles that are inclusive, dynamic, and culturally appropriate for working within and outside tribal communities.	Significant self-awareness and emotional intelligence.

What Alumni Say About the Evergreen MPA

"It's great to have a dream, but without acquiring the knowledge, skills, and abilities to achieve that vision I would still be dreaming. My experience in the MPA program added concrete skills to my passion and drive. So far, it's been a winning combination."

"My Evergreen MPA equipped me with a tool belt of knowledge and perspective that I utilize every day. The practical but rigorous curriculum - which includes real-world case studies, budget exercises, and candid dialogue on subjects like diversity and ethics – is designed to not only empower graduates to advance through the public and non-profit sector, but also to be catalysts for positive change while doing so."

"I think Evergreen's unique collaborative and community learning structure is amazing and offers something that is difficult to get at any other school. The faculty and programming were responsive to student interests, yet varied enough to meet the needs of students with different professional and personal goals while the class sizes were small enough for individual support and attention. I absolutely loved the cohort model as well and gained lifelong friends and professional contacts as a result."

"Lit the fuse on my public sector and related career."

"The program gave me the ability to think '360 degrees' instead of addressing public policy through only the familiar."

What Employers Say About the Evergreen MPA

"Having worked with Evergreen MPA students for nearly thirty years, I am increasingly impressed with how well prepared they are... They are critical thinkers who dig deep, ask the right questions, and apply practical sense in their analytical work and every day work environment."

"Evergreen produces graduates with strong writing, problem-solving, and inter-personal skills. Evergreen's interdisciplinary focus is also a big plus because we need researchers who possess the confidence to tackle policy issues outside of their core areas of expertise. Greeners [are] particularly good at managing projects in fluid and politically challenging environments where a strong sense of public service is a must."

"Evergreen's MPA professors bring 'real-world' experience as well as academic achievements into the classroom, teaching in a theoretical yet practical manner. Their connection with leaders in state government and local nonprofit organizations allow [students] to engage in high-level global and policy discussions, and also become connected with local challenges and solutions."

"In the business of management consulting, I need creative, dependable, critical thinkers who are great communicators and listeners. That is why half my staff are TESC MPA graduates. They know how to lead and follow, learn and grow, and have a natural curiosity to understand and improve systems."

Where Evergreen MPA Alumni Work

*Washington State Departments and Offices
Washington State Legislature
City and County Governments
Tribal Governments and Affiliated Organizations*

*Local, Regional, and National Non-Profit Organizations
Colleges and Universities
K-12 Educational Organizations
International Governments and NGOs*

*Federal Government Departments
U.S. House of Representatives
Other Governmental Organizations
Consultancies*