

# WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT US

## KENDRA AGUILAR, MPA '12

Pursuing PhD in Indigenous Studies



"I've taken with me several great things from this program. It gave me the tools I need to succeed in any public-service-related field, as well as a lifelong network of friends and colleagues who will continue to work together towards building a brighter future for our people." Kendra is a graduate of both the Evergreen Reservation Based Community Determined Program and the MPA Tribal Governance concentration. She is part of the first-ever cohort of U.S. tribal students to pursue a doctorate in Indigenous Development and Advancement (IDA) through Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi, an Indigenous Maori University based in New Zealand.

## NICOLE PETERS, MPA '11

Founder/Executive Director, Nature Nutures Farm

"It's great to have a dream (to start a non-profit organization), 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, and so far it's been a winning combination."

Washington Monthly named Evergreen as one of America's top master's colleges for 2012-2013. Evergreen was ranked 29th for how well it contributes to the public good.

## STEVE SALMI, MPA '95

Research Services Program Manager, Washington State Department of Commerce

"Eight of our 12-person staff are Evergreen grads; five have MPA degrees. Why? Because our experience has been that Evergreen produces graduates with strong writing, problem-solving, and interpersonal 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. We have found Greeners to be particularly good at managing projects in fluid and politically challenging environments where a strong sense of public service is a must."

## MATT LEMON, MPA '13

Research Associate, Washington State Institute for Public Policy



"I have a much better grasp of the various methodologies, methods, and approaches that people use when thinking about public policy. This has been a tremendous boon in my professional work, as it has allowed me to more effectively understand and work with a variety of stakeholders that represent multiple perspectives."

## WHAT WE HEAR FROM OUR ALUMNI & EMPLOYERS?

### ALUMNI

In a recent survey, Evergreen MPA alumni said:

"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."

"Evergreen's MPA pushed me to consider different ways we conceive of what is public, the different ways we have to work to manage that physical, social and psychological space, and how to engage others in it."

"I am better educated and have a grasp of how government impacts my daily life. I feel as if I have increased my self-esteem and feel worthy of moving forward toward some desired life goals."

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

"It has helped me work with the Port Gamble S'Kallam Tribe by providing the educational qualifications I need for employment."

### EMPLOYERS

In a recent survey, employers said MPA alumni have these strengths:

"Thinkers, problem-solvers, able to self-start and figure things out. Able to add to solutions."

"Critical thinking and a willingness to approach complex problems and invent creative ways to address them. Respect for diverse opinions and experiences. Ability to contribute to a team effort."

"Dedication, intelligence, writing ability, ability to get along with other staff."

"Ability to collaborate with others, and share ideas."

"The main strength of my Evergreen MPA alumni has been a commitment to inclusiveness. They are eager to invite many parties to the table when decision making is made."

# OUR GRADUATES

## OUR STUDENTS

### RODNEY GERVAIS, BLACKFEET, MPA '14

Tribal Governance



A graduate of Evergreen's MPA Tribal Governance concentration, Rodney has worked for the Blackfeet tribe for 27 years and has served as a tribal chairperson. He earned two AA degrees from Blackfeet Community College in human services and general studies. Rodney got his bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in native studies, from the University of Montana.

### SUSAN LUCAS, MPA '13

Chief Operating Officer, Washington State Health Care Authority

"When I started the program, I thought I was most interested in public policy development. As I went through the classes, I realized my skills and interest lies in public administration. My skills and abilities relate to implementing public policy, managing employee groups, and helping organizations adapt to organizational change and meet challenges."



### ALICIA LEDUC, MPA '11

Entering Willamette University College of Law



Alicia embodies the spirit of both Evergreen and the MPA program. She is inquisitive, focused on social justice, and motivated to do everything she can to grow and learn. From volunteering in Tanzania to working with Washington state and entering law school, Alicia is being the change.

photo courtesy Alicia LeDuc

## WHERE EVERGREEN MPA GRADUATES WORK

- Washington State Legislature
- U.S. House of Representatives
- Federal, state, tribal, and local governments
- Nonprofit organizations
- Tribal organizations
- Organizations working on Native issues
- Private industry and consulting
- Universities

Find additional information about public service careers at [www.naspaa.org/students/careers/careers.asp](http://www.naspaa.org/students/careers/careers.asp)



# MPA

Master of Public Administration

## Be the Change

Advocate powerfully on behalf of the public, imagine new possibilities, and accomplish positive change in your workplace and in your community.



# WHY GET AN MPA DEGREE?

## PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AT EVERGREEN

Evergreen's Master of Public Administration (MPA) program prepares students to effectively serve the public good. Students in the program study current issues in an interdisciplinary context, learning the most important aspects of governance, management, and policy. Graduates go on to careers in the public sector, business, and nonprofit organizations as leaders, managers, analysts, and effective advocates for change.

## THE VALUE OF AN MPA FROM EVERGREEN

- Earn a highly usable degree from a nationally recognized institution.
- Acquire many practical skills for today's workplace.
- Focus on socially just public service, applicable to every field.
- Learn in small classes taught by interdisciplinary faculty teams that address the complexity of contemporary public problems.
- Form strong friendships and professional relationships with a cohort of students who move through core coursework together.
- Choose from three concentrations: Public and Nonprofit Administration, Public Policy, and the nation's only Tribal Governance concentration.
- Based in the state's capitol for valuable exposure to government and supporting organizations.

## AFFORDABLE

- Evergreen's tuition runs about half the cost of comparable MPA programs in the Northwest.
- Most students admitted to the MPA program are eligible for some form of financial aid.
- Course schedules allow for students to work full- or part-time jobs.
- The GRE is not required for admission.

## CONVENIENT AND LIFE-FRIENDLY

- All classes meet in the evening or on weekends to meet the needs of working adult students.
- You can enroll full time and complete the program in two years, or choose to attend part time and spread your studies out over as many as six years.
- Students can qualify to take electives and statistics prior to admission.



Take up to 12 elective credits before admission.

Try us out and get a head start. Flexible degree requirements allow you to customize your MPA.

→ Take up to 24 elective credits from multiple interest areas.

→ Take up to 12 of the elective credits as independent study.



# WHAT YOU LEARN HERE

## MPA CURRICULUM

Evergreen's MPA degree consists of 60 credits. Students complete 36 credits in core coursework with the remaining 24 credits determined by their concentrations of choice.



~~Core Programs~~ are team taught by faculty with different specializations in public administration. In each quarter of Core, students earn six credit hours, for a total of 36 credits over two years.

**First-Year Core** is designed to give students the foundations of public administration. Students acquire the knowledge, skills, and abilities to lead others and to manage organizations in the public, nonprofit, tribal, and private sectors.

**Second-Year Core** prepares students in practical analytical skills and research techniques. Their experience is showcased in a required capstone or applied demonstration project involving organizations within the region.



~~Elective Courses~~ allow students to tailor their degree to their particular interests. Individual study, internships, and other approved graduate courses build upon the rich offerings in leadership, management, policy, ethics, human resources, and other disciplines offered through the program.



## CONCENTRATION



### TRIBAL GOVERNANCE

Develops administrators who can assist tribal governments and the public agencies with which tribes interact. Students take a series of courses focusing on issues of critical importance to tribes. Courses are taught in an intensive format, meeting five sessions each quarter.

Degree Requirements	
Core courses + Capstone	36 credits
Tribal concentration series	20 credits
Electives	4 credits
Total credits for degree	60 credits



### PUBLIC & NONPROFIT ADMINISTRATION

Students prepare for careers as administrators in public or nonprofit organizations. Electives are offered in areas such as strategic planning, human resources, leadership and ethics, multicultural competencies, and nonprofit management.

Degree Requirements	
Core courses + Capstone	36 credits
Electives	24 credits
Total credits for degree	60 credits



### PUBLIC POLICY

Students prepare for, or advance in, positions as policy analysts, budget analysts, or evaluators. Students complete two public policy courses. Electives are offered in areas such as health policy, poverty policy, education policy, environmental policy, and energy policy.

Degree Requirements	
Core courses + Capstone	36 credits
Foundations of Public Policy	4 credits
Advanced Research Methods	4 credits
Electives	16 credits
Total credits for degree	60 credits

# HOW TO APPLY

## APPLYING TO THE MPA PROGRAM

New students are admitted to begin the MPA program in the fall quarter only. We admit new students in the Public and Nonprofit Administration and Public Policy concentrations every year. A new cohort of students in the Tribal Governance concentration begins every other year, in even-numbered years.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

For complete, up-to-date information, go to [www.evergreen.edu/mpa](http://www.evergreen.edu/mpa)

- **Completed BA or BS degree before you begin MPA coursework in the fall**
- **3.0 GPA for the last 90 quarter-hours or 60 semester-hours of undergraduate or graduate coursework**  
*We can waive this requirement for otherwise well-qualified candidates*
- **Excellent writing, analytical and communication skills**
- **Introductory statistics class – many options are available**  
*May be completed after admission, as late as the summer before entering the program*

## QUICK APPLICATION CHECKLIST

This list is subject to change. See [www.evergreen.edu/mpa](http://www.evergreen.edu/mpa) for complete instructions and to apply.

- ☐ Graduate admission application + \$50 nonrefundable application fee
- ☐ Resume
- ☐ Official transcripts from every college or university attended—request early
- ☐ A typed statement of purpose, no more than three double-spaced pages
- ☐ A typed public policy essay of no more than five double-spaced pages regarding an issue of interest to you
- ☐ Two letters of recommendation—request early

## COSTS AND FINANCIAL AID

With tuition and fees at about half the cost of our competitors, Evergreen's MPA program is the most affordable MPA program in the Northwest. Visit: [www.evergreen.edu/mpa/cost](http://www.evergreen.edu/mpa/cost).

In addition, most MPA students are eligible for some form of financial aid. Financial aid resources include federal student loans, scholarships, tuition waivers, and work-study. Evergreen is committed to making every effort to award aid to as many students as possible. Visit: [www.evergreen.edu/mpa/finaid](http://www.evergreen.edu/mpa/finaid).

