

Concentrations

Students may choose from three concentrations: Public and Nonprofit Management, Public Policy, and Tribal Administration. Each concentration requires the completion of at least one foundation program that will prepare students to move on to more advanced work. For students with an interest in both policy and administration, a generalist track is available that will provide coursework in both arenas and the opportunity to select programs from the Public and Nonprofit, and Public Policy concentrations that match their interests.

Public and Nonprofit Administration Concentration

Students completing this concentration are likely to be preparing for careers as administrators in a public or nonprofit organization, or may be mid-career professionals who wish to improve their understanding of the public and nonprofit sectors and their skills at working in organizations in these sectors. Course work includes a foundation program that will cover the critical elements of administration—budgeting, strategic management, human resources, information systems, as well as the important distinctions between nonprofit and government organizations. Students will then be expected to complete 16 credits (four 4-credit concentration programs) in more specialized programs on these topics.

Public Policy Concentration

The public policy concentration is intended for students who wish to improve their analytical skills and anticipate working as policy analysts, budget analysts, evaluators, or similar positions, or for individuals in such positions who would like to improve their skills and knowledge. Initially, the focus of this concentration will be on health policy. Students with an interest in other policy arenas will have the opportunity to complete electives or concentration programs in those arenas or design a contract with a faculty member. Students must complete a foundation course in public policy that examines models of the policy process, policy analysis techniques, an advanced discussion of the relationship between policy and politics, implementation and evaluation issues. A second required course in this concentration is Advanced Research Methods, which will cover the study design, analysis, and statistical techniques needed to work successfully in this arena. Students will then be expected to complete 12 additional credits (three 4-credit programs) in this concentration.

Tribal Administration Concentration

Capstone or Thesis discussion in brochure & catalog