The Master of Public Affairs degree is a professional diploma designed to prepare students to build competencies and develop creative solutions for challenges in finance, leadership, human resources and project management. The degree will prepare students for carrying out administrative and leadership responsibilities in government and nonprofit settings. The specific outcome objectives for students who graduate with the MPA degree are:

• An understanding of the philosophical, theoretical and legal foundations of public management, policymaking and leadership in government and nonprofit settings.
• Proficiency in organizational and decision analysis, research and evaluation practice, and quantitative and qualitative techniques.
• Sound preparation for careers in the public and nonprofit sectors.
• Mastery of persuasive written and oral communication.

Program Description
Students must complete at least 36 credit hours to earn a Master of Public Affairs. This includes:
• 24 semester credit hours of required core.
• 9 semester credit hours of directed electives
• 3 semester credit hours of Capstone Seminar.
• Students without public or nonprofit work experience will be required to enroll in additional 3 semester credit hours of Internship.

Visit utdallas.edu/admissions/graduate for application and detailed admission steps. For complete degree requirements, view the Graduate Catalog at catalog.utdallas.edu.

Career Opportunities
Graduates of the program seek positions such as: city manager, government and nonprofit executive, human resource director, policy analyst, local government and nonprofit manager, police officer, firefighter, management analyst and public sector consultant.

 Marketable Skills
Upon successful completion of the Master of Public Affairs, UT Dallas graduates will develop critical thinking and problem solving skills essential for a good leader with an ability to use data and subject-matter knowledge to communicate and make sound and ethical decisions that take into consideration the diverse fabric of the citizenry.

• Engage in critical thinking to resolve complex problems associated with effectively managing diverse human assets within dynamic organizational environments.
• Students work and present policy briefs, critiques, literature reviews, and research papers all aimed at improving problem solving, oral comprehension, oral expression, and written comprehension skills.
• Develop active listening, critical judgement, and decision-making skills to lead others in organizational and policy-making environments.
• Develop critical thinking and comprehension skills for measuring performance and evaluating the impact of a program or policy.

Contact Information
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