

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

Master of Public Administration [MPA] (Coursework) (07251153)

Department	School of Public Management and Administration
Minimum duration of study	1 year
Total credits	180
NQF level	09

Admission requirements

1. Relevant bachelor's degree
2. A weighted average of at least 60% for the bachelor's degree
3. Administrative and managerial experience, preferably in the public sector, as deemed adequate and appropriate by the Departmental Postgraduate Selection Committee

Additional requirements

1. A candidate may be refused admission to a master's degree by the Director of the School of Public Management and Administration if he/she does not comply with the standard of competence in the subject as determined by the department – with the provision that a candidate who does not comply with the required level of competence, may be admitted, provided that he/she completes additional study assignments and/or examinations.
2. The number of students will be determined in line with the growth strategy of the University of Pretoria as approved by the Executive.

Other programme-specific information

Seven prescribed modules as well as a mini-dissertation must be completed. The programme must be completed within two years after the first registration for the degree. The Dean may, at the recommendation of the Postgraduate Committee, cancel the registration of a student during any academic year if his/her academic progress is not satisfactory.

Examinations and pass requirements

- A semester mark of at least 40% is required to qualify for the examination (See General Academic Regulations regulations in this regard).
- A student may, on the recommendation of the Departmental Postgraduate Committee, be admitted to a re-

examination/supplementary examination in a module, in cases where:

- a. a final mark of between 40% and 49% has been obtained; or
 - b. a final mark has been obtained, but the required subminimum of 40% in the examination section of the module has not been obtained.
- Credit is obtained for each module in which a final mark of at least 50% has been achieved.
 - A re-examination/supplementary examination is only allowed in a maximum of two modules.
 - A candidate may not present himself/herself for an examination in the same module more than twice, except with the approval of the Dean, on the recommendation of the Director of the School of Public Management and Administration. Refer to General Academic Regulation G32.2.3.
 - Supplementary examinations cover the same subject matter as was the case for the examinations.
 - Should a student fail NME 801 the student will not be allowed to continue with PAD 899. Failure in NME 801 in two consecutive years will result in termination of studies.

Research information

Mini-dissertations, curricula and modules

Refer to General Academic Regulation G38.

1. The degree programme requires that a mini-dissertation must be submitted for examination.
2. Information on modules, credits and syllabi is available, on request, from the Director: SPMA.
3. The mini-dissertation must be submitted to the MPA Administrator Coordinator for examination after permission is granted by the supervisor.

Submission of mini-dissertation

The mini-dissertation is submitted to the MPA Administrator Coordinator, as per Research flow Diagram approved by the SPMA Research Committee.

Curriculum: Final year

This degree is offered over a maximum of two years. All coursework modules to be completed in Year 1 of registration and the mini-dissertation to be registered in Year 2 of study. Degree must be completed within two years.

Core modules

Financial resource management 800 (FHB 800) - Credits: 20.00

Human resource management 801 (HPB 801) - Credits: 20.00

Research methodology 801 (NME 801) - Credits: 20.00

Public policy analysis and problem solving 800 (OXA 800) - Credits: 10.00

Public administration and management theories: selected topics 801 (PAD 801) - Credits: 20.00

Strategic capability and leadership 803 (PAD 803) - Credits: 20.00

Programme and project management 804 (PAD 804) - Credits: 10.00

Mini-dissertation: Public administration 899 (PAD 899) - Credits: 60.00

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.