



the **U**niversity of south dakota.

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## **Political Science/Public Administration**

**DEGREES:** Master of Arts, Plan A and B  
Master of Public Administration, Plan B only

### **Areas of Specialization for the M.P.A. degree:**

State and Local Government Administration  
Public Finance  
Leadership Studies  
Criminal Justice  
Nonprofit Administration  
Information Systems  
Health Services Administration

### **Areas of Specialization for the M.A. degree:**

American Politics & Public Policy  
Public Law  
International Relations

**Department Chairperson: Professor William Richardson**

**Master of Public Administration Graduate Director: Associate Professor Michael Card**

**Master of Arts Graduate Director: Associate Professor Tim Schorn**

### **Program Description**

Since September 1974, the Department of Political Science has offered the Master of Public Administration degree which provides both a core program in administration and the opportunity to specialize in important policy making and administrative areas. In the fall of 1997, the Regents established the W.O. Farber Center for Civic Leadership as a center of excellence. The center is housed within the Department of Political Science and offers graduate civic leadership courses. The mission of the center is to prepare students and help communities to face difficult public problems in a shared manner consistent with constitutional values.

## **Master of Public Administration**

### **Admission Requirements**

- Three letters of recommendation are required.
- Two official transcripts are required. If you are a graduate of USD, you may submit unofficial transcripts.

- An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better, based on a 4.0 scale is required for full admission.
- The GRE General test, LSAT, GMAT, MCAT, or the EIT scores are required. There is no minimum score required; the score is considered along with the other application materials.
- Subject to faculty approval, those who do not meet all of the criteria above may be admitted on a provisional basis.

### **Degree Requirements**

#### **Plan B only (non-thesis)**

MPA core	31 credit hours
MPA specialization courses	9 credit hours
Internship	3 credit hours
<b>Total</b>	<b>43 credit hours</b>

#### **Required course work for the Master of Public Administration (31 credit hours):**

LDR	501	Advanced Leadership Theory and Practice	3 credit hours
POLS	526	Public Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation	3 credit hours
POLS	621	Organization and Management	3 credit hours
POLS	622	Budgetary and Fiscal Management	3 credit hours
POLS	623	Public Personnel Management	3 credit hours
POLS	633	Administrative Law and Government	3 credit hours
POLS	721	Seminar in Public Administration	3 credit hours
POLS	765	Research Methods	3 credit hours
POLS	766	Analytic Techniques in Public Management	3 credit hours
POLS	769	Administrative Thought and Ethics	3 credit hours
POLS	793	Professional Report	1 credit hour

- Upon approval from the MPA Director, students with significant prior work experience may be able to waive the required 3-credit internship (POLS 700), thus reducing the total credit hours to 40.
- The remaining 9 hours are to be taken in one of the following recommended fields of specialization: State and Local Government Administration, Leadership Studies, Public Finance, Nonprofit Administration, Criminal Justice, Information Systems, or Health Services Administration. Other specializations may be approved by the Graduate Program Director.

## **Master of Arts in Political Science**

### **Admission Requirements**

- Three letters of recommendation are required.
- Two official transcripts are required. If you are a graduate of USD, you may submit unofficial transcripts.
- An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better, based on a 4.0 scale is required for full admission.
- The GRE General test or the LSAT scores are required. A GRE score of 500 verbal and 500 quantitative is recommended.
- Applicants should have a minimum of 12 credit hours of undergraduate Political Science course work.
- Subject to faculty approval, those who do not meet any of the criteria above may be admitted on a provisional basis.

### **M. A. Degree Requirements**

#### **Plan A (thesis)**

Political Science core	6 credit hours
Political Science electives	15 credit hours
Thesis	6 credit hours
Supporting courses outside of area	6 credit hours
<b>Total</b>	<b>33 credit hours</b>

#### **Plan B (non-thesis)**

Political Science core	6 credit hours
Political Science electives	18 credit hours
Supporting courses outside area	9 credit hours
<b>Total</b>	<b>33 credit hours</b>

### **Required course work for the Master's of Political Science:**

POLS 765: Research Methods in Political Science and POLS 792: Exam Preparation are required of all candidates for the Master of Arts degree. Plan A (thesis) students must take a minimum of 6 additional credits and Plan B (non-thesis) students must take a minimum of 9 credits in political science courses numbered 600 or above. Students may take no more than nine hours outside of Political Science. Students must take at least 15 hours from the USD Political Science Department in actual course work. No more than six credit hours in Independent Study and no more than three credit hours of Internship will count toward the M.A. degree. The internship must be related to general theory to make it an academic as well as practical experience. Students receiving more than one grade below a B may be placed on probationary status or dismissed from the program.

Comprehensive Exams: If a student fails a comprehensive exam, three months must pass before the student may retake it. The entire exam must be retaken. A student may take the exam only twice. Failure to pass the exam on the second try will result in dismissal from the program. The student answers four questions in four hours. Passing the exam requires a "High Pass" on three questions and a "Marginal Pass" on the fourth question.

### **Joint M.A./M.P.A. Program with Juris Doctor**

A student can simultaneously pursue a Master of Arts in Political Science or Master of Public Administration and a Juris Doctor, counting a maximum of nine credit hours in certain law courses toward either Master's degree and nine hours in certain Political Science courses toward the Juris Doctor requirements. The Joint Degree program is open to Plan A and Plan B students in the M.A. program, as well as students in the M.P.A. programs. Additional information will be supplied upon request.

### **Research Facilities**

The I.D. Weeks Library is a United States Government Depository Library and, as such, receives all important United States Government documents. In addition, by law, the library receives many state publications. A special United Nations document collection is maintained. Interlibrary loan facilities are available. Graduate students have access to the library of the School of Law and the extensive pamphlet and newspaper collections of the Government Research Bureau.

### **Faculty**

**Rich Braunstein**, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Colorado-Boulder. Specialization: American Politics and Constitutional Issues.

**Michael A. Card**, Associate Professor, Ph.D., The Ohio State University. Specialization: Organizational Theory & Strategic Management, Public Policy & Management, Leadership, State Government.

**Matt Fairholm**, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., The George Washington University. Specialization: Public Administration, Leadership Theory and Practice, Organization Theory and Behavior, American Government.

**Steven Feimer**, Associate Professor, D.P.A., Oklahoma University. Specialization: Public Administration, Research Methods, Environmental Law, and Geographical Information Systems.

**John Fremstad**, Professor, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin. Specialization: Political Thought, Political Theory, and Comparative Government.

**John R. Gehm**, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame. Specialization: Policing, White Collar Crime, Corrections, and Juvenile Justice.

**William Richardson**, Professor, Ph.D., University of New York-Buffalo. Specialization: Political Philosophy, American Politics, Leadership, and Ethics.

**Michael P. Roche**, Professor, S.J.D., University of Virginia. Specialization: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Justice and Compassion.

**Lila Rucker**, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Michigan State University. Specialization: Domestic Violence, Drugs and Gangs, Research Methods, and Alternatives to Violence.

**Timothy J. Schorn**, Associate Professor, Ph.D. University of Notre Dame. J. D. Notre Dame Law School. Specialization: International Relations, Human Rights, Terrorism, and Middle East Politics.

**Elizabeth T. Smith**, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Connecticut. Specialization: American Politics, Public Law, and Public Administration.

**Dean J. Spader**, Professor, M.P.A., J.D., University of Denver. Specialization: Constitutional Law, Legal Writing, Ethics, and Trial and Evidence.

**Dwight Vick**, Assistant Professor, Ph. D., Arizona State University. Specialization: Public Administration, Budgeting & Finance, Public Personnel Management, Research Methods, Drug Control Policy.

Tentative Schedule for M.P.A. Core Courses By Semester and Location										
	LDR 501	POLS 721	POLS 633	POLS 766	POLS 621	POLS 622	POLS 623	POLS 765	POLS 769	POLS 526
Summer 2003						SF	SF			
Fall 2003	V	V SF	V SF				V SC	V		
Spring 2004					V	V	V	V	V SF	
Summer 2004			SF RC		SF		SF	SF		
Fall 2004	V	V	V	V SF		SF SC	V RC SC			
Spring 2005					V	V, MP, RC	V	V	V SF	V SF
Summer 2005			SF			SF	SF			
Fall 2005	V SF	V SF	V	V						
Spring 2006					V SF	V	V	V SF	V	V
Summer 2006						SF	SF			
Fall 2006	V	V	V SF	V SF						
Spring 2007					V	V	V	V	V SF	V SF
Summer 2007					SF	SF	SF			

V=Vermillion offering, SF = Sioux Falls Offering, SC= Sioux City offering, MP=Mountain Plains Digital Network, RC=DDN course transmitted to Rapid City and other locations. Note: This schedule represents our best

**Contact: [MPA Director](#)**  
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