



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Substantive Program Modification Program

UNIVERSITY:	University of South Dakota
CURRENT PROGRAM TITLE:	Master of Public Administration, M.P.A. (Plan B only)
CIP CODE:	44.0401
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Political Science
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Social Sciences – College of Arts and Sciences

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Elizabeth M. Freeburg

1/19/2017

Vice President of Academic Affairs or
 President of the University

Date

1. This modification addresses a change in (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program name | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below) |

2. Effective date of change:

3. Program Degree Level (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

4. Category (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

Certificate Specialization Minor Major

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- On the effective date for all students
- On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name: N/A

Reminder: Name changes impact require updating any related articulation agreements, site approvals, etc.

7. Primary Aspects of the Modification (add lines as needed):

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)

**Master of Public Administration, M.P.A.
(Plan B only)**

N/A

Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
LDR	501	Advanced Leadership Theory and Practice	3	LDR	501	Advanced Leadership Theory and Practice	3
POLS	721	Introduction to Public Administration	3	POLS	721	Introduction to Public Administration	3
POLS	722	Budgetary and Fiscal Management	3	POLS	722	Budgetary and Fiscal Management	3
POLS	723	Public Personnel Management	3	POLS	723	Public Personnel Management	3
POLS	724	Organization and Management	3	Delete			
POLS	733	Administrative Law & Government	3	POLS	733	Administrative Law & Government	3
POLS	765	Research Methods in Political Science	3	POLS	765	Research Methods in Political Science	3
POLS	766	Analytical Techniques in Public Policy	3	POLS	766	Analytical Techniques in Public Policy	3
POLS	769	Administrative Thought and Ethics	3	POLS	769	Administrative Thought and Ethics	3
POLS	788	Professional Report (Capstone)	3	POLS	788	Professional Report (Capstone)	3
POLS	794	Internship	3	POLS	794	Internship	3
XXXX	5xx/6xx/ 7xx	Elective	3	XXXX	5xx/6xx/ 7xx	Elective	3
XXXX	5xx/6xx/ 7xx	Elective	3	XXXX	5xx/6xx/ 7xx	Elective	3
XXXX	5xx/6xx/ 7xx	Elective	3	Delete			
Total number of hours required for major			42	Total number of hours required for major			36
Total number of hours required for degree			42	Total number of hours required for degree			36

8. Explanation of the Change:

Four trends drive this proposal. First, NASPAA accreditation (which will remain) requires between 36 to 48 hours of graduate coursework and many smaller MPA programs around the country are moving towards or already require only 36 hours. Resources in the department will be better leveraged in this new MPA curriculum, without sacrificing the development of professional skillsets or academic rigor which are integral to graduate education. Second, graduate enrollments in the social and behavioral sciences has been declining nationwide since 2004. Enrollments in graduate degrees in the Political Science Department have mirrored this national trend. Third, there is a growing sense that degrees which immediately lead to career employment opportunities are useful to promote for students and families struggling with the increasing costs of higher education. Fourth, while online educational opportunities continue to proliferate, the departmental faculty have suggested that a sense of a departmental community of scholars is more easily achieved when students are attending classes on campus and engaged in departmental research, functions, clubs, and enrichment events. Therefore, this proposal intends to increase graduate degree enrollments while encouraging a vibrant departmental on-campus community by offering a degree program of study that will lower the overall costs of a graduate degree that has a track record of career employment after graduation.