LEAD. SOLVE. CHANGE.

School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver prepares leaders for government, nonprofit, and criminal justice professions. Driven by a public service mission, our students are committed to solving pressing public problems and improving their communities for the better. School of Public Affairs graduates work as legislators, policy analysts, nonprofit leaders, law enforcement professionals, local government managers, community advocates, university faculty and administrators, and in many other fields and professions, linked by the common goal of contributing to the greater good.

The School of Public Affairs offers degree programs with optional concentrations, as well as minors and undergraduate and graduate certificate programs. All of our programs are committed to developing the rigorous and ethical thinking necessary for public service professionals. Courses integrate theoretical knowledge with the real-world application of important skills, and students frequently have the opportunity to work on behalf of government agencies and nonprofit organizations. Programs are offered in a variety of formats to accommodate both full-time students and working professionals, all taught by the same highly-regarded faculty. The size of the school means that all students can receive individualized advising and attention, and students and alumni benefit from in-house career and alumni services.

Highlights

The MPA program is accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA), the authoritative accrediting body in the field of public policy, affairs and administration.

US News & World Report 2023 Rankings in the Nation:

- #28 – Best Graduate Public Affairs Schools
- #9 – Environmental Policy and Management
- #18 – Nonprofit Management
- #18 – Public Finance and Budgeting
- #18 – Public Management and Leadership
- #21 – Local Government
- #21 - Online Master of Criminal Justice

Course List for School of Public Affairs

Click here (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/#coursestext) for a complete course list for the School of Public Affairs.

Admission Information

Application Deadlines

Applications for admission are accepted for the fall, spring and summer terms for most programs. For application deadlines and instructions on how to apply for admission, visit the admission web page (https://publicaffairs.ucdenver.edu/prospective-and-admitted-students/admission/) of the School of Public Affairs website.

School of Public Affairs Programs

Leadership

Dean

Paul Teske, Dean and Distinguished CU Professor

Associate Deans

Christine Martell, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
Annie Miller, Associate Dean for Student Success and Strategic Initiatives

Assistant Dean

Elizabeth Pae, Assistant Dean of Administration

Contacts

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Graduate Student Advising

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Overview

The nationally-ranked School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver prepares leaders for government, nonprofit, and criminal justice professions. Driven by a public service mission, our students are committed to solving pressing public problems and improving their communities for the better. School of Public Affairs graduates work as legislators, policy analysts, nonprofit leaders, law enforcement professionals, local government managers, community advocates, university faculty and administrators, and in many other fields and professions, linked by the common goal of contributing to the greater good.
• Public Affairs (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/)
  • Criminal Justice, BA/MCJ (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/criminal-justice-ba-mcj/)
  • Criminal Justice, MCJ (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/criminal-justice-mcj/)
  • Criminal Justice/Public Policy, BA/MPP (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/criminal-justicepublic-policy-bampp/)
• Public Administration, MPA (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/public-administration-ba-mpa/)
• Public Administration, BA/Master of Public Policy (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/public-administration-ba-master-public-policy-)
• Public Administration, MPA (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/public-administration-ba-mpa/)
• Public Policy, MPP (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/public-policy-mpp/)
• Public Administration/Applied Geography and Geospatial Sciences, MPA/MA (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-administration-applied-geography-geospatial-sciences-mpa-ma/)
• Public Administration/Criminal Justice, MPA/MCJ (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-administration-criminal-justice-mpa-mcj/)
• Public Administration/Economics, MPA/MA (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-administration-economics-mpa-ma/)
• Public Administration/Juris Doctorate, MPA/JD (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-administration-juris-doctorate-mpa-jd/)
• Public Administration/Public Health, MPA/MPH (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-administration-public-health-mpa-mph/)
• Public Administration/Public Policy, MPA/MPP (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-administrationpublic-policy-mpampp/)
• Public Administration/Urban and Regional Planning, MPA/MURP (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-administration-urban-regional-planning-mpa-murp/)
• Public Affairs, PhD (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/public-affairs-phd/)
• Crime Analysis Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/crime-analysis-graduate-certificate/)
• Education Policy Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/education-policy-graduate-certificate/)
• Environmental Policy And Management (EPM) Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/environmental-policy-management-epm-graduate-certificate/)
• Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/gender-based-violence-gbv-graduate-certificate/)
• Local Government Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/local-government-graduate-certificate/)
• Managing for Social Equity Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/managing-social-equity-graduate-certificate/)
• Nonprofit Management Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/nonprofit-management-graduate-certificate/)
• Policy Entrepreneurship and Advocacy Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/policy-entrepreneurship-advocacy-certificate/)
• Public Management Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/public-management-graduate-certificate/)
• Public Policy Analysis Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/graduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/public-policy-analysis-graduate-certificate/)