A UMass Dartmouth bachelor’s degree in Public Administration will train students to work in the public sector at the local, state or federal level. The program’s goal is to prepare graduates who possess the analytical, critical-thinking, and writing skills necessary for employment in the public sector. A degree in Public Administration focuses on communication and language skills as it relates to interacting in human and social services.

Overview of skills developed

As a student in the Public Administration program, you will learn to understand concepts, theories and empirical findings in public administration; design research and perform data analysis and interpretation; understand and synthesize professional and popular writing on public affairs; formulate and analyze arguments including their structure and force; assess the relevance and weight of evidence; write clearly and persuasively; and organize ideas in a focused paper or presentation.

Curriculum outline

The UMass Dartmouth Public Administration program will allow students to acquire the analytical, critical thinking, and writing skills necessary to excel in their careers. Students will be prepared to work in the public sector at the local, state, or federal level, particularly in human or social services.

Course offerings include:
- Introduction to American Politics
- Public Administration
- Business Communication
- Public Budgeting
- Economic Statistics
- Cost Benefit Analysis
- Urban Economics
- Public Policy in America
- Microeconomics
- Public Relations Writing

Top Jobs (from mpadegree.org and bls.gov)
- Urban Planning and Development Directors (median salary: $74,350)
- Social and Community Service Managers (median salary: $67,150)
- City Directors (median salary: $104,690)
- Community Health Directors (median salary: $103,015)
- United Nations Representatives (median salary: $72,048)
- Administrative Services Managers (median salary: $96,940)
- Policy Analyst (median salary: $88,350)
- Budget Directors (median salary: $76,540)
- Public Relations Managers (median salary: $116,180)

Graduate school placements
- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
- Boston University
- University of Central Florida

Career placements
- UMass Dartmouth Public Policy Center
- UMass Donahue Institute
- New England Economic Partnership
- MassBenchmarks
- University of Cambridge
- Greater Manchester Prosperity Review
- Opportunity Nation
- Federal Reserve Bank of Boston

More info
- Study abroad
- Honors College
- Undergraduate research with faculty
- Independent study on special topics
- Networking with professionals in the field

Contact info umassd.edu/programs/public-administration/