MA Public Policy and Administration (MPPA) - SH507

1. Context and Objectives

Governments and public institutions around the globe are being progressively tested to offer high-quality services and to respond promptly to citizens' needs. Given the complexity of organizational and policy change public administration calls for decision-makers with interdisciplinary skills who are competent in resolving problems in management and communication, thus facilitating public administration and service reform. Consequently to meet the demand for well-trained managerial staff the curriculum of the postgraduate Master of Public Policy and Administration has been designed.

This programme is well suited for those who aspire to assume positions in policy development, implementation and evaluation, and manage these functions in government, non-profit organisations, international organisations and the private sector.

The objectives of the Master of Public Policy and Administration Programme are as follows:

- To provide a postgraduate level educational opportunity for employment in the public sector and for government officials in economic, social and public affairs ministries, non-profit organisations, parastatal autonomous bodies and local government and others in the private sector to acquire skills in policymaking;

- To prepare individuals to assume key positions of responsibility in government, international institutions and in the private sector by upgrading their knowledge, skills and research ability to comparable international standards;

- To develop the ability to identify problems and the capacity for decision making, leading to practical solutions of regional and international problems; and

- To enhance the individual's capacity to meet emerging challenges within an organisation with a view to increasing domestic and international competitiveness in a rapidly changing global environment.

2. Learning Outcomes

On completion of the MPPA program, students will be able to competently:

- Articulate the fundamental concepts and methods relevant to public policy analysis and demonstrate broad understanding of public affairs, policy development and public administration.

- Collect, analyse and synthesise information to inform the assessment of policy options.

- Apply the common empirical methods for analyzing policies including cost-benefit analysis, economic evaluation, and descriptive and inferential statistics.

- Explain the dilemmas posed by the interdependence, diversity and dynamics of global, national and local institutions and actors and analyse the potential and limits of public policy action.

- Evaluate the key theoretical and analytical perspectives and debates in public policy, governance and management.

- Demonstrate collaborative skills through working with fellow students to address contemporary policy challenges.

3. Teaching and Learning Methods

As far as possible, a blended approach will be used. These might include among others: face to face lectures, e-learning (moodle), problem based learning, case studies, document analysis, practical lab sessions (where applicable), assignments, seminars, tutorials, open learning materials, textbooks and independent study as well as collaborative learning.

4. Entry Requirements

- *General*

  In accordance with the University General Entry Requirements for admission to postgraduate degree programmes.

- *Programme Specific*

  i)   Successful completion of an undergraduate degree with at least a Second Class or 50%, whichever is applicable or a GPA not less than 2.5 out of 4 or equivalent, from a recognised higher education institution.

  ii) **OR** alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius.

- *General and Programme Requirements – Special Cases*

  The following may be deemed to have satisfied the General and Programme requirements for admission:

  o   Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations above but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations, which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.

  o   Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations above but who in the opinion of Senate submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.

  o   Applicants who hold a full practising professional qualification obtained by examination.

5. Programme Duration

	Normal	Maximum
Master's Degree:	2 years	4 years
Postgraduate Diploma:	2 years	4 years

6. Minimum LCCS Credits Required for Degree Award: 78

Master's Degree:	78
Postgraduate Diploma:	54

Breakdown as follows:

	Core	Electives	Dissertation	Total LCCS credits
Master's Degree:	36	18	24	78
Postgraduate Diploma:	36	18	-	54

7. Assessment and Deadlines

Each module will be assessed over 100 marks with details as follows (unless otherwise specified):

Assessment will be based on a written examination of 2 to 3 hour duration (normally a paper of 2 hour duration for modules carrying less or equal to six LCCS credits and 3 hour paper for modules carrying 12 LCCS credits and on continuous assessment done during the semester or year. Written examinations for all modules, except for OE modules and some semester modules, whether taught in semester 1 or in semester 2 or both, will be carried out at the end of the academic year (unless stated otherwise).

The continuous assessment will count for 40 – 50% of the overall percentage mark of the module(s). Continuous assessment may be based on seminars and/or assignments and should include at least two (2) assignments/tests per module. There will be a compulsory class test for all modules taught in semester 1 at the end of semester 1 of the given academic year unless stated otherwise in the Programme Structure. Examinations will count for 50 to 60% of the overall percentage mark of the module(s).

An overall total of 40% for combined continuous assessment and written examination components would be required to pass the module at Degree level, without minimum thresholds within the individual continuous assessment and written examination. The same criterion will apply for modules being assessed jointly. Note that all overall mark for the two modules will be considered and not the individual marks for each of the two modules.

An overall total of 40% at MSc and Postgraduate Diploma Levels for combined continuous assessment and written examination components would be required to pass a module, without minimum thresholds within the individual continuous assessment and written examination.

Submission Deadlines for Dissertation

- First Draft: End of July in the Final Year.
- Final Copy: Last working day of August in the final year <u>by 4.00 pm at latest</u>.

Three copies of the dissertation (two spiral-bound copies and one soft copy in a single PDF text file on electronic storage media) should be submitted to the Faculty/Centre Registry and in addition, a soft copy of the dissertation in a single PDF text file should be uploaded on the "'Turnitin' Platform" in the final assignment submission link indicated by the Programme /Project Coordinator.

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Repeat and Termination of Registration

If the CPA of a student is < 40 for an academic year, s/he will have to repeat the entire academic year, and retake modules as and when offered. However, s/he will not be required, if s/he wishes, to retake module(s) for which **Grade C** or above has been obtained.

Students will be allowed to repeat **only once** over the entire duration of the Programme of Studies.

Registration of a student will be terminated if

a.   the CPA < 40 at the end of an academic year and the student has already repeated one year of study; or

b.   the maximum duration allowed for completion of the Programme of Studies has been exceeded.

Choice of Electives

Students will be required to submit their choice of electives in order of priority by the middle of Semester 2 of Year 1.

The University reserves the right not to offer a given elective module if the critical number of students is not attained and /or if there are resource constraints. Additional electives may also be offered, depending on availability of resources.

Important Note

The rules as stipulated in this Programme Structure and Outline Syllabus will replace all other rules and regulations found in previous Programme Structures.

8.   **List of Modules**

Code	Module Name	Hrs/Wk L+P	LCCS Credits
CORE MODULES			
ECON 6001	Foundations of Public Policy	3+0	6
ECON 6002	Policy Planning and Programme Evaluation	3+0	6
ECON 6031	Research Methods for Policy Makers I	3+0	6
ECON 6012	Development and Public Governance	3+0	6
MGT 6114	Strategic Management for Public Administrators	3+0	6
ECON 6003	Public Finance and Budgetary Policy	3+0	6
ECON 6000	Dissertation	-	24
ELECTIVE MODULES			
ECON 6006	Health Services Policy	3+0	6
ECON 6007	Environment and Natural Resource Analysis	3+0	6
ECON 6030	Local Public Administration and Management	3+0	6
ECON 6032	Research Methods for Policy Makers II	3+0	6
ECON 6033	Welfare Policy and Management	3+0	6

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9.   Programme Plan - MA Public Policy and Administration

YEAR 1			
Code **CORE**	**Module Name**	**Hrs/Wk** **L+P**	**LCCS** **Credits**
ECON 6001	Foundations of Public Policy[1]	3+0	6
ECON 6002	Policy Planning and Programme Evaluation[2]	3+0	6
ECON 6031	Research Methods for Policy Makers I[1]	3+0	6
ECON 6012	Development and Public Governance[2]	3+0	6
MGT 6114	Strategic Management for Public Administrators[1]	3+0	6
ECON 6003	Public Finance and Budgetary Policy[2]	3+0	6
		Sub Total	**36**
YEAR 2			
CORE ECON 6000	 Dissertation	 -	 24
ELECTIVES	**CHOOSE 3 MODULES (2 IN SEMESTER 3 AND 1 IN SEMESTER 4)**		
ECON 6006	Health Services Policy[3]	3+0	6
ECON 6007	Environment and Natural Resource Analysis[3]	3+0	6
ECON 6030	Local Public Administration[4]	3+0	6
ECON 6032	Research Methods for Policy Makers II[3]	3+0	6
ECON 6033	Welfare Policy and Management[4]	3+0	6
		Sub Total	**42**
		TOTAL	**78**

Notes:

a.   Electives will be offered subject to critical mass of students and availability of Faculty resources.
b.   Relevant modules from other postgraduate programmes in the department may also be offered.
c.   [1, 2, 3 and 4] represent modules taught and examined in semester 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively.

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