

PhD in Public Administration

Admission Requirements

Applicants are considered on an individual basis. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

- **Prior Degrees** Master's degree required. Applicants must present evidence of having completed a graduate-level statistics course. Students with a deficiency in this area will be required to take additional course work as prescribed by the program director. Such course work will not apply to the degree requirements.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.50/4.00 for all undergraduate and postbaccalaureate course work.
- **Tests Required** GRE General. All applicants should have a combined score of at least 235 on the verbal and quantitative portions of the GRE. If an applicant fails to present a minimum GRE score of 235 and a GPA of 3.50, the applicant may still be considered by the PhD Committee. The committee will review all evidence of high promise, including, but not limited to, trend of graduate grade, type of graduate program, and mature work experience.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
 - **TOEFL** 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Test); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (revised Paper-Delivered Test), **OR**,
 - **IELTS** 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, **OR**,
 - **PTE-Academic** 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required from persons familiar with the applicant's academic achievements or professional experience.
- **Personal Statement** Required. Applicants must submit a brief statement of their professional goals and academic interests.
- **Other Requirements** Applicants must submit a 3–5 page written essay, a resume, and may be asked to interview with one or more members of the faculty.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 96 from the baccalaureate. Students holding a master's degree from UIC or an equivalent program will ordinarily receive a maximum of 32 semester hours toward the degree requirement.
- **Course Work** A cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00/4.00 in all graduate courses taken at UIC is required for graduation. Credit is not given for any required course in which a grade of less than B is earned.

Course	Title
Required Core Theory Courses (8 hours)	
PA 510	Organization Theory and Behavior in Public Administration Research
PA 511	History and Development of Public Administration

PA 513	Collaborative Management and Governance Networks
PA 515	Bureaucracy and the Policy Process

Course	Title
Required Core Methods Courses (20 hours)	
PA 540	Research Design for Public Administration
PA 541	Advanced Data Analysis I
At least 12 hours must be taken from the following list of courses: ^a	
PA 528	Public Program Evaluation
PA 542	Advanced Data Analysis II
PA 544	Qualitative Research Methods in Public Administration
PA 577	Survey Questionnaire Design
PA 579	Practicum in Survey Methodology
PA 582	Survey Data Collection Methods: Theory and Practice
PA 587	Seminar on Special Topics in Survey Methodology
PA 588	Applied Survey Sampling and Analysis
UPP 588	Research Design and Evaluation

^a Students may substitute a methods course from outside the department for any of the courses on this list with the permission of the director of graduate studies. Students must take a combination of statistics and research design courses to fulfill this requirement.

Course	Title
Required Applied Research Seminars	
PA 545	Research Topics in Public Administration I
PA 546	Research Topics in Public Administration II

- Students must select one of four areas of concentration. At least 12 semester hours must be taken in the area of concentration.
 1. Public and Nonprofit Management
 2. Financial Management
 3. Urban Governance and Networks
 4. Survey Methods

Public and Nonprofit Concentration

Course	Title
Concentration Courses	
At least 12 semester hours from the list of courses below must be taken in this area of concentration. PA 527 is required. ^a	
PA 527	Public Management Theory (required)
PA 521	Strategic Management: Planning and Measurement
PA 522	Ethics and Accountability
PA 524	Leadership in Public Organizations
PA 526	Public Policy Analysis

PA 529	Change and Reform in Public Organizations
PA 532	Labor Management Relations in the Public Sector
PA 533	Managing Workplace Diversity
PA 534	Human Resource Development and Management in Public Administration
PA 561	Intergovernmental Management
PA 572	Nonprofit History and Theory of the Nonprofit Sector

Financial Management Concentration

Course Title

Concentration Courses

At least 12 semester hours from the list of courses below must be taken in this area of concentration. PA 554 is required.^a

PA 554	Financial Management in Public Administration (required)
PA 521	Strategic Management: Planning and Measurement
PA 552	Capital Budgeting and Finance
PA 553	State and Local Public Finance
PA 561	Intergovernmental Management
UPP 533	Development Finance Analysis

Urban Governance and Networks Concentration

Course Title

Concentration Courses

At least 12 semester hours from the list of courses below must be taken in this area of concentration. PA 562 is required.^a

PA 562	Seminar on Urban Governance (required)
PA 506	Public Policy Development and Process
PA 553	State and Local Public Finance
PA 561	Intergovernmental Management
POLS 500	Introduction to Policy and Governance
POLS 551	Seminar in Urban Politics
UPP 501	Urban Space, Place and Institutions

Survey Methods Concentration

Course Title

Concentration Courses

At least 12 semester hours from the list of courses below must be taken in this area of concentration. PA 578 is required.^a

PA 578	Surveys, Public Opinion, and Public Policy (required)
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At least two of the following:

CHSC/PA 577	Survey Questionnaire Design
PA 579	Practicum in Survey Methodology
PA 582	Survey Data Collection Methods: Theory and Practice

PA 588	Applied Survey Sampling and Analysis
PA 587	Seminar on Special Topics in Survey Methodology

^a *Students may substitute other courses for any of the courses in these lists with the permission of the director of graduate studies.*

- Departmental Qualifying Examination Required.** After completion of course work students must pass a departmental qualifying examination designed to test their scholarly competence and knowledge. The doctoral departmental qualifying examination is designed to assess the degree of mastery which degree candidates have achieved over a body of knowledge, to measure their ability to integrate the knowledge, and to apply it creatively in the analysis of problems to which it is germane. The departmental qualifying examination will consist of three parts: core PA theory, core methods, and the area of concentration. Students are required to take all three required exams within one year of completing all PA course work (excluding PA 545 and PA 546).
- It is expected that no later than the end of the semester following the completion of the departmental qualifying examination the student will submit a written statement of the dissertation plans to his/her major advisor. Upon the recommendation of the program director and approval of the dean of the Graduate College, a five-person dissertation committee will be appointed. The committee will include at least one member from outside the Public Administration program.
- Preliminary Examination Required.** The dissertation prospectus will contain an analysis of the relevant literature, the theoretical issues to be pursued, the data to be used and the methods of analysis, and a statement of the anticipated significance of the research project. The prospectus will be defended before a committee and constitutes the student's preliminary examination. Successful defense of the prospectus authorizes the student to proceed with dissertation research and formally admits the student to PhD candidacy. The final version of the dissertation will incorporate any changes recommended by the committee.
- Dissertation Required.** The dissertation will make a contribution to knowledge in public administration and will be publicly defended before the scholarly community and a committee appointed by the dean of the Graduate College on the recommendation of the program director. At least 16 and no more than 28 semester hours may be awarded for dissertation research.

Interdepartmental Concentrations

Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- Survey Research Methodology^a

^a *Students selecting the concentration in Survey Methods within the PhD are not eligible for the Interdepartmental Concentration in Survey Research Methodology.*