WATERLOO | CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

HIRE WATERLOO

FACULTY **Arts**
PROGRAM **Master of Public Service**

Overview

The University of Waterloo's Master of Public Service (MPS) is a professional graduate program that builds on Canada's strong public service reputation by providing students with the knowledge, skills and on-the-job experience they need for a successful career in public service. The MPS program provides an advanced education, covering important subjects such as government structure and functions, current public issues, policy development and values and ethics. Students also develop critical and applied skills in communication, finance, leadership and project management.

Program Objective

In a world of complex policy challenges, professional public servants are essential to good government. The MPS program is designed to prepare students from different undergraduate backgrounds with the knowledge and experience to effectively design and implement policies and deliver services to Canadians, at all levels of government.

Program Content

MPS students complete ten advanced graduate courses from September to April, taught by instructors from a range of academic disciplines, such as Accounting, Economics, English, French, Political Science, and Sociology. They also benefit from the participation of senior-level public servants, who give special seminars and lead classes. From May to December, they complete eight months of co-op employment with a government department or agency. The final program component is a Major Team Project, in which teams of students simulate a realistic public service assignment, leading to a professional, thorough analysis of a salient public issue.

MPS courses include:

- Government, Politics and the Public Service
- Government Finance
- Aboriginal Issues in Government
- Public Policy Development
- Communicating with Diverse Audiences
- Project Management in Government
- Values and Ethics in Government
- Effective Problem-Solving and Decision-Making
- Effective Leadership and Management
- Spoken French in Context (optional)

Key Benefits to Employers

Hiring MPS co-op students offers many benefits to government units, such as:

- pool of highly-educated, skilled and motivated employees
- cost-effective solution for short-term hiring needs
- access to an adaptable workforce to complete special projects
- mechanism to evaluate potential future recruits
- opportunity to inject a fresh perspective and innovative ideas
- assists in aligning university graduate programming with public service needs

MPS students are equipped with a variety of transferable skills and focused knowledge in areas including:

- critical thinking and analysis
- problem-solving and decision-making
- social awareness
- public policy development
- structure and functions of the Canadian political system
- principles of economics and cost/benefit analysis
- working effectively in diverse, mixed teams
- leadership and management
- project management
- communication styles and media awareness

Employment Readiness

MPS students are well-positioned to enter professional positions in the public service at the federal, provincial/territorial, and municipal/regional levels. They are equipped to work in a variety of areas, and some examples of appropriate positions include:

- Program Analyst
- Community Ambassador
- Environmental Officer
- Economic Development Intern
- Business Analyst
- Financial Analyst
- Junior Economist
- Management Analyst
- Strategic Planner
- Policy Analyst
- Communications Assistant
- Research Analyst
- Human Resources Officer

Arts – Master of Public Service Work/Study Sequence			
	Fall (Sept.-Dec.)	**Winter (Jan.-April)**	**Spring/Summer (May-Aug.)**
Year One	Courses	Courses	Work Term
Year Two	Work Term	Courses	

Waterloo Co-op Student Salary Information

Our annual earnings information tables provide a helpful summary of what other organizations have paid uWaterloo co-op students during their work terms. You can find the latest information on our website: cecs.uwaterloo.ca/employers/salary.php.

To find out more about how the Waterloo co-op program can work for you, please contact us.

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