



Course Length	1 year (full-time) 2 years (part-time)
Places Available	Approx 20
SCQF Level	11

Master of Public Administration* (MPA)

Key information

Entrance Requirements

Good Honours degree (minimum 2:2) or equivalent in social policy, sociology, management or related discipline.

Want to know more?

Programme Tutor:
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Key features

- Relevant combination of social and public policy knowledge and management skills
- Flexibility to undertake more specialist study
- Opportunity to carry out a research project in area relevant to current or future employment
- Choice to study in part-time or full-time mode

The MPA is an internationally recognised qualification that offers a combination of knowledge, critical awareness, research training, analytical approaches and practical skills required for effective management in the public and voluntary sectors. The course focuses on policy discourses and processes in the wider context, and how to apply this knowledge at a local level. It also provides key ideas, performance tools and techniques

of management that are useful and relevant for people who wish to develop or enhance a career in public and voluntary sector institutions, and for others who work closely with public services.

*At the time of going to press, this course is under development and is therefore offered subject to approval.

What you study

The course covers the key areas of critical social policy, public policy, research skills and management. These areas are covered by three core modules and students have the opportunity to select from a broad range of optional modules to suit their own interests and/or professional field. The dissertation allows students to draw on the knowledge and skills gained from these modules to carry out a piece of independent research in a relevant area of your choice.

How you learn

The course employs a variety of teaching methods delivered by a multi-disciplinary team of staff. Teaching and learning methods emphasise student participation and self-directed study and include lectures, seminars, discussions, group work, independent research and reading.

How you are assessed

Assessment methods vary between different modules but many take the form of reports, class tests, case studies, presentations, examinations, group or individual research assignments. The 60 credit dissertation allows students to tackle an extended piece of self-directed research under the supervision of an appropriate member of staff.

Career opportunities

The MPA is directed primarily but not exclusively at those wishing to pursue or enhance a career in the public or voluntary sectors, for example, those working in local government, education, health, emergency services, criminal justice system, armed forces, NGOs, social enterprises, tourism/heritage organisations, or any voluntary/third/not-for-profit sector organisation. The course offers a unique combination of specialist knowledge and leadership development focused on the specific needs and challenges of the public and voluntary sectors.

