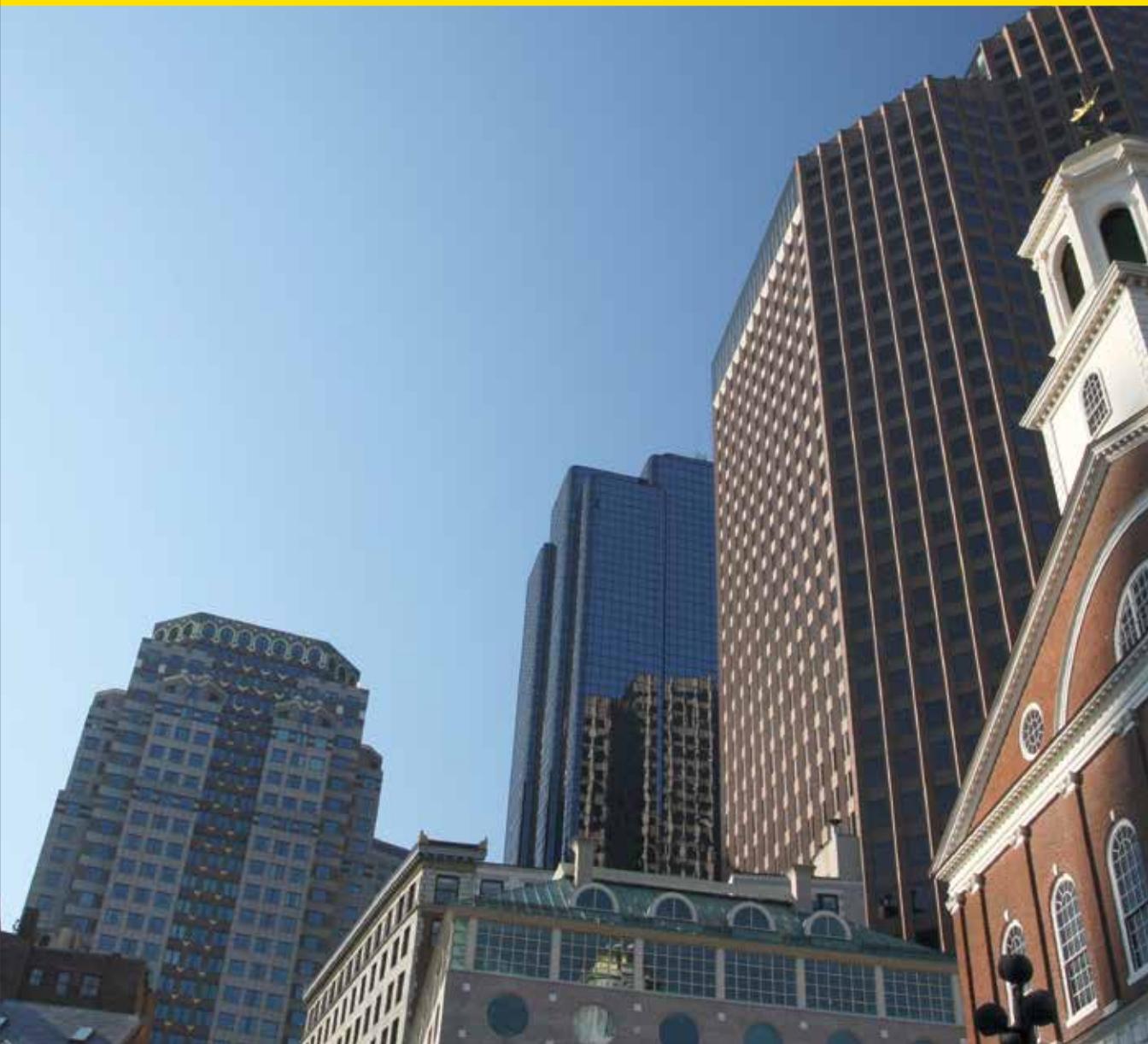




MERRIMACK COLLEGE

MASTER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS



MEET OUR ALUMNI

Jessica Conger '17



“Earning my MPA gave me insight into how government operates and my Public Financial Management class gave me a basis to work with government budgeting. Because my professors had a passion for public service, I was able to speak eloquently in my interviews about why I wanted to work for the public instead of the private sector. After graduation, I landed a job with the MBTA as the Budget Analyst and Administrator for the Customer Technology Department.”

Richard St. Louis '17



“Both my internship with the Town of North Andover and my MPA courses gave me a deeper understanding of government management styles and government financial management. Many faculty members work in the public sector and are able to connect the bridge of what I was learning and give context to it. The professors gave countless examples of what they experienced working in government and how to confront such issues and problems.”

Douglas Vance '16



“The MPA courses helped me become significantly better at effectively communicating with people and more skilled at framing and presenting compelling and persuasive arguments. It also allowed me to become more in tune with the day-to-day operations of both local and federal government and to better understand what is actually happening instead of the politicized image often presented.”

The Master of Public Affairs is an innovative, interdisciplinary program that prepares students for dynamic careers as leaders in the world of public affairs and public policy.

The MPA program trains the next generation of public affairs workers and policy leaders to understand, evaluate, and tackle increasingly complex public issues in a globalized world. You'll gain the knowledge and skills to address important problems in society and to excel in the areas of ethical leadership, collaborative governance, public policy strategy, economic analysis, and more.

Students interested in pursuing the degree are interested in being civically engaged members of the community and society, and seek an active role in promoting positive change in the public and nonprofit sectors. Many are involved in providing vital services in cities and states and are influencing organizations, guiding public policy and impacting the lives of fellow citizens in real and meaningful ways.

You'll graduate with the accepted credential for the public service professional and an understanding of all influencing factors which contribute to the development and implementation of public policies.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the Master of Public Affairs become leaders and managers in a variety of careers in national, regional, and local organizations within the public, private, and non-profit sectors. The Master of Public Affairs prepares students to work as public affairs analysts, policy makers, leading administrators, researchers, consultants, and public health professionals. Graduates may also enter careers in criminal justice, education, and health care.

PROGRAM FORMAT

- Accelerated one-year, full-time format or part-time format to work at your own pace
- Evening classes for added flexibility if you work or intern during the day
- Terms starting in fall, spring, and summer
- Online application with rolling admission

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Public Affairs can be earned by completing eight courses for a total of 32 credits.

Required Core Courses (16 credits):

- Foundations in Public Affairs
- Research Methods and Evaluation
- Public Sector Economics
- Public Affairs Internship/Strategic Capstone

ELECTIVES

Students select four electives (16 credits):

- Public Administration
- Public Policy: Theory and Analysis
- Organizational Communication
- Science and Energy Policy
- Public Financial Management
- Intercultural Communication
- Comparative Public Affairs
- Biomedical Ethics
- Immigration Policy
- The Public Executive
- Urban Government and Politics
- Government, Business, and Society
- Health Communication
- Emergency and Disaster Management
- Law and Ethics
- Graduate Directed Study



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Our graduate programs are designed to help you reach your ultimate goal—whether it's improving your professional status, obtaining a promotion, or shifting into a more enriching, high growth field.

As a Merrimack graduate student, you can take advantage of a wide range of career planning resources and services. You will have the opportunity to participate in internships and other field based experiences to help you gain relevant work experience, apply your classroom skills in real-world settings, test drive different career options, and identify your own personal strengths and areas for career growth.

FINANCIAL AID

Merit based scholarships are available and awarded based on the overall strength of your application materials. No additional requirements are needed to apply for a scholarship. Graduate students enrolled at least half-time (a minimum of four credits per semester) may qualify for financial aid in the form of Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans. For additional information, visit www.merrimack.edu/financialaid.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Standardized test scores are optional.

All applicants whose first language is not English and who have not earned an academic degree in the U.S. must submit proof of English proficiency demonstrated in any of the following ways:

- A minimum TOEFL score of 84 on the internet-based test-iBT (with a minimum of 21 on the writing subset)
- A minimum IELTS score of 6.5 with no band below 6.0
- A minimum PTE Academic score of 56

Students whose TOEFL iBT score is at least 55 but lower than 84 can still enter, but will have a longer course of study by enrolling in the premaster's program.



MERRIMACK COLLEGE

315 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA 01845

Merrimack College is a selective, independent college in the Catholic, Augustinian tradition whose mission is to enlighten minds, engage hearts and empower lives. The College offers undergraduate degrees in the liberal arts, business, science and engineering, and education programs; it also offers master's programs and part-time degree completion programs.

At Merrimack, we live the Augustinian values of hospitality, truth, and social justice. By working together for the greater good, our students,

alumni, and faculty have made a measurable impact on our community and our world. At Merrimack, we believe there are many paths to success. That's why we empower our students to choose their own direction—and then give them the support they need to excel. By understanding their unique needs, interests, and aspirations, we enable them to grow intellectually, spiritually, and socially.

FOR QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT

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978-837-3563

www.merrimack.edu/graduate