

# Master of Public Administration (MPA)



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Queen Margaret University

EDINBURGH

# Master of Public Administration (MPA)

EXIT AWARDS: MPA (180 credits)/ PgDip (120 credits)/ PgCert (60 credits)

SINGLE MODULES: Register as an associate student to study some single modules in areas of interest. Modules are also available as separate CPD options. CPD fees are available on request with discounts available to employers sponsoring students.

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) is an internationally recognised professional postgraduate degree, which is a public sector equivalent to the Master of Business Administration (MBA).

The programme is targeted primarily at public service, and Third Sector professionals. The content is relevant to both international students and those based in the UK. The aim of the programme is to enable learners to:

*Build on their professional experience by engaging critically with, and reflecting on, key developments in public administration in order to better deliver public service outcomes in a rapidly changing environment.*

The programme is based on a philosophy of transformational learning and transformational change. Central to this is the role of public services in promoting social justice and equality. International examples will be used to provide thought-provoking challenges to the way our public services are designed and delivered. Rather than reflect public services, the state and society, this MPA programme aims to shape the public service landscape of tomorrow.

This programme offers an excellent student experience and includes an innovative 'leadership exchange' element, working with the Association of Chief Officers of Scottish Voluntary Organisations (ACOSVO), to enable all students to partake in an appropriate exchange within another public service organisation.

## Teaching, learning and assessment

The MPA programme offers options for both full-time and part-time study which will fit with busy working lives. This is a multidisciplinary programme, with the purpose of preparing students for professional roles in the public sector. As such the delivery draws on academic expertise from a range of backgrounds such as administrative justice, public management and social policy. The input of research-active academics will be complemented with expert guest speakers and visits to key public administration sites such as the Holyrood Parliament in Edinburgh, Houses of Parliament in London, Parlament de Catalunya in Barcelona and the European Parliament in Brussels.

## Links with industry/professional bodies

The 'leadership exchange' element of the programme is delivered in association with ACOSVO.

## Modules

There is a range of core and optional modules from which you will need to complete 120 credits plus the 60 credit dissertation module in order to complete the MPA.

International Trends in Public Administration/  
Gender and Equalities/ Leading Change in  
Public Services/ Workplace Learning/ Law  
and Public Administration/ Social Justice and  
Critical Perspectives on the State/ Information  
Governance and Data Protection/ Multi-level  
Governance in Europe/ Dissertation.

The modules listed here are correct at the time of print (January 2016) but are subject to change. Please check course listing on our website for the latest module information.



## Key details

**Delivery:** On campus at QMU with additional support online.

**Duration:** Full time: 2 days per week over 1 calendar year; Part time: 1 day per week over 2.5 calendar years

**Entry requirements:** A UK honours degree or equivalent and at least two years relevant experience. Applicants without a degree will also be considered if they can demonstrate that they have extensive work experience, skills and aptitude to achieve the award.

**Start date:** September

**Application deadline:** None

**Apply:** [www.qmu.ac.uk](http://www.qmu.ac.uk)

**Fees:** TBC. Competitive rates are available to employers willing to sponsor students.

## Careers

In Scotland 21% of the workforce are employed in the public sector. This does not include the many private and third sector organisations which help deliver vital public services. At a time of increasing pressure on public finances it is increasingly important that all those who support the delivery of our public services continue to develop their professional skills and knowledge. Our public services programmes support those seeking to develop these skills.



### Quick Facts

- Innovative 'leadership exchange' will enable students to gain valuable experience of working in another public service organisation.
- Variety of expert guest speakers and research-active academics.
- Diverse learning activities and assessment methods across all modules.

### Contact Details

For further information on how to apply, contact Admissions ([admissions@qmu.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@qmu.ac.uk)), or the Co-Directors, Dr Ian Elliott ([ielliott@qmu.ac.uk](mailto:ielliott@qmu.ac.uk)) or Susanne Ross ([sross@qmu.ac.uk](mailto:sross@qmu.ac.uk)) at +44 (0) 131 474 0000. You can also contact your organisational learning and development team.

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**We look forward to hearing from you.**