SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

The School of Continuing & Professional Studies (SCPS) at Loyola offers a suite of application-oriented graduate and post-baccalaureate programs that address emerging needs in the labor market. Our flexible and online programs are developed in partnership with industry experts for working adult learners who seek relevant workplace skills and knowledge.

 Returning Rambler Scholarship

The Returning Rambler Scholarship covers 25% of a student's tuition rate for eligible students. Interested students should read more about the eligibility requirements and application process here: https://www.luc.edu/gpem/returningrambler/.

Graduate Programs

- Foundations of Instructional Design Certificate (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/foundations-instructional-design-certificate/)
- Information Technology Leadership and Strategy (MPS) (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/it-leadership-strategy-mps/)
- Instructional Design (MPS) (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/instructional-design-mps/)
- Professional Certificate in Instructional Design (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/instructional-design-professional-certificate/)
- Public Affairs and Management Certificate (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/public-affairs-management-certificate/)
- Public Policy (MPP) (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/public-policy-mpp/)
- Public Policy/Law (MPP/JD) (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/dual-degree-programs/public-policy-law-mpp-jd/)
- Public Service Leadership (MA) (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/public-service-leadership.Ma/)
- Urban Affairs (MA) (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/urban-affairs-ma/)

Post-Baccalaureate Programs

- Paralegal Studies - Corporate Practice Certificate (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/corporate-practice-certificate-paralegal-studies/)
- Paralegal Studies - Customized Certificate (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/customized-certificate-paralegal-studies/)
- Paralegal Studies - Litigation and Corporate Practice Certificate (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/litigation-corporate-practice-certificate-paralegal-studies/)

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional-academic-standards-regulations/) under their school. Any additional University Policies supersede school policies.

Instructional Design (INDN)

INDN 420 Instructional Design Theories and Models (3 Credit Hours)

Pre- or Co-requisites: CIEP 470 Principles of Instructional Design

Outcomes: Differentiate/compare/contrast among learning theories, ID theories and ID models; Identify/describe the basic tenets of behavioral, cognitive, and constructivist theories; Identify/describe motivational theories; Select/apply principles in practical learning situations

This course covers how theories of human learning can be applied to the instructional process to make it more effective, efficient, and appealing. The course has a two-fold focus: the theoretical principles that have contributed to the field of ID, and how those principles can be applied within practical settings.

INDN 421 Design & Development of Instructional Materials (3 Credit Hours)

Pre- or Co-requisites: CIEP 470 Principles of Instructional Design

Outcomes: Recall/describe/apply learning theories and methodologies to design/develop instructional materials; Recognize/describe/apply visual literacy strategies and accessibility standards to create instructional materials; Design/develop/implement instructional materials using multiple media

This course builds upon instructional design theories and best practices introduced in the Principles of Instructional Design course. It provides an overview of a variety of instructional tools and technologies and allows students to implement design principles in the development of instructional materials.

INDN 430 Performance Improvement in Organizations (3 Credit Hours)

Pre- or Co-requisites: CIEP 470 Principles of Instructional Design

Outcomes: Compare/contrast ID teams in organizations; Analyze data to identify performance gaps/causes; Select a performance intervention based on needs analysis; Compose an evaluation plan; Identify Change Management strategies for implementation

In this course, learners will identify a problem/cause/solution to a performance problem within an organization using the Human Performance Improvement model. Learners will select a learning intervention and create an evaluation plan to assess its effectiveness. Learners will compare/contrast the instructional design process within a variety of organizations.
MPP 401 Analytical Tools in Public Policy (3 Credit Hours)
This class covers diverse modeling tools in public policy, drawing from fields such as economics, geography, demography, spatial analysis, risk analysis, decision theory. The emphasis is on applied analysis to address current public policy issues.

MPP 402 Cost Benefit Analysis (3 Credit Hours)
The course cover the basics of the CBA technique with applications in several policy areas. CBA is grounded in the policy evaluation framework, including discussion of ethical issues and the use of CBA information in policy and program decisions.

Outcomes:
Ability to conduct CBA analysis, understand its use in the policy process, including ethical issues.
MPP 409  Education Policy and Politics  (3 Credit Hours)
Pre-requisites: Graduate Students Only This seminar focuses on K-12 policy in the U.S. using a policy analysis framework.
We evaluate alternative policy proposals related to different theories of equality and school quality. We examine market-driven, standards-based, human capital, fiscal, and community-based models of reform. The course concludes by examining the political context for reform.
Outcomes:
Develop analytical ability to identify the contemporary problems with education, what causes them, and what policy reforms could be used to address those problems

MPP 410  Special Topics in Public Policy  (3 Credit Hours)
This seminar course will cover specialized topics in public policy in greater detail.
Outcomes:
Students will learn about current issues related to the topic, relevant theoretical approaches, and application of theories to the specific issue in order to develop policy solutions

MPP 411  Environmental Governance  (3 Credit Hours)
Environmental governance examines the institutions used to manage the environment and natural resources. The class pulls from political, economic, sociological and ecological frameworks to develop an interdisciplinary examination of the management of resources, both in the US and abroad.

MPP 412  Urban Politics and Policy  (3 Credit Hours)
The course examines sources of power in the city and their impact on city policies, including the role of economic power, federalism, government structures, neighborhood groups, and voting. The focus is on any systematic bias in city policies and how likely that the bias could be overcome.
Outcomes:
Understand the major theories of urban politics and use them to analyze potential policy outcomes in cities

MPP 413  Intergovernmental Relations  (3 Credit Hours)
This class looks at what determines the allocation of responsibility and power across U.S. levels of government, how do the different levels interact with each other, and how does this system affect why some policy problems appear to receive a lot of attention and others do not. Department consent required.
Outcomes:
Understand how principles of federalism shape policy subsystems, which then affects who addresses policy problems and how outcomes are shaped by the various governments

MPP 414  Affordable Housing Finance and Policy  (3 Credit Hours)
This course focuses on how affordable housing programs work - the policy side, the development side, the investment side, and the legal side. This requires an understanding of the legal principles underlying real estate finance, the principles of investment, impact of tax laws, and demographic and economic factors that affect the supply and demand for housing. Department Consent Required
Outcomes:
Gain knowledge of affordable housing criteria, needs assessments, financial and investment factors that affect supply, structure of common affordable housing policies

MPP 461  Education Law & Policy  (3 Credit Hours)
This seminar explores legal, political and practical issues confronting American education. The course begins with analysis of fundamental political and philosophical principles underlying the educational system. Students then apply these principles to areas of education law – such as school finance, governance, the balance between federal and state roles in curriculum. Department consent required for enrollment.
Course equivalencies: MPP 461/LAW 461
Outcomes:
Students will be able to: understand fundamental legal doctrines governing U.S. education law, research legal and political issues in education policy; analyze education problems and develop policy options

MPP 499  Directed Readings  (3 Credit Hours)
An independent study course provides the opportunity for a student to develop knowledge regarding a particular topic of interest, beyond that available in traditional courses. The student will develop a contract with the faculty member who supervises the independent study to specify the topics covered, the tasks to be performed, and the grading criteria. Students are expected to participate in development of a reading list. Regular meetings of the student and the faculty supervisor will occur throughout the semester.

MPP 500  Public Policy Evaluation  (3 Credit Hours)
Pre-requisites: PLSC 476 or SOCL 414
This class covers basic methods of evaluating the impact of public policies. We will read examples of each type of evaluation and discuss the difficulties each case illustrates in doing applied research -- including statistical problems, ethical issues, and the potential impact of the evaluation on policy change.

MPP 501  Public Policy Internship  (3 Credit Hours)
Enrollment is restricted to students in MUAPP program. Students will work with an organization in the public sector (typically nonprofit or government) to apply concepts and skills from the first-year MUAPP curriculum; create a portfolio of work products to demonstrate abilities to future employers. Students will gain relevant work experience; apply concepts and skills developed in other courses in the MUAPP curriculum; create a portfolio of work products to demonstrate abilities to future employers.

MPP 502  Professional Development Skills  (1 Credit Hour)
Requirement for MPP graduate students. The class develops professional skills for students to identify and pursue internship and career options. Policy practitioners discuss their experiences, illustrating different work in the policy field. Job search strategies, resume writing, and informational interviews are covered.

MPP 503  Public Policy Practicum  (3 Credit Hours)
Enrollment is restricted to students in MUAPP program. This is a capstone course for the masters degree in public policy or urban affairs. The goal is to gain experience working as a team conducting a policy analysis or program evaluation project. Faculty will determine the topic for the course, often based on a real world client's interests.
Outcomes:
Students apply concepts and skills developed in the MUAPP curriculum to a real world problem; work with a client and stakeholders; create a research report appropriate to an applied environment.
MPP 606 Childlaw Legislation and Policy Clinic (3 Credit Hours)
Permission of instructor is required prior to registration. Students work on a legislative project under faculty supervision that involves: developing an advocacy and coalition building strategy, drafting bills, developing fact sheets and summaries for pending legislative in Springfield, visiting the state legislature to observe and participate in the process of policy advocacy regarding a child or family law issue.
Outcomes:
Develop skills necessary in policy advocacy: critiquing legislation, assessing a legislative problem, researching the problem, proposing solutions, and drafting materials and presenting information orally

Public Service Leadership (PSLD)
PSLD 400 Introduction to Public Service (3 Credit Hours)
Introduces students to organizational theories and practices useful to public service managers. Teaches students how to use structural, human resource, political and symbolic perspectives to rethink public service organizations. Provides an introduction to managerial issues including workforce diversity, decision making, and leadership; stresses critical thinking skills. Open to students admitted into the MA in Public Service Leadership program (PSLD-MA).
Outcomes:
Knowledge of ethics, values, and skills for organizational leadership in human service and public service agencies; Knowledge of theory, organizational functions and structures, leadership styles, and value-driven leadership

PSLD 401 Ethical Leadership in Public Service (3 Credit Hours)
Provides students with the framework for personal and professional ethical decision making applied in the context of diverse workplaces and international organizations. Through lectures, case studies in applied ethics, and specific assignments, students clarify their personal-professional values, assess their moral intelligence, and develop their ethical leadership integrity. Open to students admitted into the MA in Public Service Leadership program (PSLD-MA).
Outcomes:
Knowledge of ethics, values, and applied ethics for organizational leadership in human services and public service agencies; Development of ethical and value-driven leadership skills

PSLD 402 Foundations of Global Strategic Communication (3 Credit Hours)
Globalization challenges almost every aspect of communication from creating and delivering messages to spreading ideas that cross language, time, and cultural barriers. The course focuses on using strategies communication planning and management to guide communication activities in organizations. Open to students admitted into the MA in Public Service Leadership program (PSLD-MA).
Outcomes:
Knowledge of critical communication skills and values; Understand the interplay between communication, technology, and culture

PSLD 403 Program Management and Development (3 Credit Hours)
There is an increasing demand for public service workers who can work with diverse communities through program management and development using strengths and empowerment perspectives and social and economic justice principles. This course builds on the ecological systems perspective that views program development as an arena for social change. Open to students admitted into the MA in Public Service Leadership program (PSLD-MA).
Outcomes:
Knowledge and skills needed for planning new or adapting existing programs within the context of diverse communities; Develop skill set for program development and quality improvement

PSLD 404 Data, Visualization and Evaluation (3 Credit Hours)
Using Microsoft Excel, this course introduces students to the use of quantitative data in policy, public management, and non-profit decision making. Topics include causal inference, descriptive statistics, data visualization, probability, statistical inference, and regression analysis. Open to students admitted into the MA in Public Service Leadership program (PSLD-MA).
Outcomes:
Hands-on knowledge and experience managing and analyzing data sets; Best practices for presenting data to diverse stakeholders

PSLD 405 Design Thinking in Mitigating Complex Social Problems (3 Credit Hours)
Design thinking is a way of working with user-centered innovation to address problems where not all knowledge is available at the outset, i.e. the problem itself is unknown (wicked problems). Design thinking rests on principles such as user involvement, problem framing, experimentation, visualization, and diversity. Open to students admitted into the MA in Public Service Leadership program (PSLD-MA).
Outcomes:
Develop critical skills for management and innovation; Develop creative potential of individuals and enable them to deal with wicked problems

PSLD 420 Disaster Operations and Management (3 Credit Hours)
Pre-requisites: Only open to students admitted into the MA in Public Service Leadership (PSLD-MA), DMEP-PSLD Sub-Plan Outcomes:
Knowledge of theory, organizational functions and structures, phases of emergency management, resource management, ethics, politics, and threats and hazards; Develops ability to solve complex problems and engaged with a wide variety of organizations that support emergency management
Introduction to emergency management theories and practices that are critical in the emergency management profession. Covers the phases of emergency management, human and political aspects, the importance of effective resource management, environmental concerns, and the threats and hazard identification and risk assessment process that is important to emergency management organizations. Introduces participants to issues related to managing personnel, including volunteers, workforce diversity, decision-making, leadership, and stresses critical thinking skills.
Understand key issues regarding causes and consequences of poverty; Describe approaches to understanding and providing solutions to poverty; Explore the dynamics of commitment to social change and anti-poverty initiatives through grantmaking

This course examines the nature, extent, and causes of poverty and inequality in the US while relying on literature from sociology, political science, economics, psychology and other disciplines. It analyzes the anti-poverty initiatives and policies launched over the past five decades and examines the role of culture, discrimination and classism as well as policy issues.