

PUBLIC SERVICE LEADERSHIP (MA)

Addressing some of today's most complex and layered societal issues requires a deeper skill set and a more thorough knowledge base to drive decision-making and execute thoughtful plans. The Master of Arts in Public Service Leadership (MAPSL) at Loyola University Chicago's School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) prepares students to be justice-sensitive leaders and agents of change in their communities. This forward-leaning degree program equips graduates with the competence, capability, and ethical grounding to push communities forward in enduring ways.

The MAPSL program broadens the concept of public service, with a specific emphasis on leadership within governmental, non-profit, and human service organizations. Through assignments, exercises, and engaging discussions with fellow students and expert faculty, you will reflect critically on your "reason for being" and discern your unique gifts to put into service for others. This introspection, paired with practical skill-building, helps students achieve their personal and professional goals while addressing critical societal needs.

The program is problem- and solution-focused, emphasizing leadership roles across overlapping health and social sectors. It offers students adaptable values and skills suited to a wide variety of organizations, including public-private partnerships. By navigating the challenges of the modern world, students emerge as thoughtful, justice-oriented leaders prepared to tackle societal challenges.

Related Programs

Master's

- Public Policy (MPP) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/continuing-professional-studies/public-policy-mpp/>)

Combined

- Public Policy/Law (MPP/JD) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/dual-degree-programs/public-policy-law-mpp-jd/>)

Curriculum

The MA in Public Service Leadership comprises of 30 credit hours, 10 courses. Courses are offered in an 8-week session format with online, evening options.

Required Courses

Code	Title	Hours
PSLD 400	Introduction to Public Service	3
PSLD 402	Foundations of Global Strategic Communication	3
PSLD 403	Program Management and Development	3
PSLD 404	Data, Visualization and Evaluation	3
PSLD 405	Design Thinking in Mitigating Complex Social Problems	3
PSLD 420	Disaster Operations and Management	3
PSLD 423	Integrated Social-Medical Issues in Emergency Management	3
PSLD 430	Understanding and Mitigating Poverty	3
PSLD 431	Foundations of Social and Sustainable Development	3

Elective Course 3

Select one of the following:

PSLD 422	Disasters and Vulnerable Populations
PSLD 432	Gender Diversity & Sustainable Social Development
PSLD 433	Social Analysis Inequality Poverty and Development

Total Hours 30

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/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supersede school policies.

Learning Outcomes

Upon your successful completion of the MA in Public Service Leadership program, you will have proven your ability to:

- Describe components and levels of leadership across public sectors
- Apply ethical reasoning to administrative design and decision-making in the current realm of public service leadership
- Analyze how systems of power, privilege, and oppression (e.g., racism, sexism, heterosexism, ableism) operate to create and maintain inequality as well as how resistance to these systems is enacted.
- Describe the experiences of underrepresented, marginalized, or oppressed communities within various contexts, including inequality in outcomes and resistance to systems of oppression.
- Collect and apply data in problem identification and problem solving
- Differentiate between non-crisis leadership and leadership in emergencies among public, social and economic sectors
- Apply fundamentals of communication appropriate to situation in both local and global situations.