

## **AUM MPA Program Fact Sheet**

The AUM Master's Degree Program in Public Administration provides students with broad training in public administration, thereby positioning them for opportunities across the public, non-profit, and private sectors.

The program requires completion of twelve courses (36 credit hours) at a 3.0 GPA or higher. The twelve required courses include eight core courses, three elective courses, and a capstone seminar. The program also offers a four-course concentration in Nonprofit Management and Leadership.

### **Full- and Part-time Students**

The program welcomes full-time and part-time students. Full-time students, those taking three courses in the fall and spring semesters, can complete the program in four semesters. Most students opt to take fewer courses per semester and complete the program within eight semesters.

### **Class Format and Meeting Times**

The primary mode of program delivery is classroom-based. All nine required courses are offered in the classroom. Most electives can be taken in the classroom; others can be taken online or in a hybrid format.

Classes are offered in the evenings from 6:20 p.m. to 8:55 p.m. and meet one evening per week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. Some electives are occasionally offered on weekends (on three Saturdays and Sundays during the term) or on several Saturdays.

Classes in the program are small and provide focused-learning opportunities, reflecting the low student-teacher ratio. During the 2016-2017 academic year, the program includes about thirty students and six full-time faculty members and two practitioner adjunct instructors.

### **Internships**

Students can receive up to six credit hours (equivalent to two courses) for internships with an organization applicable to an area of public administration so long as the student fulfills the program's internship requirements. Recent internships were held at the following organizations:

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division, Montgomery, AL

American Heart Association, Montgomery, AL  
Alabama State Auditor's Office, Montgomery, AL  
Central Alabama American Red Cross, Montgomery, AL  
City Clerk, City of Montgomery, AL  
SummaSource, Auburn University at Montgomery; and  
YMCA Camp Chandler, Wetumpka, AL

## **Tuition**

Tuition for 2016-2017 for in-state students is \$374 per credit hour plus \$230 for term fees, a \$360 technology fee, and one-time fees of \$233. Out-of-state students pay similar fees and \$841 per credit hour. Opportunities for merit-based support exist through the University and the Department. For detailed tuition information see:

<http://www.aum.edu/admissions/costs/tuition-and-fees>

## **Test Scores**

The mean MAT score for all admitted students since January 2014 is 394; the mean combined GRE quantitative and qualitative score for all admitted students during this period is 292.

## **Graduates**

The AUM MPA Program positions its graduates to work in a variety of areas. Some recent examples include:

- Assistant Professor at Missouri State University
- Senior Social Worker at the Alabama Department of Human Resources
- Financial Systems Specialist at the Department of the Air Force
- Communications Specialist at Southern Nuclear Company
- GIS Specialist at the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
- Project Manager at Netcracker
- Communications Coordinator at the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools
- Communications and Development Associate at Arise Citizens' Policy Project
- Manager, Volunteer Services and Foundation Development, Baptist Health
- Executive Assistant, Alabama Partnership for Children
- Project Manager at Alabama Interactive

## **Application Materials**

Applicants are required to have an undergraduate degree and submit official transcripts, official GRE or MAT scores, two letters of reference, a resume, and a 500-word

statement of purpose. The program uses a rolling admissions process; applicants should have all materials submitted no later than thirty days prior to the start of the fall or spring semesters. For details on the application process, see the "Application Instructions" PDF on the MPA Program's website.

Application questions can be directed to [politicalscience@aum.edu](mailto:politicalscience@aum.edu).

### **Placement Statistics for 2014-2015 Graduates**

Fourteen students earned an MPA degree from AUM during the 2014-2015 academic year. The following reports their employment status within six months of graduation according to the sectors identified by the MPA Program's accrediting body, the Network of Schools for Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA):

State government (Alabama):	2 graduates
City government (Montgomery):	1 graduate
Nonprofit (local organizations):	3 graduates
Private sector (not research or consulting):	5 graduates
Unemployed (not seeking employment):	1 graduate
Status unknown:	2 graduates

### **Graduation Rates for Students Entering the MPA Program in 2010-2011**

The graduation rate for students entering the program during the 2010-2011 academic year is as follows:

- 38 students initially enrolled
  - 3 or 8% graduated within five semesters
  - 13 or 34% graduated within seven semesters
  - 21 or 55% graduated within ten semesters

It should be noted that the number of students completing within ten semesters includes those identified in the two previous rows. The degree program length was five semesters for this cohort; students were required to pass a comprehensive exam after completing 36 credit hours of course work.

### **The MPA Program Office**

The program office is located in the Department of Political Science and Administration, which is on the second floor of Goodwyn Hall in suite 209. We can be reached by phone at 334-244-3698 or by email at [politicalscience@aum.edu](mailto:politicalscience@aum.edu)