

GPPA Urban and Public Affairs
Conditions of Acceptance
Fall 2014

Conditions of Acceptance and Continued Participation in GPPA:

Membership in the UIC Honors College is strongly recommended, but not required. The Honors College Program offers GPPA students intellectual challenges that will help them prepare for the rigors of graduate studies through focused individualized work on independent projects.

Students must maintain a 3.5 (A = 4.0) grade point average in all major courses as well as their UIC curriculum grade point average for continuation in GPPA and advancement into the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs. GPPA students must also complete all major courses in their curriculum and meet the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Urban and Public Affairs.

Students must maintain a full-time course load each semester (minimum of 12 semester hours of graded [A-F] credits each semester) and complete their undergraduate degree program within five years from the first term of official registration in the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs.

GPPA students will have a faculty advisor who will guide and prepare them for professional studies. Students will be required to meet with their faculty advisor every semester for professional mentoring, course selections, and evaluation of academic progress in their chosen area. This advising will be of particular importance in the preparation of a senior capstone project that is at a high level of professional competence, and must be submitted and approved during the application process for the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs.

Students in the Bachelor of Arts in the Urban and Public Affairs program who are interested in being considered for financial aid awards through the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs must maintain minimum GPA of 3.7 (A=4.0) during the last two years of undergraduate study, are required to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) and must have applications submitted for review no later than January 1st. A statement of professional intent and three letters of recommendation are required for both the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs.

Students may request a deferral of one year for entry into the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs through a written request approved by the graduate degree program. Upon satisfactory completion of all program requirements a seat will be reserved in the student's program of choice at the Masters level.

The UPA program now offers two options for a 5 year undergraduate/graduate degree. The combined 5 year degrees are a Bachelor degree in Urban and Public Affairs/Master degree in Public Administration or, a Bachelor degree in Urban and Public Affairs/Masters in Urban Planning and Policy.

This accelerated course of study reduces the overall financial cost of a students' education and prepares students for professional work including but not limited to public service, administration in government or non-profit management, policy analysis, social and environmental planning, etc.