



### **Duluth Campus**

## **Master of Advocacy and Political Leadership**

*College of Liberal Arts - Adm*

### **College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

- **Students will no longer be accepted into this program after Spring 2015. Program requirements below are for current students only.**
- **The Masters in Advocacy & Political Leadership (MAPL) program is moving to the College of Management at Metropolitan State University, effective January 2015. Students interested in the MAPL program should contact Metro State directly.**

#### **Contact Information:**

112 Cina Hall, 1123 University Drive, Duluth, MN 55812 (218-726-6711; fax: 218-726-6780)

Email: [maplapps@d.umn.edu](mailto:maplapps@d.umn.edu)

Website: <http://www.umdmapl.org>

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2015
- Length of program in credits: 32
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Master of Advocacy and Political Leadership

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

This applied degree is designed for residents of Minnesota and western Wisconsin with experience or interest in having an impact on and changing public policy. Graduates of this program generally go on to positions as local community leaders, labor leaders, government relations specialists in businesses, nonprofit sector policy advocates, inter-governmental relations specialists, political operatives, lobbyists, elected and appointed officials, staff to policy makers, and citizens. The program seeks to create a professional group of ethically grounded advocates and organizers. Students come from throughout the region with many already working in one of the above interest areas.

Cohorts of up to 15 students will form at the beginning of each semester and progress together through the four semesters required to complete the program. The program is 32 credits composed of 12 cohort course credits, 15 elective course credits, and 5 advocacy internship course credits. Classes meet 11 weekends each semester, and are scheduled in 3-hour time periods on Friday evening, Saturday morning, and Saturday afternoon. Students may choose to concentrate in one of three fields: community leadership (advocacy in the public sector), nonprofit advocacy, or labor organizing and leadership.

### **Program Delivery**

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

### **Prerequisites for Admission**

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.00.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

Admission to the master of advocacy and political leadership program is based on the following criteria:

- Applicant must hold a bachelor's degree with transcripts demonstrating the ability to handle graduate-level work.
- Prospective students must complete the program application.
- Two letters of recommendation and a short statement of interest must be submitted along with the application.
- Applicant must demonstrate experience in public service, which includes activities such as volunteering with nonprofits, involvement in student government, or activity in political/civic life.
- There is no entrance exam required for admittance to the program.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. New cohorts are admitted each semester.

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.



## Program Requirements

**Plan C:** Plan C requires 14 major credits and up to null credits outside the major. There is no final exam.

This program may not be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A minimum GPA of 2.75 is required for students to remain in good standing.

Elective course credits - 15 credits, to be selected from the following:

MAPL 5110 - Ethics in Politics (3 cr)  
MAPL 5111 - Labor Organizing (3 cr)  
MAPL 5113 - Labor and Political Economy (3 cr)  
MAPL 5200 - Advocacy and Lobbying: Strategies and Tactics (3 cr)  
MAPL 5202 - Nonprofits and Government (3 cr)  
MAPL 5301 - Campaigns and Elections (3 cr)  
MAPL 5311 - Advocacy in the Public Sector: Service in the Elected Branch (3 cr)  
MAPL 5312 - Advocacy in the Public Sector: Service in the Executive Branch (3 cr)  
MAPL 5308 - Impact of Art and Social Change (3 cr)  
MAPL 5309 - Legal System and Public Policy (3 cr)  
MAPL 5315 - Sustainable Development Policy and Advocacy (3 cr)  
MAPL 5400 - Political Organizing and Advocacy in the Digital Age (3 cr)  
MAPL 5405 - Impact of Group Identity on the Policymaking Process (3 cr)

Advocacy Internship course credits: 5 credits

MAPL 6009 - Advocacy Internship I (2 cr)  
MAPL 6008 - Advocacy Internship II (3 cr)

If they wish, students can complete nine electives in one of three fields of concentration: labor organizing and leadership, nonprofit advocacy, or community leadership (public sector), as described below. Concentration classes are open to all students and count toward the general elective requirements. It is not necessary for students to declare a concentration.

### Required Coursework

MAPL 6001 *{Inactive}* (3.0 cr)  
MAPL 6005 *{Inactive}* (3.0 cr)  
MAPL 6004 *{Inactive}* (3.0 cr)  
MAPL 6002 *{Inactive}* (3.0 cr)

## Program Sub-plans

A sub-plan is not required for this program.

Students may not complete the program with more than one sub-plan.

### Labor Organizing and Leadership

Students concentrating in labor organizing and leadership will learn to:

- value and promote the dignity of work and the dignity of all workers;
- understand the strategies and tactics of collective action and organizing and movement building;
- understand the role of labor in the political economy;
- understand the fundamental human and legal rights of workers and the challenges they face in the US and around the world;
- know what labor unions are and what they do in the workplace, in local communities, in the political arena and internationally;
- be acquainted with the defining events and major themes of U.S. and Minnesota Labor History;
- identify information sources for research on unions and labor issues.

### Required Coursework

MAPL 5111 *{Inactive}* (3.0 cr)  
MAPL 5113 *{Inactive}* (3.0 cr)  
MAPL 5405 *{Inactive}* (3.0 cr)

### Non-Profit Advocacy

Students concentrating in nonprofit advocacy will learn to:

- understand the role and potential of the nonprofit sector in advancing public policies that strengthen communities and build a more just society;



- build their knowledge and skills in advocacy and organizing for change;
- lead their organizations and allies in collective action to advance social change movements;
- strengthen the nonprofit sector's role in engaging people in democracy supporting activities, including legislative and electoral processes;
- leverage nonprofits' ongoing and trusted relationships with people in the communities they serve to increase grassroots activism;
- know the nonprofit sector's history, characteristics, standards of practice, defining events, key issues, and accomplishments;
- secure and use resources available to support nonprofit research and advocacy.

#### Required Coursework

MAPL 5200 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)

MAPL 5202 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)

MAPL 5308 - The Impact of Art on Social Change (Additional option under this concentration.)

#### Public Sector

Students concentrating in community leadership (public sector) will learn to:

- understand the duties and responsibilities of people serving as either staff or elected officials in the elected or administrative branches of government;
- become familiar with the organization and practices of the Minnesota Legislature, the U.S. Congress, and federal and state administrative offices;
- assess the structure of legislative and administrative public organizations in terms of their ability to make policy changes;
- analyze and plan both the passage and implementation of policy in which they are interested;
- appreciate the high ethical standards which must and usually do govern service in the public sector;
- gain an appreciation for the importance of constituent service and engagement while working in the public sector;
- understand both the theoretical and practical underpinnings of American legislative and administrative practice.

#### Required Coursework

MAPL 5113 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)

MAPL 5112 - Advocacy in the Public Sector: Service in the Elected Branch

MAPL 5110 - Ethics in Politics (Additional option under this concentration)

MAPL 5301 - Campaigns and Elections (Additional option under this concentration.)

MAPL 5315 - Sustainable Development Policy and Advocacy (Additional option under this concentration.)