Public Safety Leadership and Administration (Executive Police Administration), MPSLA

Become a better collaborator, problem-solver and leader within law enforcement administration through this program. You can investigate underlying causes of crime and learn to think through strategies that prevent and reduce crime to create strong and resilient communities.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MPSLA Public Safety Leadership and Administration (Executive Police Administration)

The MPSLA is a graduate degree program designed primarily for public safety professionals. An advanced degree is an important key to career progression within public safety administration. Those with an advanced degree have an advantage that makes a difference as they seek to advance in their professions: a practical understanding of public safety organization administration.

This graduate program, through its accomplished faculty and intricately connected curriculum, endeavors to advance students' leadership, policy and administrative acumen.

The executive police administration concentration program provides law enforcement professionals with the highly specialized knowledge and practical skills required to rise to leadership positions in a 21st century law enforcement organization. This program enhances the leadership, management and administrative skills, knowledge and ability of present and future senior and mid-level managers and addresses the critical areas in the management of a contemporary law enforcement agency.

At a Glance
Degree Requirements

33 credit hours including the required applied project course (CPP 593 or PAF 593)

Required Core (15 credit hours)
CPP 520 Program Evaluation for Emergency Management and Homeland Security (3)
CPP 521 Public Finance and Project Management for Emergency Management and Homeland Security (3) or PAF 506 Public Budgeting and Finance (3)
CPP 570 GIS for Hazards Analysis (3)
PAF 507 Public Human Resource Management (3)
PAF 508 Organization Behavior (3)

Concentration (12 credit hours)
CRJ 501 Seminar in Criminal Justice (3)
CRJ 510 Criminal Justice Planning and Program Evaluation (3)
CRJ 516 Seminar in Criminal Justice Organization and Management (3)
CRJ 518 Seminar on Race/Ethnicity, Crime and Justice (3)

Electives or Research (3 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
CPP 593 Applied Project (3) or
PAF 593 Applied Project (3)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students choose one course from a restricted list or any graduate-level CPP, CRJ or PAF course, with program approval, for the electives or research credit.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in criminology or criminal justice, public administration or public service, sociology or social work, public safety or fire service management, parks and recreation management, applied sciences or another closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.
Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. two letters of recommendation
4. written statement
5. evidence of current employment in an organization in this field or at least two years prior professional experience in this or a related field OR a bachelor's degree in a related area
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

The written statement should be at least one page in length and describe the applicant's educational and career goals and long-term professional development strategy.

Attend Online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Application Deadlines

Fall
Spring
Summer

Career Opportunities

A concentration in executive police administration equips students to perform managerial duties in federal, state, local, territorial and tribal law enforcement agencies. Students also are prepared for probation and parole, child support services, homeland security and allied security professions. Graduates of this program should expect to find employment and advancement in all levels of government agencies as well as in the private sector.

Career examples include:
• chief of police
• first-line police supervisor
• police detective
• police dispatcher
• special agent

Contact Information

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