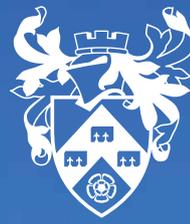


Department of Social Policy
and Social Work
york.ac.uk/spsw



UNIVERSITY
of York



ONLINE POSTGRADUATE COURSES IN PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Online learning in an
international community

THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK

FOUNDED ON PRINCIPLES OF EXCELLENCE, EQUALITY AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL, IN 50 YEARS THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK HAS BECOME ONE OF THE TOP UNIVERSITIES IN THE UK FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH:

- The University of York is a member of the Russell Group, reflecting our excellent research, outstanding teaching and learning and the impact of our work in the business and public sectors.
- The Department of Social Policy and Social Work is ranked 4th in the UK and 9th in the world in the 2019 QS World University Rankings
- The Research Excellence Framework evaluation in 2014 judged our department to be first in the United Kingdom in terms of research impact and third for research excellence.
- In the latest national Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) these programmes had a 93% satisfaction rate (based on 55 responses) and were 1st nationally for distance learning retention

The University's strengths in teaching, learning and research offer a strong incentive to choose York – one of Britain's most successful universities.



ONLINE POSTGRADUATE COURSES IN PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

THE DEPARTMENT OFFERS A RANGE OF INNOVATIVE ONLINE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AT POSTGRADUATE LEVEL, DESIGNED FOR THOSE WORKING IN OR WITH PUBLIC SERVICES WHO WISH TO FURTHER DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS, CAPACITY AND STRATEGIC CONTRIBUTION.

The programmes welcome participants from public sector and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and from private sector organisations that work with public services, for instance those in consultancy, public-private partnerships, and interest groups.

You may be relatively new to the public service realm, or have a wealth of experience already, and you may be working at local, regional, national or international level.

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)

The York MPA is a globally recognised qualification that marks you out as an experienced manager who can apply a unique blend of academic, practical knowledge and understanding to the complex demands of public service delivery. The MPA is underpinned by the premise that to deliver outstanding service in a rapidly changing context, managers need to have an understanding of the ethos and context of public services, a thorough understanding of public service delivery and implementation and an applied understanding of strategic public management and leadership. You will be offered a choice of modules to complement a mandatory core suite to ensure that your degree is appropriate for your needs.

MPA – INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (MPA-ID)

The MPA International Development will enhance your capacity to influence and lead the development agenda, whether this is at a national, regional or international level. You will develop your capacity for critical analysis of the complex problems that you tackle in your work, while enhancing your skill set as a manager or leader in your field. You will enhance your capacity to analyse and influence policy processes that span multiple levels of governance. You will learn to manage and lead, projects and organisations, in contexts characterised by complexity and uncertainty. There will be a choice of modules to complement a mandatory core suite, this will ensure that your degree is appropriate for your needs.

What is important is that you have enthusiasm for the subject, a will to work with others who share this enthusiasm, some experience, a desire to study, and the time and commitment to devote to that study.

MASTER IN PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT (MA)

The Masters in Public Policy and Management will enhance your capacity to contribute to the development, implementation and analysis of public policy, and to lead and manage within complex public service environments. It will equip you with an understanding of how social, political and organisational issues impact on policy outcomes, and tools for managing the delivery of public services. Thanks to a wide range of choice in optional modules you can tailor your studies to your personal needs, to gain the skills required to take you further in your career.

MASTER IN SOCIAL AND PUBLIC POLICY (MA)

This programme is for those who want to develop their policy analysis skills particularly in the field of social policy. This programme examines policy-making in national, trans-national and global contexts, explores the impact of globalisation on social and public policy and provides an opportunity to acquire and apply skills in research. It will enhance your capacity to contribute to and influence the policy process, whether at national, transnational or international level.

 ***I always believed that if I was going to study I wanted to study with the best. The University of York has never disappointed me."***



WHY SHOULD YOU TAKE ONE OF OUR PROGRAMMES?

- We are a top-rated university, providing rigorous, research-informed teaching.
- You will have close support throughout from:
 - expert academic tutors
 - a personal supervisor – for pastoral guidance and advice on your overall academic progress
 - a dedicated academic team.
- Student and alumni feedback rates the support that we provide as “outstanding”.
- We are part of an established department, ranked 9th in the world and 4th in the UK, which directly provides and oversees these programmes. No aspect of these programmes has been outsourced.
- You will be able to study alongside peers working in similar organisations across the world, and share insights and learning with them.
- You will be able to apply your learning immediately, through integrating it into your work from the start of your studies.

“ Having completed the York MPA course I feel empowered, connected and able to add more value to my organisation’s direction of travel.”



“ You are not advertising these programmes as you should. They are called ‘distance’ programmes but I did not feel any distance – I felt really connected”

ONLINE LEARNING

These are not self study programmes that leave you on your own; you will be part of an active learning community with regular contacts and activities. As well as interacting with other students, you will also have regular contact with a dedicated and friendly academic and administrative team at York.

While the online approach means that our programmes are very flexible – you can study anywhere and at any time – they also provide a structured framework for learning. This approach means you will be taking part in tasks and activities each week.

A key part of this study pattern is a weekly tutor-led task – it may be a forum-based discussion or a problem to solve with your fellow students. You can join in at any time during the week and never have to be online at the same time as other people.

The programmes are housed within a virtual learning environment: a convenient and user-friendly integrated website.

“ The thing that’s worked well for me is the online learning environment and working full-time while studying. It works fantastically well because it means you can apply the knowledge straight away, and literally go back into the organisation and say “hey, I understand that now – that makes sense”

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

YEAR ONE – FOUNDATION

20 credit modules

- Public Management and Delivery
- Strategic Planning
- Policy Analysis and Process

or graduate with: Postgraduate Certificate of Public Administration

10 credit modules

- Reflective Practice for Professional Development : Part One
- Digital Capabilities for Global Citizenship



YEAR TWO – SPECIALISATION AND DISSERTATION

20 credit modules

- Leading and Managing Organisational Change
- A choice of option modules:
 - Public Service Reform: Economic and Political Perspectives
 - Project Management
 - Public Finance

or graduate with: Postgraduate Diploma of Public Administration

10 credit modules

- Reflective Practice for Professional Development: Part Two
- Dissertation Workshop

40 credit Dissertation



MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)

WHO IS IT FOR?

- You will have some experience of managing in the public, voluntary or non-governmental sectors or in private sector organisations that deliver public services.
- You will be keen to study with others who share your enthusiasm and energy for delivering and enhancing public services in a broad range of contexts, be they local, regional, national or international.
- You will be seeking to develop your skills in analysis, decision making, accountability and judgement. You will want to deepen your understanding of the ethos, culture, opportunities and constraints that govern public service delivery, particularly those relating to:
 - Leading and managing your people through successful and diverse strategic and organisational change, and enhancing your organisation's learning and performance.
 - Influencing policy decisions in order to shape future service delivery.
 - Innovating, planning and demonstrating enterprise in the context of constrained resources and growing pressures for improved efficiency and effectiveness.

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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (MPA)

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

YEAR ONE – FOUNDATION

20 credit modules

- Social and Political Issues in Development
- Governance and Public Administration
- Policy Analysis and Process

or graduate with: Postgraduate Certificate of Public Administration – International Development

10 credit modules

- Reflective Practice for Professional Development: Part One
- Digital Capabilities for Global Citizenship



YEAR TWO – SPECIALISATION AND DISSERTATION

20 credit modules

- Leading Organisational and Social Change
- Options module. Choose from:
 - Globalisation and Social Policy
 - Project Management
 - Public Service Reform: Economic and Political Perspectives

or graduate with: Postgraduate Diploma of Public Administration – International Development

10 credit modules

- Reflective Practice for Professional Development: Part Two
- Dissertation Workshop



MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION – INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WHO IS IT FOR?

- You will have some experience of working in development, whether this is in an international organisation, government department, donor agency or non-governmental organisation, and seek professional development to work towards your career goals.
- Alternatively, you may work in a related field (usually in the social sector) and aspire to work in international development, so see the programme as a means to work towards that goal while continuing to accumulate experience in a relevant professional field.
- Whatever your role, you will be concerned with developing your ability to:
 - Influence policy processes that span multiple levels of governance and involve a wide range of actors including international organisations, donors, governments, nongovernmental organisations and the private sector.
 - Understand the role of international institutions, frameworks and trends in shaping development policy and practice in different countries.
 - Lead and manage projects and programmes in contexts characterised by complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity.

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MASTER IN PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT (MA)

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

YEAR ONE – FOUNDATION

20 credit modules

- Public Management and Delivery
- Governance and Public Administration
- Policy Analysis and Process

or graduate with: Postgraduate Certificate in Public Policy and Management

10 credit modules

- Reflective Practice for Professional Development: Part One
- Digital Capabilities for Global Citizenship



YEAR TWO – SPECIALISATION AND DISSERTATION

A choice of two option modules from the list below (20 credits each)

Modules available October term (choose 1)

- Comparative Social Policy
- Leading and Managing Organisational Change
- Social Policy: Evidence, Ideas and Institutions
- Work, Welfare and Citizenship
- Housing and Social Justice

Modules available January term (choose 1)

- Globalisation and Social Policy
- Project Management
- Public Finance
- Public Service Reform: Economic and Political Perspectives

or graduate with: Postgraduate Diploma in Public Policy and Management

10 credit modules

- Reflective Practice for Professional Development: Part Two
- Dissertation Workshop

40 credit Dissertation



MASTER IN PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT (MA)

WHO IS IT FOR?

- You will have experience within the public or non-governmental field, or of working with public services as a private sector partner. You will be seeking to enhance your capacity to develop, implement and analyse public policy as well as to manage and deliver public services. You will be interested not only in the policy process but in how the decisions arising from this process are translated into effective policy outcomes and public services.
- You may be working in a role that is concerned with shaping, monitoring or evaluating policy, or with the implementation and management of the public services arising from policy decisions. Whatever your role, you will be concerned with developing your skills and understanding in relation to:
 - The policy process, including how problems get onto the policy agenda, how decisions are made, and which factors determine the success or failure of policies, notably during implementation.
 - The relationship between different drivers of policy-making, such as evidence, interests, ideas and the influence of existing institutions.
 - The role of global institutions, pressures and trends in shaping public and social policy.
 - Working across sectors, through collaborative and partnership arrangements.
 - Leading and managing strategic and organisational change.

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MASTER IN SOCIAL AND PUBLIC POLICY (MA)

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

YEAR ONE – FOUNDATION

20 credit modules

- Social Policy Analysis
- Globalisation and Social Policy
- Social Policy: Evidence, Ideas and Institutions

or graduate with: Postgraduate Certificate in Social and Public Policy

10 credit module

- Digital Capabilities for Global Citizenship



YEAR TWO – SPECIALISATION AND DISSERTATION

20 credit modules

- Choose from:
 - Comparative Social Policy
 - Work, Welfare and Citizenship
 - Housing and Social Justice
- Introduction to Research Methods

10 credit module

 Dissertation Workshop

or graduate with: Postgraduate Diploma in Social and Public Policy

60 credit Dissertation



MASTER IN SOCIAL AND PUBLIC POLICY (MA)

WHO IS IT FOR?

You will be an early or mid-career professional who is involved in social policy development or delivering welfare services in government departments and agencies, not-for-profit and voluntary organisations and public/private partnerships. You may work in the field of social policy making, implementation or analysis, be it in a local, national or international context, and wish to progress and develop your career. You want to:

- Develop your knowledge and understanding of the policy process and how social policies are made by exploring the interplay between decision-making on the national level with global and transnational forces.

- Link theory and practice by applying public policy theories to concrete examples of social policy.
- Gain a wide range of skills that can be used in both professional and academic contexts, such as designing and conducting research projects, developing critical thinking and using evidence to improve social policy practices.
- Study from where you are, in a flexible yet structured way, supported by dedicated and experienced academics, so that you can complete your Masters within 2 years, whilst maintaining your full-time employment.



I've liked the experience very much. I felt really supported by both teaching and non-academic staff. I really enjoyed it."

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OUR DISTINCTIVE APPROACH

WE CAN HELP YOU TO:

- Study at a top university without leaving your work.
- Develop your capacity for influencing and managing change in complex, turbulent contexts.
- Prepare for more strategic roles.
- Learn about different perspectives within an international peer group.
- Understand the connections between policy-making and the delivery of services.
- Enhance your skills as a reflective practitioner, through linking theory and practice.



**BY DRAWING UPON OUR
EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE**



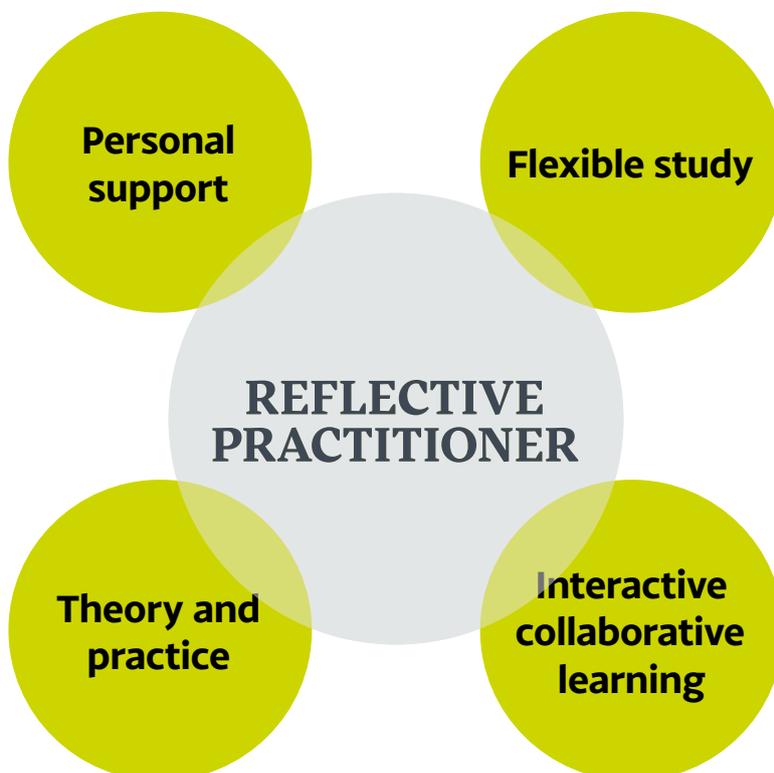
OUR TEACHING IS INFORMED BY:

- Our research, and by the research agenda of the Department of Social Policy and Social Work, one of the leading social science centres in Europe.
- Our expertise in online and distance learning methods and pedagogy.

OUR TEAM HAS EXPERIENCE IN:

- Working in the public and non-profit sectors at a senior level.
- Enabling mid-career professional development.
- Linking theory and practice.

UNDERPINNED BY A DISTINCTIVE MODEL OF ONLINE LEARNING



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FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE COURSE MODULES

COMPARATIVE SOCIAL POLICY

- What can be learned from a 'comparative' approach to studying social policy and welfare provision in particular?
- What are the issues involved in comparing welfare states?
- How do economic, political, social and international factors shape social policy?

DIGITAL CAPABILITIES FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

- What social, political and economic factors are shaping the development of digital technologies?
- What are the implications of digital technologies for enhancing democratic governance and global citizenship?
- What kinds of digital capabilities and skills are needed in order to be an effective 'digital citizen'?

GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- What is 'governance'?
- How do public institutions, society and markets interact in shaping public policies and services?
- How has globalisation affected state governance in different parts of the world?
- What is the relationship between good governance, institutional capacity, accountability and public service delivery?

GLOBALISATION AND SOCIAL POLICY

- What is 'globalisation' and how is it affecting poverty, inequality, pensions, health and labour rights?
- What is the impact of globalisation in Asia, Latin America, Western and Eastern Europe?
- How has increasing international, economic and political integration affected the social policy agenda at international, regional and national levels?

HOUSING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

- How does housing impact on social justice and individual well-being?
- How can different policy interventions and service models counteract the social problems associated with poor housing, area effects and homelessness?
- What is the relationship between housing and gender, migration, health and well-being?

INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS

- Introduction to social research.
- Explore qualitative and quantitative methods: characteristics, limitations and uses.
- Engage in planning and implementing an individual research project.

LEADING AND MANAGING ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

- How and why does change occur in society, organisations and individuals?
- How should change be managed in complex public sector organisations?
- What skills and behaviours do organisational 'change agents' need?

LEADING ORGANISATIONAL AND SOCIAL CHANGE

- What is the relationship between development and change?
- How can an understanding of power dynamics, norms and culture assist development practitioners in enabling change?
- How can development practitioners become more effective change agents?

POLICY ANALYSIS AND PROCESS

- How is policy made?
- Who influences the policy agenda and what issues affect policy 'success' and 'failure'?
- What can we learn from how different countries approach similar policy problems?
- What are the drivers of policy change?

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- The role and importance of project management and programme management.
- Skills and techniques for project management.
- Project acquisition, scheduling, budgeting and control. Effective communications (client, supervisor, team). Risk management.
- Team-building and the role of project leaders.

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PUBLIC FINANCE

- What are the sources of public and private finance?
- Which forms of taxation can be used for policy aims?
- How has the interplay between public, private and not-for-profit organisations changed with regards to the provision of public services?
- What are the key principles of budgeting, financial management and control?
- What are the main contemporary issues in public finance?

PUBLIC SERVICE REFORM: ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES

- How have the delivery and management of public services changed in the last decades?
- What are the main economic and political drivers of public service reform?
- What current challenges do public services face in the context of globalisation, marketisation and austerity?

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ISSUES IN DEVELOPMENT

- What is 'development'?
- What are the main schools of thought on development theory and practice?
- Issues and themes in international development, including: poverty, gender, participation, civil society, disasters and conflict, humanitarian intervention.
- Institutions of aid and development.



It is cool how with technology (Moodle) it really personalizes the learning. I feel very connected to a 'class' and that I am not alone. I really value the participation in unit discussions, it keeps our minds thinking and working about the material we have learnt, and allows us to put it into our own context. Also I find myself always 'looking forward' to the feedback of others, so it really keeps students engaged."

STUDYING A 20 CREDIT MODULE

HOW IT WORKS IN PRACTICE

Modules last for nine taught weeks, followed by four weeks to write and submit your assignment (ten weeks and three weeks for the first module). The taught element is structured into weekly units, each of which addresses a theme or topic. Within each of these weekly units you will:

- Work through the materials provided, including text and videos.
- Read and reflect upon the sources that have been chosen to support the unit topic (known as 'Core Readings'). You will also be able to access a huge range of additional reading material from the university's electronic Library
- Undertake independent personal study tasks.

- Take part in an online discussion with your tutorial group – a group of between 8 and 14 other students whom you join within the module forums. You contribute here by posting your comments on the topic, reading the comments of your fellow students and replying to them, all guided by the module tutor.
- Work through other activities that support the learning process such as short written exercises or quizzes that help you to prepare for the assessment.
- Overall, the reading that is set for each week is the equivalent of the lecture in a traditional course, while the discussion forum is the equivalent of the campus-based seminar or tutorial.
- Each module is assessed by a written paper. Tutors support you with advice and feedback.

STUDYING A 10 CREDIT MODULE

HOW IT WORKS IN PRACTICE

In some terms you will also be studying a ten-credit module to develop key underpinning skills and knowledge (in Reflective Practice for Professional Development and Digital Capabilities for Global Citizenship) or to prepare

you for the dissertation. These modules are designed so that you have a greater degree of choice as to how you schedule the work, and involve more independent study. You are supported by a tutor ready to help at any time.



STUDY WITH US

STUDY SUPPORT

Throughout your studies you will be supported by a dedicated team of staff:

- Your personal supervisor will remain your main point of contact throughout your studies. Their role is to provide general support during your time on the programme.
- An academic tutor leads each of the modules and both supports your studies and facilitates the group discussions that are an integral part of the module.
- A Student Support Officer will assist you with any day to day administrative queries.
- A Teaching and Learning Manager oversees the Virtual Learning Environment and the learning design and resources that support the programme. Technical assistance is always available, although our system is really very easy to use once you have worked through the induction course.

STUDY OPTIONS

- Full Masters programmes.
- Certificate and Diploma awards.
- Single modules can be studied as short online courses either with or without assessment.
- Tailored modules and programmes for groups from the same organisation.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A good second class undergraduate degree or equivalent qualification. Applicants without undergraduate-level academic qualifications may also be considered if they have sufficient professional experience.

Professional experience in the public service field. This includes roles in government at national or local level, non-governmental and inter-governmental organisations, the voluntary and charitable sector, and private sector roles that support or deliver public services.

English Language. If you are not from a majority English speaking country (as defined by the UK Home Office) you will need to show evidence that you meet the University's English Language requirements york.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/international/distance-learners.

Sufficient study time: about 15 hours per week including the capacity to take part regularly in the online weekly tutorial group discussions and activities. These are an essential part of the study process.



The responsiveness of Student Support is one of the things that made the online MPA such a positive experience."



HOW TO APPLY

Full guidance is given and applications are submitted online at york.ac.uk/spsw/postgraduate/apply/online-ma

We acknowledge all applications upon receipt and, subject to prompt receipt of your supporting reference, will return the Admissions Committee's decision within one month.

Applications close in late July for the September start. If places remain at the closing date we will re-open applications for a short period and will clearly advertise the dates on our website and social media channels.

CONTACT DETAILS

Enquiries

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I am so thankful to have found York and owe so much of my success to the program. I will never run out of great things to say. I truly would not be where I am today had I not embarked on the Public Policy and Management programme."





UNIVERSITY
of York

**Department of Social Policy
and Social Work**

University of York
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