

**School of Public Affairs
University of Colorado Denver**

**MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
PROGRAM CONCENTRATION IN
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY, MANAGEMENT, AND LAW**

Addendum to the M.P.A. Handbook

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Program Concentration in
Environmental Policy, Management, and Law

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purposes and Definition. The two purposes of the program concentration are to allow students within the Master of Public Administration program who so choose to concentrate their course of study in Environmental Policy, Management, and Law (EPML); and to provide a professional certification opportunity in this field for those persons who want knowledge of this field but who do not wish to enroll in the MPA program. In conceiving the concentration, the term "Environmental Policy, Management, and Law" is broadly defined, encompassing both natural resource management and environmental protection.

1.2 Participants. Anyone admitted to the MPA Program is welcome to declare a concentration in Environmental Policy, Management, and Law; anyone with a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is welcome to apply for the graduate certification in EPML. The typical candidate for the degree concentration may have an undergraduate degree in one of the natural, physical, or social sciences, and wishes to combine this technical expertise with graduate-level training in environmental policy, management, and law. Many EPML program participants already work in an agency that has some degree of resource management or environmental protection responsibility; participants in the program without public sector work experience will serve an internship in such an agency at the local/regional, state, or federal level.

2. ADMISSION AND ADVISING

Admission to the MPA Program constitutes eligibility to declare a program concentration in Environmental Policy, Management, and Law. Students making such a declaration will have a member of the EPML faculty assigned as their faculty advisor. Students applying to the EPML graduate certification program only must enroll as a non-degree student at UCD in order to be eligible for enrollment in the program.

In consultation with their faculty advisor, students should prepare their individualized degree plan or study plan (for certificate-only students) as soon as possible after admission to the EPML program, and stay in regular contact with their advisor during their course of study. Faculty advisor approval is required both for the original degree plan/study plan, and for any later amendments thereto.

3. PROGRAM CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

3.1 General Requirements. All general MPA program requirements apply to students declaring an EPML concentration.

3.2. Concentration Requirements.

3.2.1. EPML Program Seminars. Completion of the general MPA Program requires the taking of six of core courses, five electives, and the Advanced Seminar. Fulfillment of the EPML program concentration requires that two of the five elective courses be the two required EPML program seminars. The two required EPML Program seminars are:

P.Ad. 5631. Environmental Politics and Policy. Brief history of origins and development of natural resource and environmental health policy, focusing on interplay of interest groups, the framing and re-framing of policy issues by these groups and associated political leadership, and the policy process. Contemporary issues will be

explored from the perspective of political decisionmaking. Critiques of current policies and processes, analysis of competing recommendations for reform. Institutionally, the focus will be principally (although not exclusively) legislative.

P.Ad. 5633. Natural Resource and Environmental Health Law.

Introduction to the legal system, federalism, administrative law aspects of environmental policy implementation and enforcement, and the role of courts in both stimulating and limiting statutory reform and regulatory innovation. Focus on the legal aspects of both natural resource allocation and management (water, minerals, forest and range, wilderness, outdoor recreation); and environmental protection (clean air and water, toxic and hazardous waste management, land use as related to environmental quality). Contemporary issues will be explored from the perspective of judicial decision making. Institutionally, the focus is principally (although not exclusively) judicial.

3.2.2 Electives. The remaining three electives in the EPML program concentration/graduate certificate program shall be of the student's choosing, subject to the consent of the student's faculty advisor. Whether taken at SPA or another UCD school or college, at least one of the remaining three courses shall be on the topic of environmental policy, management, law, science, or humanities. And another of the three must be a generic policy or management course offered at SPA, within which the student is allowed to focus on an environmentally related topic.

Listed in the appendix to this document are a few examples of graduate-level elective courses both in SPA and elsewhere within UCD which the EPML Program Faculty have found to be relevant to the goals of the EPML concentration/certificate, and have therefore suggested for student consideration in individual program planning. This list is a sample list rather than an exhaustive one.

EPML students are welcome to identify other graduate level elective courses to substitute instead, as a means of tailoring their plan of study to their own perceived needs. These graduate-level courses may be another course in SPA, in another department at UCD, or at another campus in the CU system. By special arrangement, courses offered by other

institutions may also be used. Prior approval of the EPML faculty advisor and the consent of the instructor offering the course are required for substitutions. Internships and independent studies may also be considered.

3.2.3. Master's Thesis. Students in the EPML concentration are not only allowed but encouraged to elect the Master's Thesis option in lieu of a fourth course elective. Students choosing this option must meet all the eligibility criteria for enrolling for thesis credit, in keeping with the general MPA program policies governing thesis preparation. By arrangement with the EPML director, Master's Thesis credit may be awarded in tandem with credit for the Advanced Seminar, so that completion of the thesis project may advance the student in the Advanced Seminar as well.

3.3 Executive MPA Option. Anyone admitted to the Executive MPA Program is eligible to declare an EPML concentration. In fulfillment of program requirements, Executive MPA students must complete the five courses described in Section 3.2.1 above.

4. REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

Non-degree students who are seeking program certification in Environmental Policy, Management, and Law must complete the requirements listed in § 3.2. above. In addition, any such student who does not already have the MPA degree must successfully complete either P.Ad. 5001, Governance and Institutions, or P.Ad. 5005, Democracy and Public Policy.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

All other general administrative policies applicable to the MPA Program are equally applicable to the EPML program concentration, including internship opportunities, financial assistance, graduation procedures, and SPA academic policies. Transcripts of EPML program concentration graduates will include memorandum information indicating that the graduate's program of study included a Concentration in Environmental Policy, Management, and Law.

Appendix

- Pre-approved Electives -

(Revised December, 2011)

PUAD 5220. Managing People in Public and Nonprofit Organizations

PUAD 5310 Policy Formulation and Implementation

PUAD 5310. Public Policy Formulation and Implementation.

PUAD 5320. Public Policy Analysis.

PUAD 5340. Intergovernmental Policy.

PUAD 5350. Program Evaluation.

PUAD 5410. Administrative Law.

PUAD 5420. Law and Public Policy

PUAD 5440. Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

PUAD 5450. Disaster Management and Policies

PUAD 5503. Budgeting and Accounting

PUAD 5626 Local Government Politics

PUAD 5650. Disaster and Emergency Management Policies

PUAD 5620. Politics of Public Sector Management.

PUAD 5625. Local Government Management.

PUAD 5626. Local Government Politics and Policy.

PUAD 5628. Urban Social Problems.

PUAD 5632. Environmental Program Management.

PUAD 5650. Disasters and Emergency Management Policies.

PUAD/CRJU 6600. Environmental Justice and Crime.

PUAD 6120. Information Resource Management.

PUAD 6124. Program Management.

PUAD 6600. Intergovernmental Relations.

EHOH All EHOH (Environmental Health/Occupational Health) electives offered
 In the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program, Colorado School of
 Public Health.

GEOG 4230/5230. Hazard Mitigation and Vulnerability Assessment.

HIST 5630. Art and Architecture of the American West.

LA 5530. Site Planning.

LA 6686. Interpreting the Landscape.

TC 5505. Technical Communication: Editing.

TC 6105. Health/Risk Communication.

URP 6612. GIS for Planners.

URP 6649. Environmental Planning I: Ecology for Planners.

URP 6650. Environmental Planning II: Policy and Law.

URP 6651. Environmental Impact Assessment.

URP 6652. Growth Management.

URP 6653. Natural Resource Planning and Management.

URP 6656. Regional Land Use Analysis and Planning.

URP 6686. Air Quality Planning and Management.