

DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

DPA

CANADA'S LEADING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL MANAGERS



COURSES

Listed here are short descriptions for DPA courses. Students are encouraged to visit our website where they can view full course descriptions, as well as outlines that contain a detailed account of the course content that are updated regularly.

PS 4901 – ADVANCED LOCAL GOVERNMENT

This course examines the importance of rules and structures in understanding the role of Canadian local government. Topics include: special-purpose bodies, provincial-municipal relations, municipal finance, and metropolitan and regional government. The Canadian experience is approached from varying theoretical perspectives with the use of comparative examples from Britain and the United States.

PS 4902 – POLICY PROCESS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

After an introduction to policy analysis, there is an examination of the factors which help determine local government decisions about policies, development expenditures, and taxes. The scope for local government to frame its own economic policies and address social, economic and environmental problems is analyzed.

THIS COURSE CANNOT BE TAKEN BEFORE PS 4901

PS 4903 – ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOUR

Course participants are introduced to current theoretical and research perspectives and issues in the field of organizational behaviour. Implications for the administration of local government are examined from the perspectives of various stakeholders. Topics include relationships between the local government organization and its changing environment, comparison of public and private sector management, council-staff relations, the structure and culture of local government organizations, dealing with conflict, and the analysis of power, motivation, diversity, and organizational change.

PS 4904 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT/ADMINISTRATION

Drawing upon theories and research findings in public administration and management, we examine administrative approaches, issues and debates arising in local governments in a changing environment. Topics include administrative strategy, organizational change and learning, working with communities, staff empowerment, labour relations, leadership, teamwork, partnerships, performance management and careers in local government.

Seminar-style classes include case analyses, student presentations and guest speakers as well as lectures and discussions.

THIS COURSE CANNOT BE TAKEN BEFORE PS 4903

PS 4931 – DPA RESEARCH PAPER

Although the Research Report is usually taken in the summer term, it is possible to take this course in any term with permission from the Program Director. The research report is an integral part of the DPA course of study and the final program requirement. Its main objective should be to apply what has been learned in DPA courses to an analysis of: 1) some aspect of the political and administrative process within a given local government; or 2) possible responses to a particular policy problem at the local level. The report should be about 20 to 25 double-spaced typewritten pages in length, comprising about 4,000-5,000 words. Each student submits a research proposal and is assigned a research supervisor. Together, the supervisor and student work out an outline and research strategy. Please see the research report guidelines on our website for further details.

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ADVANTAGES OF A DPA EDUCATION

Offering outstanding professional training, the DPA is a fully recognized Diploma program at one of Canada's leading Universities. While in the program, students enjoy the benefits of being full members of the Western community, with full access to Western's extensive academic and non-academic resources. Graduates of the program are invited to participate in Western's Convocation Ceremony, and become Alumni of The University of Western Ontario.

As the DPA is offered in the summer, students can take advantage of Western's on-campus Summer Bed and Breakfast accommodation. DPA students may stay in one of our suite style residences at very affordable rates; every effort is made to ensure that program participants are located on the same floor. Current rates and online booking can be found on our website.

PROGRAM COSTS

The DPA program is an exceptionally affordable option for personal or professional development. The major costs per course are:

Tuition & Fees: \$625 – \$650 per course
Textbooks: \$125 – \$250 per course
Accommodations: \$250 – \$300 per week

There are four courses in the DPA and there is no tuition charged for completion of the final research paper. The estimated total program cost is approximately \$4000.

Tuition and Fees are payable upon receipt of a fee bill. The Board of Governors reserves the right to amend fees after the printing of this brochure, so please check our website for current rates.

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Please be sure to check out our website for current information and new updates.

PROGRAM FORMAT

Western's DPA is highly accessible to students working full time in demanding careers because of the flexibility of its format. By charging only a basic tuition fee, concentrating each Diploma course into a one-week period, and allowing students to take as few as one or as many as three courses in any given year, the DPA permits the student to move through the four on-campus courses in two to four years.

Some assignments may need to be submitted after the instruction for a given course is finished, and most readings are to be done before classes begin. After the four courses, a short research report must be successfully completed prior to the Diploma being awarded.

CLASS SIZE

Classes generally comprise no more than 30 students, allowing ample opportunity for class discussion and individual attention. The intensive learning environment is a strength of the program, and the professional contacts and friendships formed during the DPA experience are one of the program's lasting benefits.



SCHEDULE

Each DPA course is offered from Monday to Friday (inclusive) from 9:00am to 4:30pm. Following completion of the last of their four courses, students are allowed approximately six months to complete a Research Report. They are then eligible to receive their Diploma at the University's convocation.

These one week courses are offered starting in early May and ending in mid-June. For current dates please visit our website.

PROGRESSION

To receive the Diploma in Public Administration, students must receive a grade of at least 60% in each of the four courses (plus the final paper) and an overall average of at least 70% in all program components.

APPLICATIONS

Applications are usually due in early February for a summer term start. Current application fees, forms and instructions can be found on our website www.localgovernment.uwo.ca



ABOUT THE DPA PROGRAM

Western's Diploma in Public Administration (DPA) is designed especially for mid-career local government administrators who wish to further develop their public management perspectives and skills. Most administrators are in municipal government, but some are employed by separate boards, provincial ministries, not-for-profit organizations or in the private sector. DPA Courses offer specialized education in local administration and policy analysis, better preparing the student for the challenges of modern community, urban and regional governance and administration.

The Diploma has been offered annually since 1974. Hundreds of men and women from across Canada, with widely varying backgrounds, have attended. Many medium-to-large Canadian municipalities consistently use Western's Diploma in Public Administration as part of their *professional development program for senior managers*.

The cross-disciplinary faculty and guest experts who teach in the DPA program include academic researchers specializing in local government, as well as practitioners with extensive local government experience. Students receive Western undergraduate credits for the DPA courses.

