

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, MPA AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, MS (MPA/ MIS)

In government and non-profit organizations, there is a significant need and a long-term demand for persons with advanced skills in information management technology. The primary purpose of this dual degree option is to prepare students to manage and lead organizations in the future. To meet this need, the School of Public Administration and the College of Information Science & Technology offer the option to complete both the MPA and the MS in MIS degree jointly by completing 54-57 hours of course work beyond foundation requirements. This joint degree program is designed for dedicated students who are able to successfully complete graduate intensive study from two perspectives—public administration and management information systems—while achieving a synergy between the two fields. As such, the program involves graduate coursework in both public administration and information systems, with integrative experiences that will attain the desired synergy. Students interested in this option will work closely with a faculty mentor to develop an integrated plan of study at an early stage.

Program Related Information

Program Contacts

Public Administration

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Management Information Systems

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Program Website (<https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-public-affairs-and-community-service/public-administration/academics/mpa-dual-degree-mis-mpa.php>)

Admissions

General Application Requirements and Admission Criteria (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/admission/>)

Application Deadlines

- Spring 2026: October 1
- Fall 2026: June 1

Other Requirements

- The general prerequisite for admission to the program is a four year bachelors' degree with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA of the junior-senior year (last 50-60 credit hours).
- **Entrance Exam:** Submitting GMAT or GRE scores may strengthen your application.
- **English Language Proficiency:** Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a

baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the United States, **OR** a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a predetermined country on the waiver list, must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission.

- Internet-based TOEFL: 80, IELTS: 6.5, PTE: 53, Duolingo: 110

• Statement of Purpose

- **Writing Sample:** From work or previous academic experiences. Alternatively, if you do not have a writing sample, please submit a two page double-spaced word processed essay that addresses the following two topics:

- Your unique personal qualities and life experiences that distinguish you from other applicants to our graduate program
- Two accomplishments that demonstrate your potential for success in the graduate program

- **Resume:** Indicate your work experience and background

- **Letters of Recommendation:** Two letters of recommendation are required

Degree Requirements

MPA/MIS Foundation Courses

A student must have completed some basic courses either as an undergraduate student or prior to enrolling in the first MS in MIS course. Students may start MPA courses while completing the MIS foundation courses. All must be completed prior to or concurrent with the first six hours of MS in MIS graduate course work.

Foundation courses ensure that all students in the program have a strong foundation on which to build the rest of the program. These courses not only provide essential prerequisite knowledge and skills for other courses in the program, but they also contain a distinct body of knowledge that is an important part of the MIS professional's education. All foundation courses are required for all students. Students who have obtained an undergraduate MIS degree will typically have this foundation. Other students, including computer science or engineering majors, will usually have to take one or more foundation courses. Occasionally, a student's work experience may be sufficient to waive one or more foundation courses.

Waivers for foundation courses are granted by the chair of the graduate program committee upon the recommendation of the faculty member who is responsible for an individual foundation course. Students requesting a waiver for a particular course should be prepared to meet with a faculty member and answer questions in the area of the course. They should bring to the meeting any relevant transcripts, course syllabi, course material, or evidence of practical experience. Some foundation courses may have an option for testing out. Results of a test out are not appealable or repeatable.

Code	Title	Credits
Six hours of programming coursework or equivalent experience:		6
CIST 1600	INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMMING USING PRACTICAL SCRIPTING	3
ISQA 3900	WEB APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT	3
One semester of undergraduate information systems, or:		3
ISQA 8030	FOUNDATIONS OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS	
Select one of the following:		3-6
ISQA 8040	AN OVERVIEW OF SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	
ISQA 4110 & ISQA 4120 & ISQA 3310	INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYSIS and SYSTEM DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION and MANAGING THE DATABASE ENVIRONMENT	

Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
MPA Core Courses		
PA 8050	FOUNDATIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
PA 8090	ORGANIZATION THEORY AND BEHAVIOR	3
PA 8100	ADVANCED MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP FOR PUBLIC AND NONPROFIT PROFESSIONALS	3
PA 8400	PUBLIC AND NONPROFIT BUDGETING	3
PA 8300	POLICY DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION	3
PA 8530	PLANNING AND EVALUATION	3
MS in MIS Core Courses		
ISQA 8210	MANAGEMENT OF SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT	3
ISQA 8220	ADVANCED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND DESIGN	3
ISQA 8310	IT INFRASTRUCTURE & CLOUD COMPUTING	3
ISQA 8380	ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE AND SYSTEMS INTEGRATION	3
ISQA 8410	DATA MANAGEMENT	3
ISQA 8420	MANAGING THE I.S. FUNCTION	3
Methods Course		
PA 8120 or ISQA 8060	ANALYSIS AND DECISION MAKING RESEARCH IN MIS	3
MPA/MIS Electives		
Select one of the following:		12
Take a minimum of six hours each of ISQA elective courses and PA elective courses		
Or select a MPA/MIS Specialty Area (see below)		
Select one of the following (see below):		6
Capstone Option		
Thesis Option		
Total Credits		57

MPA/MIS Specialty Areas

Students may choose to specialize in the following areas (see details below), or in another area with the approval of their faculty advisor (all courses must be at the 8000-level):

Program Management

Code	Title	Credits
PA 8450	SEMINAR IN ADVANCED MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC AGENCIES	3
ISQA 8810	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT FUNDAMENTALS	3
ISQA 8820	PROJECT RISK MANAGEMENT	3
PA 8480	SEMINAR IN PUBLIC FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	3
Total Credits		12

Financial Management Information Systems

Code	Title	Credits
PA 8480	SEMINAR IN PUBLIC FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	3

ISQA/CYBR 8570	INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY AND ETHICS	3
Total Credits		6

Health Care Information Systems

Code	Title	Credits
ISQA/CYBR 8570	INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY AND ETHICS	3
Advisor approved course		3
Integrative Experience (Required)		3-6
Total Credits		9-12

MPA/MIS Exit Requirements

Capstone Option

Code	Title	Credits
PA 8990	CAPSTONE PROJECT IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3

The MPA capstone course is taken at the end of the program, with no more than nine credit hours remaining. All public administration core classes must be completed prior to taking the capstone course.

Code	Title	Credits
ISQA 8950	CAPSTONE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS	3

Six credit hours or fewer may be left in the program. All MIS core courses must have been completed.

Thesis Option

To complete this option, a student will be required to enroll in six hours of thesis credit.

Code	Title	Credits
ISQA 8990	THESIS	6

The thesis must be in an area that relates to both the public administration and information systems domains.

Total Credit Hours: 57