Huizenga Postgraduate Course Catalogs   NSU Course Catalogs and Course Descriptions

2016

Master of Public Administration Mission Statement and Overview 2016

Nova Southeastern University

Master of Public Administration Mission Statement and Overview 2016
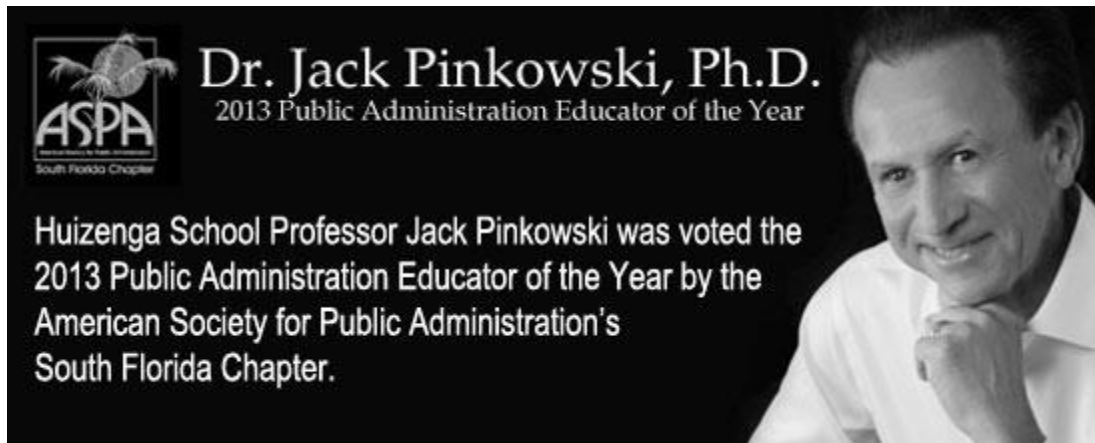

The Nova Southeastern University Master of Public Administration Program is accredited by the NASPAA Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation and listed on the Annual Roster of Accredited Programs in conformity with NASPAA standards.

Mission Statement

The mission of the M.P.A. program is to enhance local and state governance as well as nonprofit organizations through education, research and service. On-campus and accessible distance-learning educational programs are provided in public administration for a diverse student population to enhance and advance their careers as managers. The program cultivates analytical skills and public service values like accountability, integrity, diversity and ethical decision-making by engaging students and faculty in innovative, life-long learning experiences.

With more than 40 years of experience in public administration, the Huizenga College of Business is uniquely poised to meet the needs of an expanding population and government through training and community development. The Master of Public Administration program develops skills to lead public and community agencies, as well as to understand the social, economic, and political context in which public decisions are made.

The M.P.A. program's curriculum has been designed to meet public sector, government, and nonprofit needs in the new millennium based on emerging theory, employee surveys, and focus groups of professional administrators. The result is one of the most current, relevant, and practically focused curriculum anywhere.

[Master of Public Administration Values](#)

We reflect the public service values that follow in our mission, and emphasize them in our academic program and practice. Our values are consistent with those of the University.

Public service: serving public interests by contributing to the field through public administration projects by providing business, management, and cross-discipline know-how to resolve public sector problems.

Accountability: determining and communicating optional and optimal courses of action by applying leading edge leadership, management, strategic, best practice, and analytical models and methods to public organizational issues.

Integrity and ethical decision making: applying the professional ethics code and additional relevant principles and frameworks to promote trust, fairness, and representativeness, and to help guide objective decision-making.

Diversity: applying diversity frameworks to organizational challenges to help utilize multiple perspectives, to promote opportunities for all, and to avoid discrimination. This allows us to work effectively in the public sector environment.

Engagement: relating effectively with participants to add value; e.g., faculty designing learning experiences to enhance student achievement of learning outcomes, the College of Business supporting faculty for professional development, and the PA Group supporting professional community activities.

Innovation: using teaching, research, scholarship and service creatively and effectively to benefit education and the academic, professional, and public sector community.

M.P.A. Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Master of Public Administration degree program, graduates will be able to:

1. Determine optional/optimal courses of action to public sector challenges.
2. Contribute to the policy process.
3. Apply leadership management, strategic, decision-making, and continuous improvement values, principles and best practices to public sector organizational situations.
4. Apply legal, ethical and diversity frameworks to organizational challenges in public sector organizations.
5. Analyze public sector organizations using financial/economic, statistical and technological models.
6. Contribute to the field through public administration projects.
7. Communicate effectively (interpersonally, in writing and verbally) in the public sector organizational context.

Assessment of Program Learning Outcomes

The purpose of assessing student achievement of the Master of Public Administration's (M.P.A.) Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) is to continually enhance the quality of our program. This also assists us in fulfilling our relevant goals and objectives consistent with University, College and accrediting body standards. The 2013-2014 results are below.

On November 17, 2014, the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) acknowledged our Self Study Report and recommended that we proceed with a Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) Site Visit to evaluate our alignment with their standards.
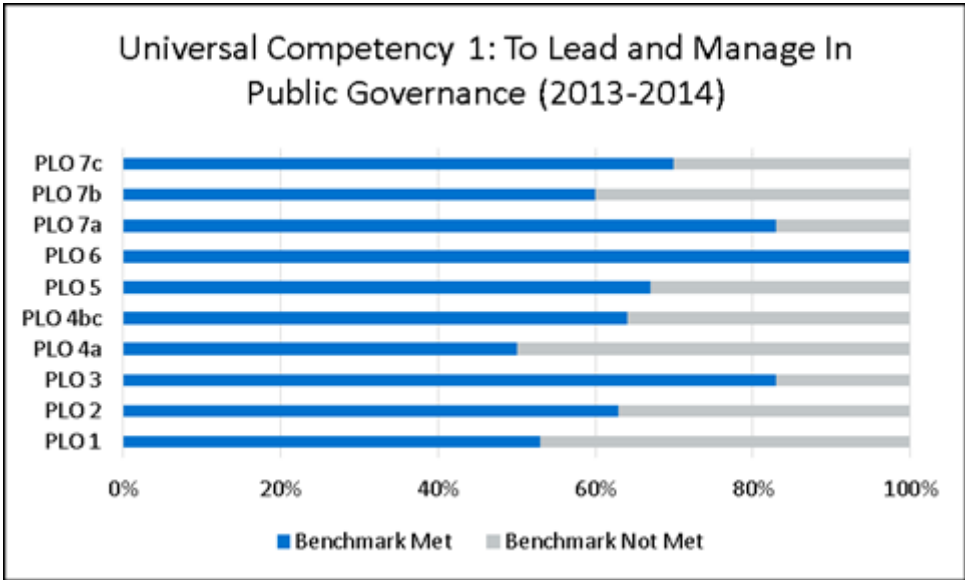
One of NASPAA's standards states that we develop "competencies related to our mission, public service values and the abilities to:
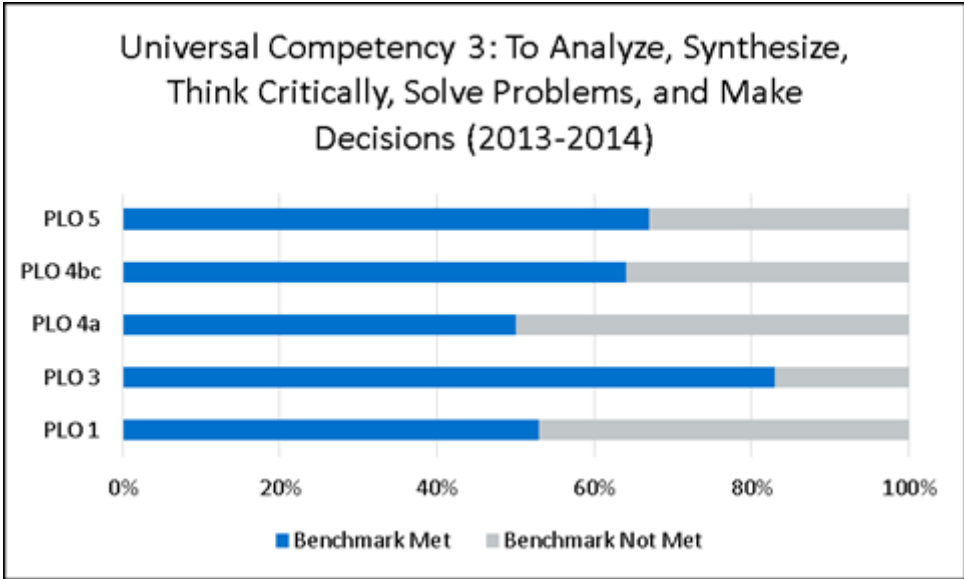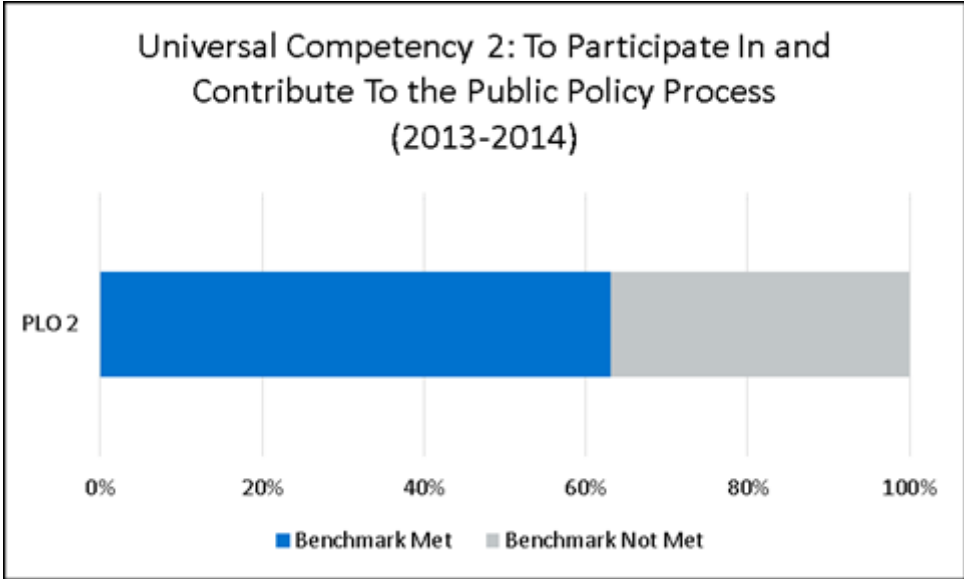
- lead and manage in public governance;
- participate in and contribute to the policy process;
- analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions;
- articulate and apply a public service perspective; and
- communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry."

Please use the legend below with the following graphs. The graphs show how the results of the Assessment of the M.P.A. Program Learning Outcomes Results align with NASPAA's five key abilities.
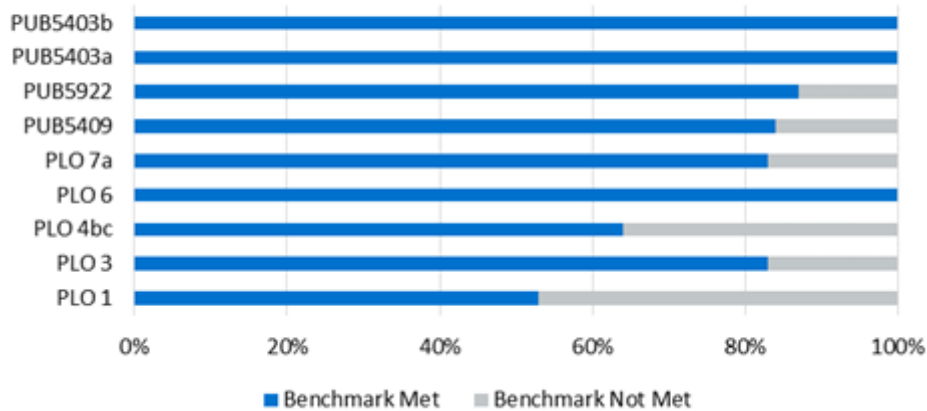
LEGEND	
Vertical Axis Label In Graphs That Follow	**M.P.A. Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)** Upon successful completion of the Master of Public Administration Program, graduates will be able to:
PLO 1	Determine optional/optimal courses of action to public sector challenges.
PLO 2	Contribute to the policy process.
PLO 3	Apply (a) leadership / management, (b) strategic / decision-making, and (c) continuous improvement values, principles and best practices to public sector situations.
PLO 4a	Apply legal frameworks to organizational challenges in public sector organizations.
PLO 4bc	Apply ethical and diversity frameworks to organizational challenges in public sector organizations.
PLO 5	Analyze public sector organizations using (a) financial/economic, (b) statistical and (c) technological models.
PLO 6	Contribute to the field through public administration projects.
PLO 7a	Communicate effectively interpersonally in the public sector organizational context.
PLO 7b	Communicate effectively in writing in the public sector organizational context.

PLO 7c	Communicate effectively verbally in the public sector organizational context.
	Additional Measures from Specific Courses
PUB 5409	Public Administration Theory and Application, evaluate ~ PA values
PUB 5922	Emergency Management in the Public Sector, innovation ~ policy decisions
PUB 5403a	M.P.A. Integrative Capstone, recommend optimal solution
PUB 5403b	M.P.A. Integrative Capstone, demonstrate transparency

Universal Competency 1: To Lead and Manage In Public Governance (2013-2014)

Universal Competency 2: To Participate In and Contribute To the Public Policy Process (2013-2014)

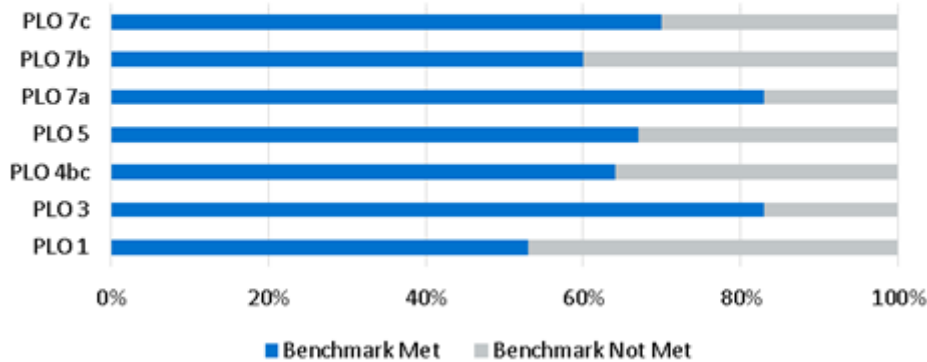Universal Competency 3: To Analyze, Synthesize, Think Critically, Solve Problems, and Make Decisions (2013-2014)

Universal Competency 4: To Articulate and Apply a Public Service Perspective (2013-2014)

Universal Competency 5: To Communicate and Interact Productively With a Diverse and Changing Workforce and Citizenry (2013-2014)

List of Specializations

- State and Local Administration
- Non-Profit/Non-Governmental Organizations
- Criminal Justice
- Disaster and Emergency Management