Doctoral Program in Public Affairs

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- 85 students (60 percent full-time)
- International student body
- Assistantships and fellowships available

COURSEWORK INCLUDES:
- Foundations of Public Affairs: People, Places, Policies and Paradigms
- Strategic Change and Management
- Social Inquiry and Public Policy
- Advanced Research Methodology
- Advanced Statistics I, II, III
- Qualitative Methods
- Policy and Program Evaluation
- Community-Based Practicum

For complete program requirements, see the UCF Graduate Catalog atgraduatecatalog.ucf.edu.

cohpa.ucf.edu/publicaffairs

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES
Doctorally trained researchers, analysts and other professionals who study communities contribute to our understanding of the most challenging issues facing society. Their work helps shape policy and funding decisions that strengthen communities and improve the welfare of community members.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT UCF
UCF offers a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Affairs with four tracks. The interdisciplinary program prepares students to take a holistic view of social issues. Students develop expertise in building partnerships and engaging communities.

Curriculum
The program includes 60 credit hours beyond the master’s degree. Core courses focus on organization, administration, community and research methods. Students also take courses in one of four tracks — criminal justice, health services management and research, public administration, and social work. The curriculum includes education in applied research in metropolitan Orlando, home to a diverse population of 2.3 million. Students also must successfully defend a dissertation.

Faculty
The program has eight core faculty members with expertise in criminal justice, criminology, health informatics, public administration, public health, public policy, social work and urban studies. More than 30 other faculty members from the college and university teach courses and serve on dissertation committees as well.
WHERE GRADUATES WORK:

- ADA University (Azerbaijan)
- American Military University
- Auburn University
- Bainbridge State College
- Bethune-Cookman University
- Florida Health Care Coalition
- GAI Consultants, Inc.
- Gannett Fleming, Inc.
- Flagler College
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- Florida Institute of Technology
- Mahidol University (Thailand)
- Marietta College
- Marquette University
- Northern Michigan University
- Orlando City Planning Division
- Planned Parenthood
- Rollins College
- Ministry of Interior (Turkey)
- University of Central Florida
- University of Florida
- University of Colorado
- University of North Carolina
- Valencia College
- Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc.

WHERE CAN I GET A JOB?

UCF public affairs’ graduates find positions in a variety of industries, including education and health care. Many are employed as professors, instructors and administrators at private, state, and international universities and colleges. Others work as executives and analysts in public and private health care organizations.

Graduates also work for nonprofits; law enforcement and social service agencies; private firms; and local, state, and federal government in the United States and in regional government abroad. They secure positions as directors, research analysts, project managers, evaluators, grant writers and officials, to name a few. Completion of a doctorate is often a requirement for senior leadership roles.

DID YOU KNOW?

Post-secondary teaching and combined research and teaching positions are expected to increase by 19 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than average for all occupations, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics.

POSSIBLE JOB TITLES:

- Professor
- Dean
- Public health analyst
- Medical services administrator
- Public policy director
- Law enforcement research analyst
- Social work director
- Evaluation consultant