



OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

Strome College of Business

**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
SELF-STUDY APPENDIX
STANDARD 5
AY 2022-2023**

Standard 5



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Table of Contents

Ongoing Assessment Plan of Student Learning for All Universal Required Competencies

Standard 5

Standard 5

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- The School of Public Service and the MPA program have a specific competency mapping and assessment cycle to measure universal competencies. Our mission statement maps into the MPA program's three major goals, which map to our learning goals and objectives. Those learning goals and objectives reflect one or more of the universal competencies.
- The table (below) - "Curriculum Map of MPA Learning Objectives Assessment and NASPAA Competencies" - displays how each MPA program's learning objective is covered and how each objective meets a universal competency.
- Each of the eight objectives mapped to universal competencies is measured in a three-year cycle across seven of the eight (8) core courses.
- The assessment is accomplished for both NASPAA and SACS purposes and is displayed in the table "MPA Learning Goals, Assessment, and Competencies" (below). Some courses are not assessed yearly, as we are not required to use every core course for assessment, but selected courses (for example, 746) are assessed under varying objectives, depending on the year within the cycle.
- Note: Assessment of Student Learning for All Universal Required Competencies was updated in January 2023. The URC1 evaluation discussed in the Standard 5 narrative is based on the prior assessment plan, which mapped the ability to appreciate the complexity of operating in a multisectoral environment to a graded assignment in PADM701:Public Policy and Evaluation. This competency is now mapped to PADM746: Capstone Seminar in Public Administration.

Standard 5

Updated: January 2023

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVE	ALIGNED URCS*	CORE COURSE FOR ASSESSMENT	ASSESSMENT METHOD
1. Participate effectively in team problem solving	3, 5	671: public budgeting & financial management	Group homework project
2. Perform data analysis using analytical tools	3	671: public budgeting & financial management 701: public policy evaluation	Homework assignment
3. Describe and analyze the policy process	2	701: public policy evaluation	Homework assignment or paper
4. Effective oral and written communication	1	651: administrative theory (intro) 746: capstone seminar in p.a.	Paper and presentation
5. Perform critical problem-solving and decision making	3, 4	651: administrative theory (intro) 723: ethical foundations of p.a.	Homework case study or exercise
6. Analyze and address ethical dilemmas.	1, 4	723: ethical foundations of p.a. 736: diversity, equity, & inclusion	Homework case study or exercise
7. Apply multi-sectoral perspective in problem solving	1	746: capstone seminar in p.a.	Homework case study
8. Provide equitable and inclusive leadership in a diverse environment	1, 5	736: diversity, equity, & inclusion	Homework assignment

****Universal Required Competencies:***

- 1. to lead and manage in the public interest;*
- 2. to participate in, and contribute to, the policy process;*
- 3. to analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make evidence-informed decisions in a complex and dynamic environment;*
- 4. to articulate, apply, and advance a public service perspective;*
- 5. to communicate and interact productively and in culturally responsive ways with a diverse and changing workforce and society at large.*

Note: 752: introduction to data analysis is excluded because the alternative courses in other departments may prevent consistent assessment.

Revised and Updated: January 2023

MPA Learning Goals, Assessment, and Competencies				
Learning Goal	Learning Objective	Universal Competency	Assessment Method	
Year 1				Assessment Target
Goal 2: Employ analytical tools for collecting, analyzing, presenting, & interpreting data, including appropriate statistical concepts & techniques.	Perform data analysis using analytical tools.	3	Homework assignment in PADM671: Public Budgeting and Financial Management; PADM701: Public Policy and Evaluation	90% will achieve at least 80%
Goal 4: Communicate effectively in speech and writing (Preparing clear, concise, and well-organized materials tailored to the audience's level of expertise and needs)	Effective oral and written communication	1	Paper and presentation: PADM651: Context of Public Administration (Introduction) PADM746: Capstone Seminar in Public Administration	90% will achieve at least 80%
8. Provide equitable and inclusive leadership in a diverse environment	Provide equitable and inclusive leadership in a diverse environment	1, 5	Homework assignment in PADM736: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	90% will achieve at least 80%

Learning Goal	Learning Objective	Universal Competency	Assessment Method	
Year 2				Assessment Target
Goal 5: Think critically about policy & administration issues to make decisions	Perform critical problem-solving and decision-making	3,4	Homework case study or exercise in PADM651: The Context of Administration I; PADM723: Ethics in Public Administration	90% will achieve at least 80%
Goal 3: Describe and analyze the policy process (from problem definition, agenda setting, policy formulation, policy implementation, and policy evaluation)	Describe and analyze the policy process.	2	Homework Assignment or Paper in PADM 701: Public Policy and Evaluation	90% will achieve at least 80%
Year 3				Assessment Target
Goal 1: Participate, analyze, and solve problems in a team environment	Participate effectively in team problem solving	3,5	Graded group project in PADM 671: Public Budgeting and Financial Management	90% will achieve at least 80%
Goal 7: Appreciate the complexity of operating in a multi-sectoral environment	Appreciate the complexity of operating in a multi-sectoral environment.	1	Homework Case Study in PADM746: Capstone Seminar in Public Administration	90% will achieve at least 80%
Goal 6: Apply ethical criteria for making decisions and analyzing ethical dilemmas within public administration	Analyze and address ethical dilemmas	1, 4	Homework case study or exercise in PADM 723: Ethics in Public Administration; PADM736: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	90% will achieve at least 80%