



© Getty Images/Stackphoto

# Master of arts (MA) in public management and policy

## GENERAL OUTLINE

### Themes covered

The increasing complexity of the tasks carried out by the State and the manner in which it performs them require us to look at public service and the modernisation of public administrations in a new way. Today's institutions need decision-makers with interdisciplinary knowledge who are capable of understanding and solving complex managerial, economic, political and legal problems. Switzerland's multilingual culture necessitates a multicultural approach to management in the public and quasi-public sectors.

### Career prospects

University studies develop a great many transverse skills: oral and written communication, critical and analytical thinking, the ability to summarise, carry out research, and so on.

This array of skills, combined with the specialist knowledge acquired on the course, is excellent preparation for a wide range of employment opportunities in a variety of sectors, such as:

- Federal, cantonal and communal public administration
- Non-profit organisations
- Quasi-public institutions
- Associative structures
- Journalism
- Doctoral studies
- Public and private companies
- Research and teaching
- International organisations

Alumni have different positions, such as counselor in bilateral economic relationships for Southern Asia and Oceania at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO.

Other examples of opportunities and alumni's profiles:

[www.unil.ch/perspectives/unil-et-apres](http://www.unil.ch/perspectives/unil-et-apres)

The key to  
a successful  
career in public  
administration

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organisers

University of Lausanne  
University of Bern  
Università della Svizzera Italiana

### Degree awarded

Master of Arts (MA) in Public Management and Policy

### ECTS credits

120

### Duration

4 semesters

### Teaching language

The language of the University where courses take place and English. Recommended level: C1. Students should have sufficient knowledge of a second national language, or, under certain conditions, English.

### Contact

Ms Sabine Janssens  
IDHEAP  
Quartier UNIL-Mouline  
CH-1015 Lausanne  
Tel. +41 (0)21 692 68 27  
[pmp.idheap@unil.ch](mailto:pmp.idheap@unil.ch)

### Additional information

[www.unil.ch/idheap/PMP](http://www.unil.ch/idheap/PMP)



## EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

### Description

The Master of Arts in Public Management and Policy offers interdisciplinary teaching, methodological tools, case studies and exercises all focused on the analysis of public administration. This degree is characterised by an approach which is both academically and professionally oriented. Both the courses and the teaching style emphasise these characteristics.

During the first two semesters, all the students follow a common programme with the basic interdisciplinary training given in Lausanne, Bern or Lugano.

In the third and fourth semesters, students choose from the optional study modules taught on the course partners' campuses. During this period, they may also do an internship and must write a Master's thesis.

### Mobility

Because teaching occurs in three of Switzerland's different linguistic regions, student mobility is strongly encouraged.

## SYLLABUS\*

### 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> semesters (60 ECTS credits)

Compulsory courses modules

- Public Policy and Decision-Making
- Swiss Politics and Institutions
- Internationalisation of Public Policies
- Research Seminar
- Comparative Public Administration
- Public Management
- Human Resource Management
- Administrative Law
- Legislation
- Constitutional Law
- Fundamental Rights
- Economy and Public Policies
- Public Economics and Government Budgeting
- Swiss Economics
- Policy Evaluation
- Research Methods

### 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> semesters (30 ECTS credits)

Optional courses modules

- Public Finance and Economics (UNIL-IDHEAP)
- Transformation and Innovation in the Public Sector (UNIL-IDHEAP)
- International Governance and Public Administration (UNIL - SSP - FDCA)
- Public Law (UNIBE)
- Political Sciences (UNIBE)
- Public Management (UNIBE)
- Public Economics (UNIBE)
- Public Policy and Sustainability (USI)

### Master's thesis (30 ECTS credits)

Academic Master's thesis or Internship report

\* Subject to changes.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Admission requirements

Candidates should hold a Bachelor's degree in Economics, Management, Political Sciences, Sociology, Law or Media and Communication Sciences awarded by a Swiss Higher Education institution. Under certain conditions, another degree or academic title may be considered as equivalent and enable admission to the Master's degree course.

### Regulations and additional information concerning the course

[www.unil.ch/idheap/PMP](http://www.unil.ch/idheap/PMP)

### Enrolment and final dates

Applications must be submitted to the Admissions Service before 30<sup>th</sup> April: [www.unil.ch/immat](http://www.unil.ch/immat)  
Candidates requiring a visa to study in Switzerland: 28<sup>th</sup> February. This particular deadline is only applicable to enrolment at the UNIL.

### Start of courses

Mid-September  
Academic calendar: [www.unil.ch/central/calendar](http://www.unil.ch/central/calendar)

### Timetables

[www.unil.ch/idheap/PMP](http://www.unil.ch/idheap/PMP)

### Part-time Master's degree

Under certain conditions, a Master's programme can be studied part-time: [www.unil.ch/formations/master-temps-partiel](http://www.unil.ch/formations/master-temps-partiel)

### General information on studies, guidance

[www.unil.ch/soc](http://www.unil.ch/soc)

### Accommodation and financial assistance

[www.unil.ch/sasme](http://www.unil.ch/sasme)

### International

[www.unil.ch/international](http://www.unil.ch/international)



Unil

UNIL | Université de Lausanne