



ty Images/Stockphoto

# 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

In addition to specific academic skills and knowledge, university studies develop a great many transverse skills. These include oral and written communication, critical and analytical thinking, the ability to summarise, carry out research, absorb and transmit knowledge, and work autonomously, as well as the ability to make judgements in one's field of expertise and in related ones. 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

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. Recommended level: C1. Students should have sufficient knowledge of a second national language, or, under certain conditions, English.

### Enrolment

Applications must be submitted on time to the Admissions Department:  
[www.unil.ch/immat](http://www.unil.ch/immat)

### 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)  
[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.

### Examinations

Each module is assessed using coursework and written or oral examinations.

### 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
- Elements of Economic Analysis
- Public Sector Economics
- Swiss Economics
- Research Methods

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

Optional course modules

- Public Finance and Economics (UNIL-IDHEAP)
- Public Management and Evaluation (UNIL-IDHEAP)
- Politics, Law and Economics of Regulation (UNIL - SSP - FDCA)
- Public Law (UNIBE)
- Political Sciences (UNIBE)
- Public Management (UNIBE)
- Public Economics (UNIBE)
- Public Communication and Management (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 university. 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)

### Timetables

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

### Final enrolment date

30 April

Candidates needing a visa to study in Switzerland must apply for enrolment at least two months prior to the registration deadline indicated above. 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)

### Part-time Master's degree

Under certain conditions, a Master programme can be studied part-time. See [www.unil.ch/enseignement/tempspartiel](http://www.unil.ch/enseignement/tempspartiel).

### General information on studies, guidance

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

### Career prospects

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

### Accommodation and financial assistance

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

### International students

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

### Opportunities to study abroad

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

| Master of Arts (MA) in Public Management and Policy |   | 120 credits |
|---|---|-------------|
| 2   | Master's thesis                                   | 30 credits  |
|   | Complementary Programme: choice of an orientation | 30 credits  |
| 1<br>years  | Basic Interdisciplinary Programme                 | 60 credits  |

