La Follette School of Public Affairs: Program and Curricular Information

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La Follette School Visit Day
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La Follette School Mission & Goals

The La Follette School pursues research, education, and public service in a collaborative setting where students, faculty, and practitioners interact closely and draw upon the outstanding scholarly resources of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In doing so, we:

- produce and publish innovative multidisciplinary policy and management research;
- inform the practice of public affairs locally, nationally, and globally by disseminating knowledge to practitioners and to the broader public; and
- train, mentor, and educate students interested in domestic and international policy and governance in public, non-profit, and private settings.
LFS Degree Programs

• Both MPA and MIPA are 42-credit degree programs designed to provide you with the best of both worlds:
  – Rigorous training to facilitate development of a **core knowledge base** and **analytical skill set** that are highly sought by employers
  – Yet, incredible **flexibility**—more than half of your courses are **electives**—to design a program that meets your professional needs and interests
  – **Hands-on learning** opportunities with **real-world clients**, to provide the experience you need for satisfying employment

Student resources: [http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/students/](http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/students/)
Master of Public Affairs (MPA)

- 6 core, required courses
  - Quantitative Tools for Public Policy Analysis
  - Microeconomic Policy Analysis
  - Introduction to Public Management
  - The Policymaking Process
  - Introduction to Policy Analysis
  - Workshop in Public Affairs
Master of International Public Affairs (MIPA)

• 6 core, required courses
  – Quantitative Tools for Public Policy Analysis
  – Microeconomic Policy Analysis
  – International Governance
  – Introduction to Policy Analysis
  – Macroeconomic Policy and International Financial Regulation
  – Workshop in International Public Affairs
Electives

• Substantive area focus
  – **MPA examples**: Social and Poverty Policy, Health Policy, Energy and Environmental Policy
  – **MIPA examples**: Trade and finance, Development, Security and Defense, Area Studies

• Take analytical skills to the next level
  – Advanced Quantitative Methods (PA 819)
  – Public Program Evaluation (Domestic, International)
  – Cost-Benefit Analysis
  – Evidence-based Policymaking

• Advanced management courses
  – Performance Management
  – Public Personnel Management
  – Nonprofit Management
  – Budgeting

• Dual degree programs
  – Public Health, Law, Urban Planning, Energy Analysis, Transportation Management, Neuroscience

• Certificate programs
LFS Math for Policy Prep Course

• Free!
• On-line
• Self-paced
• Developed by instructors for PA 818 and 880
• Available to all incoming LFS students; required for those with conditional acceptance
• Stay tuned for communication from LFS on how to navigate
Your Academic Experience at LFS

• Courses led by world-renowned faculty and instructors
  – Award-winning
  – High impact research
  – Access to classes across the university
  – High-level practitioner community

• Supported by academic and career advising
  – Student Services Coordinator, Mary Treleven
  – Career Services advising and programming
  – Faculty Advisor

• Collegial atmosphere
  – Study groups
  – La Follette School Student Association (LSSA)
Professional Development

- PA 800: Professional Development Workshop
  - Develop portfolio to use for internship, job search
  - Explore career options via guest speakers, networking events, alumni connections
  - Individual Development Plan and focus on skills to help you get the most out of your La Follette experience

- Internships and work experience
- Professional development mini-courses and events
- Job and internship boards; online resources
- Drop-in/advising appointments with LFS faculty and staff
- “La Follette in DC” (...and Madison, and Milwaukee, and Chicago)

Career Development: [http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/careerdevelopment.html](http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/careerdevelopment.html)
UW Job Center: [http://jobcenter.wisc.edu/](http://jobcenter.wisc.edu/) (See UW-Graduate Assistant category)
Class of 2015 Placement by Sector

- Private: 24%
- Federal Government: 12%
- State Government: 28%
- Nonprofit/Education: 24%
- Local Government: 5%
- International: 7%

98% placement rate within 6 months of graduation
The “Wisconsin Idea” at LFS

“The boundaries of the University are the boundaries of the State”
(and not just the state anymore…)

– Student projects for “real world” clients
– WI Family Impact Seminar
– Committee Connect
– Evidence Based Health Policy Project
– Wisconsin Women in Government
– Public symposiums & lectures
– Faculty research and consulting
Additional Program Supports

• Outreach
  – LFS, alumni events
  – Employment site visits
  – Board of Visitors
  – Legislative training and outreach to policymakers

• Communications
  – LFS publications
  – Social media

• LFS Support Staff

Research & Public Service:
http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/researchservice.html
Publications: http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/publications.html
LFS Alumni & Friends Network

• PA 800 activities
  – Career panels
  – Speed networking
  – Mock interviews
• LFS mentoring program
• LFS seminar series
• Policy After Work Series (PAWS)
• Alumni profiles

https://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/alumni-friends/alumni-profiles
Funding

• Limited, merit-based funding at LFS
  – New! Brenton Scholarship (health policy)
• We will know whether there is any unaccepted, available funding after April 15th
• Other funding opportunities on campus (handout)
  – High graduate project and teaching assistantship placement
    • Student Job Center: http://jobcenter.wisc.edu/ (UW-Graduate Assistant)
    • Assistantship details: http://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/currentstudents
  – Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship (FLAS)
  – Financial Aid Office: http://finaid.wisc.edu/graduate-and-professional.htm
  – Graduate School: http://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/prospective/
• LFS Summer Policy Learning Experience funding
Why the La Follette School is a great choice

• Small program, with supportive, family feel
  – Faculty and staff know who you are
  – You will get to know your classmates

• With the resources of a world-class, tier-1 research university
  – UW-Madison recently ranked as high as 2nd in public administration research, social policy

• State capitol
  – Project, internship, and job opportunities
  – Community, federal, global ties

• Enjoy the city of Madison!
Questions?

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