

# **MA Public Policy and Administration - SH507**

## **1. Objectives**

The objectives of the above Programme are as follows:

- (i) to provide a postgraduate level educational opportunity for employment in the public sector and for government officials in economic, social and public affairs ministries, non-profit organisations, parastatal autonomous bodies and local government and others in the private sector to acquire skills in policymaking;
- (ii) to prepare individuals to assume key positions of responsibility in government, international institutions and in the private sector by upgrading their knowledge and skills to comparable international standards;
- (iii) to develop the ability to identify problems and the capacity for decision making, leading to practical solutions of regional and international problems; and
- (iv) to enhance the individual's capacity to meet emerging challenges within an organisation with a view to increasing domestic and international competitiveness in a rapidly changing global environment.

## **2. General Entry Requirements**

Successful completion of an undergraduate degree with

- at least a Second Class or 50%, whichever is applicable or
- a GPA not less than 2.5 out of 4 or equivalent, from a recognised higher education institution

**OR** alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius

## **3. Programme Requirements**

Same as above.

## **4. General and Programme Requirements – Special Cases**

The following may be deemed to have satisfied the General and Programme requirements for admission:

- (i) Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations, which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.
- (ii) Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but who in the opinion of Senate submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.
- (iii) Applicants who hold a full practising professional qualification obtained by examination.



**5. Programme Duration**

	<b>Minimum (Yrs)</b>	<b>Maximum (Yrs)</b>
Master's Degree:	2	4
Postgraduate Diploma:	2	4

**6. Credits per Year:** As per University Regulation

**7. Minimum Credits Required for Awards**

Master's Degree:	39
Postgraduate Diploma:	27

Breakdown as follows:

	<b>Core</b>	<b>Electives</b>	<b>Dissertation</b>	<b>Total</b>
Master's Degree:	18 credits	9 credits	12 credits	39 credits
Postgraduate Diploma:	18 credits	9 credits	-	27 credits

**8. Assessment**

Each module will be assessed over 100 marks with details as follows (unless otherwise specified):

Assessment will be based on a written examination of 2 to 3 hour duration (normally a paper of 2 hour duration for modules carrying less or equal to three credits and 3 hour paper for modules carrying six credits and on continuous assessment done during the semester or year. Written examinations for all modules, except for DE modules and some semester modules, whether taught in semester 1 or in semester 2 or both, will be carried out at the end of the academic year (unless stated otherwise).

The continuous assessment will count for 30 – 40% of the overall percentage mark of the module(s). Continuous assessment may be based on seminars and/or assignments and should include at least two (2) assignments/tests per module. There will be a compulsory class test for all modules taught in semester 1 at the end of semester 1 of the given academic year unless stated otherwise in the Programme Structure.

An overall total of 40% for combined continuous assessment and written examination components would be required to pass the module at Degree level, without minimum thresholds within the individual continuous assessment and written examination. The same criterion will apply for modules being assessed jointly. Note that all overall mark for the two modules will be considered and not the individual marks for each of the two modules.

An overall total of 50% at MSc and Postgraduate Diploma Levels for combined continuous assessment and written examination components would be required to pass a module, without minimum thresholds within the individual continuous assessment and written examination.

## Submission Deadlines for Dissertation

- First Draft: End of July in the Final Year.
- Final Copy: Last week day of August in the final year by 4.00 pm at latest.

## 9. Repeat and Termination of Registration

If the CPA of a student is < 40 for an academic year, s/he will have to repeat the entire academic year, and retake modules as and when offered. However, s/he will not be required, if s/he wishes, to retake module(s) for which **Grade C** or above has been obtained.

Students will be allowed to repeat **only once** over the entire duration of the Programme of Studies.

Registration of a student will be terminated if

- (i) the CPA < 40 at the end of an academic year and the student has already repeated one year of study; or
- (ii) the maximum duration allowed for completion of the Programme of Studies has been exceeded.

## 10. Choice of Electives

Students will be required to submit their choice of electives in order of priority by the middle of Semester 1 of Year 1.

The University reserves the right not to offer a given elective module if the critical number of students is not attained and /or if there are resource constraints. Additional electives may also be offered, depending on availability of resources.

## 11. Important Note

The rules as stipulated in this Programme Structure and Outline Syllabus will replace all other rules and regulations found in previous Programme Structures.

## 12. List of Modules

Code	Module Name	Hrs/Wk L+P	Credits
<b><u>CORE MODULES</u></b>			
ECON 6001	Foundations of Public Policy	3+0	3
ECON 6002	Policy Planning and Programme Evaluation	3+0	3
ECON 6004	Research Methods for Policy Makers	3+0	3
ECON 6012	Development and Public Governance	3+0	3
MGT 6114	Strategic Management for Public Administrators	3+0	3
MGT 6116	Human Resource Management and Development	3+0	3
ECON 6000	Dissertation	-	12

### ELECTIVE MODULES

ECON 6003	Public Finance and Budgetary Policy	3+0	3
ECON 6005	Social Security and Fund Management	3+0	3
ECON 6006	Health Services Policy	3+0	3
ECON 6007	Environment and Natural Resource Analysis	3+0	3
ECON 6008	Economics of Public Utilities	3+0	3
ECON 6009	Political Management and Public Affairs	3+0	3
ECON 6010	Local Public Administration	3+0	3
ECON 6011	International Relations and Diplomacy	3+0	3
SCPL 6001	Social Policy and Administration	3+0	3

### 13. Programme Plan - MA Public Policy and Administration

#### YEAR 1

<b>Code</b>	<b>Module Name</b>	<b>Hrs/Wk</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>CORE</b>		<b>L+P</b>	
ECON 6001	Foundations of Public Policy <sup>1</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6002	Policy Planning and Programme Evaluation <sup>1</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6004	Research Methods for Policy Makers <sup>2</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6012	Development and Public Governance <sup>2</sup>	3+0	3
MGT 6114	Strategic Management for Public Administrators <sup>1</sup>	3+0	3
MGT 6116	Human Resource Management and Development <sup>2</sup>	3+0	3

#### YEAR 2

#### **CORE**

ECON 6000	Dissertation	-	12
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#### **ELECTIVES**      **CHOOSE AT LEAST 3 MODULES (2 IN SEMESTER 3 AND 1 IN SEMESTER 4)**

SCPL 6001	Social Policy and Administration <sup>3</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6003	Public Finance and Budgetary Policy <sup>3</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6005	Social Security and Fund Management <sup>3</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6006	Health Services Policy <sup>3</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6007	Environment and Natural Resource Analysis <sup>3</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6008	Economics of Public Utilities <sup>4</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6009	Political Management and Public Affairs <sup>4</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6010	Local Public Administration <sup>4</sup>	3+0	3
ECON 6011	International Relations and Diplomacy <sup>4</sup>	3+0	3

**Notes:**

- (i) Electives will be offered subject to critical mass of students and availability of Faculty resources.
- (ii) Relevant modules from other postgraduate programmes in the department may also be offered.
- (iii) <sup>1, 2, 3 and 4</sup> represent modules taught in semester 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively but examined at the end of the academic year.

## **14. Outline Syllabus**

### **ECON 6000 - DISSERTATION**

Every student under the degree programme has to submit a dissertation. The length of dissertation should be between 12,000 and 18,000 words. The dissertation topic should be selected from within the area of specialisation pursued by the student.

### **ECON 6001 - FOUNDATIONS OF PUBLIC POLICY**

Micro foundations of public policies: Externalities and information gaps. Institutional approaches to public good demand and supply. Social choice. Voting rules Efficiency v/s equity. Administrative expediency. Political economy issues. Public private partnerships. Macro foundations: Fiscal and monetary policies. Stabilisation and growth. Development theory and policy. Endogenous growth, policy and governance. Impact of globalisation. Legal framework and public policies.

### **ECON 6002 - POLICY PLANNING AND PROGRAMME EVALUATION**

Policy Analysis and planning: introduction and techniques. Investment analysis. Risk and uncertainty. Project and programme appraisal. Performance measurement. Applications in specific sectors. Simulation and modelling. Political economy, welfare and poverty. Modes of financing and marginal cost of public funds. Impact assessment and evaluation.

### **ECON 6003 - PUBLIC FINANCE AND BUDGETARY POLICY**

Public household model. Evaluating alternative revenue sources. Efficiency and equity issues. Public expenditure control. Medium term expenditure framework. Intergovernmental financial relations. Political economy issues. Budgetary process. Programme and performance budgets. Zero base budgeting. Deficit budgeting and public debt management. International tax harmonisation.

### **ECON 6004 - RESEARCH METHODS FOR POLICY MAKERS**

Qualitative v/s quantitative approaches. Statistical and econometric techniques. Projections and forecasting techniques for economic and political analysis. Counterfactual analysis. Introduction to policy simulations. Linear Programming. Input output analysis. Data management and analysis.

### **ECON 6005 - SOCIAL SECURITY AND FUND MANAGEMENT**

Social and financial implications of ageing population. Gender dimensions. Designing pension plans. Evaluation of basic social security models. Efficiency v/s equity. Intergenerational equity. Treatment of overlapping generations. Retirement and labour supply. Micro simulations. Political economy of social security. Determination of effective tax schedules. Intergenerational accounting. Investment plans and fund management.

### **ECON 6006 - HEALTH SERVICES POLICY**

Public services and market failure. Measuring demand. Production and supply. Health policy and insurance. Affordability. Financing options. Community-based supply and NGOs. Research and development and alternative technologies. International co-operation and external assistance.

### **ECON 6007 - ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS**

Approaches to environmental accounting and valuation. Policy instruments. Natural resource management: Non-renewable and renewable resources. Agriculture and land. Tropical deforestation. Poverty and resource degradation. Water Resources and pollution. Waste management. Environmental dimensions of international trade and tourism. International environmental law. International agreements and endangered species.

### **ECON 6008 - ECONOMICS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Planning and Programming for water, electricity, and telecommunications. Production and financial management of public utilities. Analysis of Costs. Public sector accounting practices. Designing innovative cost recovery regimes. Commercialisation and privatisation options. Political economy issues.

### **ECON 6009 - POLITICAL MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Public opinions dynamics. Strategy and message development. Politics and media. Managing government relations programmes. Communications and networking. Crisis management. Leadership and politics. Referendum politics. Strategic management of political issues. Ethics and public values.

### **ECON 6010 - LOCAL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

Foundations of local self government. Local public goods. Benefit areas, geographical segregation and business districts. Financing local governance. Property tax. Intergovernmental financial transfers. Capital expenditure and local government debts. Local policy and economic development. Regional and coastal development. Globalisation and local governance.

### **ECON 6011 - INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY**

The institutions of cooperation and integration. Introduction to international public law. Global public goods. International organisations and public policies. International political economy. International Trade Policy. Agreements, conventions, protocols and diplomatic governance. Regional integration and Cooperation. Strategic issues in trade negotiations. Intellectual property rights. Human rights.

### **ECON 6012 - DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC GOVERNANCE**

Introduction to new growth theory and new institutional economics; Taxonomy and analysis of development episodes and syndromes; Institutions, policy and growth. Political economy of development; Development administration; Public organisation and management, Globalisation and international dimensions of public management; Innovation and E-governance.

### **MGT 6114 - STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATORS**

Fundamentals of strategic management: the S-C-P model and the transaction cost theory; The public sector context; The strategy management process: vision, mission and objectives; Environment scanning: national, regional and global perspectives; Strategic analytical tools and frameworks for environmentally conscious policymaking; The Resourced based competence model; Policy decision and formulation; Public private partnership; Policy Implementation issues; Structure and culture; leadership and corporate governance.

### **MGT 6116 - HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

Collective bargaining in the public and private sectors. Employment v/s wage demands. Compensation alternatives. Designing contracts and incentives. Skill formation. Worker participation and trade-unionism. Social security. Globalisation and human resource challenges. Technical change and the labour market. International labour standards.

### **SCPL 6001 - SOCIAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION**

Identification of vulnerable social groups. Marginalisation and social exclusion. Ethnic dimensions. Poverty and deprivation. Participation and empowerment. Social capital and networking. Gender dimensions of public policy. Micro finance. NGOs and international donor agencies. Analysis of donor funded social projects. Social expenditures and development.



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