Preparing the Next Generation of Public Service Leaders
Public Policy and Management for the 21st Century

FIU FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Department of Public Administration
School of International and Public Affairs | College of Arts and Sciences
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Welcome

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Department of Public Administration at Florida International University.

The primary mission of the Department of Public Administration is to advance excellence in teaching, scholarship and community and professional engagement. Our emphasis is on creative problem-solving, leadership and management in complex urban environments in this country and internationally. The Department provides students with a professional education in public sector and nonprofit management by offering a Bachelor of Public Administration, a NASPAA accredited Master of Public Administration and a Ph.D. in Public Affairs. In addition to the full degrees, Graduate Certificates are available in Public Management; Human Resource Policy and Management; Homeland Security and Emergency Management; and Community Development.

All members of the core faculty hold Ph.D. degrees and several hold other advanced degrees. The faculty have extensive publication records and are nationally and internationally recognized in their fields. Several have held significant positions in federal, state, and local government as well as in the nonprofit and private sectors. Others have extensive experience with international organizations.

The following pages further outline our philosophy and programs. You will read about our distinguished faculty, our diverse research program and our many contributions to the discipline of public affairs and administration. We welcome your inquiries.

Dr. Meredith Newman
Chair

We live in a time of extraordinary challenge. Issues of economic and governmental crisis, globalization, growing inequality and environmental degradation all serve to remind us of the critical role which government plays in contemporary society. For these, and many other reasons, we invite you to consider joining the Ph.D. Program in Public Affairs.

We take much pride in noting that our 25 year record of placing graduates indicates that they command respect across the nation. In addition, Miami is one of the great “living laboratories” in the United States and it provides a learning environment that supports cutting edge doctoral training. Finally, and perhaps most important, please read about the faculty both here and online at http://pa.fiu.edu. The strength of any Ph.D. program is to be found in the quality of its faculty and we are extraordinarily proud of our faculty.

As Coordinator, I would be happy to discuss how our program fits with your long-term career objectives. Thank you again for your interest in our program.

Dr. Allan Rosenbaum
Ph.D. Program Coordinator
For over 25 years the Department of Public Administration has provided high quality education and mentoring to students seeking careers in academia and senior positions in public and nonprofit management. The Department provides the highest quality instruction in terms of combining theory, practice and methodological skills with a focus on governmental processes within a global environment. As FIU’s highest nationally ranked graduate program, we are proud of our placement record and believe that it speaks volumes both about the quality of the program and FIU’s growing reputation in the United States and abroad.

The mission of the Department of Public Administration, as part of the School of International and Public Affairs at Florida International University, is to advance excellence in teaching, research and service to the community, the nation and the world. Our emphasis is on educating people for positions that require creative problem solving, leadership and management skills.

The growing emphasis on issues of accountability, responsiveness, globalization, homeland security and social equity has created extraordinary challenges for individuals in the public service. The anticipated retirement of an unusually high proportion of civil servants has created excellent opportunities for public administration practitioners. In the end, a nation can be no more successful than its government. Consequently, public administration is both one of the most important careers that a student can choose and is a noble calling. It provides an important opportunity for individuals to change the future through the shaping of public policy.

The Department of Public Administration is organized to meet the needs of full-time students as well as working students by providing flexible and convenient schedules. Courses are offered in the evenings as well as in other locations in the South Florida area. The Department also offers online and web-assisted BPA and MPA courses.

The Department provides its students with a strong sense of community. Class sizes are small enough to provide students with personal attention, while maintaining an outstanding faculty, exemplary resources and able students.
A Gateway to the World

Located in the vibrant and dynamic city of Miami, Florida, FIU provides its students with access to a lively and exciting multicultural environment. The university is located in the Dade-Broward-Palm Beach Counties “Gold Coast,” which is comprised of almost 90 cities of all sizes and socioeconomic status. Miami is a gateway to the world and a major center of banking, commerce and tourism with an internationally acclaimed seaport and airport.

Today, FIU has more than 38,000 students, 1,100 full-time faculty and 150,000 alumni making it the largest university in South Florida and placing in among the 25 largest universities in the country. FIU’s student body is one of the most diverse within the US and around the world. International students in public administration come from Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, China, Eastern Europe and Central Asia among many other places. Our location facilitates the study of almost any urban management issue and is particularly appropriate for the study of comparative developmental issues and international policy.

The U.S. News & World Report annual survey of “America’s Best Colleges” has ranked FIU among the top 100 public universities and the graduate program in public administration among the top 10 percent in the country. FIU is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most distinguished academic honor society, and the university is ranked by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a Doctoral Research University-Extensive, the highest ranking in it’s classification system.

The School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) brings together many of FIU’s internationally oriented disciplines to provide cutting-edge research, first rate teaching, and innovative training necessary for the globalized world of the 21st century. SIPA includes four departments: Public Administration, Politics and International Relations, Global and Sociocultural Studies, and Criminal Justice.
Our Degrees

Ph.D. in Public Affairs

The Doctor of Philosophy in Public Affairs is designed to prepare students for senior level positions in public, non-profit and international organizations or positions in an academic or research setting. The degree provides a sound foundation in current administrative practice in public administration and its cognate disciplines within the fields of public policy and management. Doctoral students will be expected to demonstrate significant research capacity in the discipline through the writing of a dissertation.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Public Affairs is a 69 credit program with seven required courses (21 credits), seven courses within the student’s choice of specialization (21 credits), a comprehensive examination of (3 credits), and dissertation (24 credits). The program is designed to provide the individual student with maximum flexibility to, in consultation with their advisor, design a concentration area which reflects their professional interests. Often these concentration areas involve drawing upon the faculty resources of departments from throughout the university. Thus the concentration areas of current students include such topics as financial management, Latin American admin-
istration, energy policy and criminal justice policy. Successful completion of course work and a passing score on the comprehensive examination are required before students can advance to candidacy for the Ph.D. and present a dissertation proposal. The program is designed to accommodate the needs of both individuals planning to pursue an academic career and senior level professionals in the public service sector.

Master of Public Administration

Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA), the program requires a minimum of 42 credit hours. Students entering the MPA program with a Bachelor of Public Administration from a public university in the State of Florida will be waived from taking six elective credits. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA. Students may specialize in Public Management; Human Resource Policy and Management; Homeland Security and Emergency Management; and Community Development or an outside field.

Joint Degrees

FIU offers two joint degree programs. They are intended to prepare students for the positions in public, private, and nonprofit organizations that require either criminal justice or legal studies focus. Under the joint degree program, a student can obtain both degrees in significantly less time than it would take to obtain both degrees if pursued consecutively.

The MPA/MSCJ Joint Degree is a combination of both a Master of Public Administration (MPA) and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ). The program prepares graduates for overlapping careers in public management and criminal justice. The basic requirement is a minimum of 60 credit hours.

The MPA/JD Joint Degree combines both a Master of Public Administration degree (MPA), awarded by the Department of Public Administration, and a Juris Doctor degree (JD), awarded by the College of Law. The program prepares graduates for jobs in the public sector with a legal focus. The basic requirement is a minimum of 114 credit hours.

Graduate Certificates

The Department offers four Graduate Certificates in Public Management; Human Resource Policy and Management; Homeland Security and Emergency Management; and Community Development. The graduate professional certificate provides students with a thorough understanding of managerial concepts and techniques in each of the substantive areas. The Graduate Certificates are designed particularly for those who are uncertain whether they wish to apply for admission to the MPA program or those who wish some advanced professional certification, but not a complete graduate degree.
Public administration focuses on governmental and nonprofit organizations as well as the formulation and implementation of public policy. The curriculum in public administration includes a core of courses in governmental institutions, policy analysis and planning, finance and budgeting, quantitative analysis, information technology, human resources and leadership. This field is designed for graduates interested in public service careers including federal, state or local government, city management, urban planning, international organizations, nonprofit institutions and government relations work in private firms.

**Major Research Themes**

- Community and Economic Development
- Management of Nonprofit Organizations
- Policy Analysis
- Human Resource Management
- Democratization and Development
- Ethics and Accountability
- Public Finance and Budgeting
- Performance Measurement
- Urban Management
- Leadership Studies
- Organizational Behavior
- Latin American Administration
- State Government and Intergovernmental Relations
- Ethnicity and Nation Building
- Emotional Labor
- Civil Service Reform
- Governmental Innovation

Through internship programs, graduate and undergraduate students can have the opportunity to work individually or in teams with local government officials on projects ranging from budget preparation and program evaluation to personnel classification plans and compensation analysis.

Other opportunities include summer or part-time work and internships with governmental agencies, political parties, public office holders, political campaign staffs, civic organizations, interest groups, voluntary agencies, or involvement in student organizations on campus.
Research and Major Publications

Articles and essays written by individual faculty members have been published in major academic journals in the field, both in the United States and abroad, and have been translated into many different languages for republication. Books and articles written by program faculty range from those that have become standard in the field, to others that have been the recipients of major academic prizes for outstanding scholarly research. Among them are the following.


Many faculty members of FIU’s Department of Public Administration have held senior positions in government and nonprofit organizations. The Department has a strong balance of senior scholars with national and international reputations and up-and-coming junior scholars with superb technical skills and expertise in diverse areas. Further, our faculty is highly interdisciplinary in training, which is conducive to the kind of research and problem-solving needed in today’s complex operating environment.

Core Faculty

Shaoming Cheng (Ph.D., George Mason University) is Assistant Professor of Public Administration. His research focuses on firms’ location strategy and entrepreneurial activities.

Howard Frank (Ph.D., Florida State University) is Professor of Public Administration. He has written extensively in the areas of local government budgeting, budgetary forecasting and performance measurement. He coordinates the Masters of Public Administration Program.

Emel Ganapati (Ph.D., University of Southern California) is Assistant Professor of Public Administration. Her research includes disaster management, citizen participation and international development administration.

Sukumar Ganapati (Ph.D., University of Southern California) is Assistant Professor of Public Administration. His research focuses on institutional development, planning theory, housing policy, community development, role of third sector organizations and GIS applications.
Jean-Claude Garcia-Zamor (Ph.D., New York University) is Professor of Public Administration. He is the author of five books, has edited or coedited six others and contributed numerous articles on issues of development administration, organizational behavior, comparative public administration and ethics.

Hai (David) Guo (Ph.D., Georgia State University and Georgia Institute of Technology) is Assistant Professor of Public Administration. His research interest focuses on state and local public finance, budgeting and performance management.

Milena Neshkova (Ph.D., Indiana University) is Assistant Professor of Public Administration. Her research interests are in political and organizational theories and their applications to public policy and administration.

Meredith A. Newman (Ph.D., Deakin University, Australia) is Professor of Public Administration, Chair of the Department of Public Administration, and a NAPA fellow. She is widely published in the areas of public management, leadership, gender and worklife issues and human resources. Her publications and recent book have won several awards and she will serve as President of the American Society for Public Administration in 2010.

Valerie Patterson (Ph.D., Florida International University) is Clinical Associate Professor of Public Administration. Her research addresses the impact of values on administrative ethics, bureaucratic dysfunction, public-private partnerships, gender consciousness, human resource policy and the impact of hip-hop culture on governance.

Lourdes Rassi (Ph.D., University of Miami) is Clinical Associate Professor of Public Administration. Her research interests are on faith-based organizations and the governance structures of higher education institutions.

Keith Revell (Ph.D., University of Virginia) is Associate Professor of Public Administration. His research interests include urban planning and politics, infrastructure development, legal and institutional change, public sector leadership and political culture. He has won various awards for his work in urban history and serves as coordinator of the Bachelor of Public Administration program.

Allan Rosenbaum (Ph.D., University of Chicago) is Professor of Public Administration, Director, Institute for Public Management and Community Service (IPMCS), and Coordinator of the Ph.D. Program. He has written extensively on issues of decentralization, democracy, economic development, local governance, education policy and civil society. He is currently President of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA) located in Brussels, Belgium.

Jue Wang (Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology) is Assistant Professor of Public Administration. Her research interests include the development of nanotechnology industry, commercialization and entrepreneurial activities.
Patrick Bell holds an MPA from Florida Atlantic University with a concentration in environmental growth management and an MA from George Washington University with a concentration in political management. Experienced in political campaigns during the Clinton Administration, he worked in Washington at the US Treasury Department and the US Defense Department.

Donna Comrie-Caine’s research interests are economic development and urban planning. She earned her MA in International Studies from Roehampton University in London, England. Before coming to FIU, she spent ten years advancing to continually higher-level positions in local schools systems and consulting on issues of educational policy and management.

Zhayda Garzon has an MA in Criminal Justice and has had a wide variety of experience with local government including coordinating homeless programs for the City of Miami Beach Police Department, consulting on substance abuse by women with the Camillus House and collaborating with the State Attorney’s Office Survivor of Violence Program. Her research interests are in economic development and affordable housing.

Liguang Liu received his BS degree in applied mathematics from Liaoning University, China, MBA from Northeastern University, China, and MS in Environmental Policy from Roskilde University, Denmark. His research interests are in environmental and climate change policy, program development and evaluation and applied econometrics.

One of the great strengths of the program is the diversity of the student body. The Ph.D. program is composed almost equally of full time students carrying nine hour per semester course loads and part time students carrying a minimum six hour per semester loads. Our students come from various parts of the United States and from many countries of the world and bring a wide array of experiences to seminars in which there is a high degree of interaction among both students and faculty.
Terry Murphy is the Senior Policy Advisor to the Chair of the Miami-Dade County Government Operations and Environment Committee, having begun his career there in 1988. He has presented conference papers relating to the structure and form of local government and is currently exploring the strategic impact of GIS technology on the field of economic development. He is a University of Iowa graduate and earned an MPA from FIU in 2002.

Gina Scutelnicu has an MA in public service management from Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, where she also taught for three years. At the Regional Center of Professional Training for Civil Servants, Ms. Scutelnicu trained Romanian government administrators in human resource management, municipal asset management and solid waste management.

Heidi Jane Smith’s research interests include local economic development, decentralization, fiscal policy and budget management. Prior to coming to FIU, she served as a public affairs specialist at the Inter-American Foundation, a US agency that supports community-based organizations in Latin America. She earned a Masters in Public Policy from The American University in Washington, DC and a BA in Political Science, Spanish and Latin American Studies from University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Terry Murphy in downtown Coral Gables gathers field research for his dissertation on how local governments can promote entrepreneurial activity by using GIS.

Potential program applicant Jeisson Rodriguez talking with current students Susan Young, Nadine Wedderburn and Heidi Jane Smith.

Zhaya Garzon at work in the PhD student room on her dissertation project looking at local economic development and affordable housing programs in the United States.

Liguang Liu reviewing materials in the FIU library for his dissertation on climate mitigation policy in China.
Public affairs professionals from all areas in the world play an essential role in the life of FIU’s Department of Public Administration. The Department invites research scholars whose interests challenge accepted points of view, who advocate for public policy changes or who have established innovative programs. The Department holds lectures and encourages participation in workshops, seminars, and conferences during each academic year. These special events allow students and faculty to gain greater insight into the inner workings of government and major decision-making institutions in our society. Presentations in the recent visiting distinguished scholar research seminars series for Ph.D. students include a variety of prominent figures.

The University and SIPA also support numerous lecture series, including the Annual Eric E. Williams Memorial Lecture, the Annual Chris Gray Memorial Lecture, and Ruth K and Shepard Broad International Lecture Series. Like all large American universities, FIU provides its students with opportunities to hear visiting lecturers and speakers on an almost daily basis.
Visiting Distinguished Scholar Seminar Series

“Measuring and Tracking Performance: A Case Study of the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission,” Dr. Marilyn Rubin, Professor, CUNY, New York

“Contracting for Complex Products,” Dr. Trevor Brown, Associate Professor, Ohio State University

“Program Design, Problem Characteristics, and the Effectiveness of International Environmental Agreements,” Dr. Evan Ringquist, Professor, Indiana University-Bloomington

“The Enterprise of Public Administration: New Directions for Scholarly Work,” Dr. Michael Brintnall, Executive Director, American Political Science Association, Washington, DC

Other recent lectures by distinguished visitors have included the following.

“Reconsidering Democracy and the Neoconservative Legacy,” Dr. Francis Fukuyama, Bernard L. Schwartz Professor of International Political Economy, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University


“The Second World: Empires and Influence in the New Global Order,” Mr. Parag Khanna, Director, Global Governance Initiative; Senior Research Fellow, New America Foundation

“The Post American World,” Dr. Fareed Zakaria, Editor, Newsweek International and CNN Commentator

“What will the next U.S. President’s foreign policy look like for Latin America?” Dan Restrepo, Director of the Western Hemisphere Affairs for the National Security Council for the Obama Administration

“Crisis and Opportunity in Latin America: A Political Economic Response for the Region,” Marcelo Giugale, World Bank’s Director of Economic Policy and Poverty Reduction for Latin America

“Facing the Financial Crisis: Implications for Local Governments” Amb. Thomas Shannon, Jr. Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State

Dan Restrepo, Senior Policy Advisor for Latin America to President Obama, making a point at a student organized seminar.

Florida Governor. Charlie Christ speaks at Americas Conference.

Dominican Republic President, Leonel Fernandez at Americas Conference.
Community Outreach

Like all large universities, FIU has many centers and institutes located throughout the University with which doctoral students can become affiliated. These include for example, The Metropolitan Center which focuses on local government issues, The Center on Aging, The Latin American and Caribbean Center, The Asian Studies Center and many more such organizations.

Closely associated with FIU’s Department of Public Administration, the Institute for Public Management and Community Service (IPMCS), directed by Public Administration Professor Allan Rosenbaum, works both locally and globally. Created in 1994, the Institute has assisted thousands of public servants through its training activities to be more effective, transparent and responsive.

Local to Global Outreach

From Miami and Brussels to Buenos Aires and Beijing, governments deal with many similar concerns such as improving citizen participation, public-private partnerships, information technology, effective management and the evaluation of public policy. The IPMCS has worked in many ways in these cities and many countries around the world to address such issues in order to produce better policy solutions for governmental institutions.

IPMCS strongly believes that engaging the international community will strengthen the American administrative experience and vice versa. Consequently, through various activities IPMCS promotes mutual learning between a wide array of national and international actors. The Institute organizes events, which are sponsored both by Miami Dade County and the State of Florida, as well as various national and international institutions.

With a unique and strong relationship with Miami-Dade County government officials, the Institute often uses their expertise in regional conferences to share lessons learned with officials from abroad. For example it offers training to local county and city officials in topics such as procurement, ethics and performance measurement. It also has worked with legislative bodies throughout the world in order to build and strengthen their capacity for effective action.
Inter-American Conference of Mayors

Since 1996, IPMCS has worked with Miami-Dade County to organize the Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities, which annually brings more than 500 mayors and city council members from all over Latin America and the Caribbean to Miami.

The Conference, the oldest and largest such event in the Hemisphere, provides a forum for representatives of local, regional and national governments, non-governmental organizations, various international and donor organizations and all those interested in the strengthening of local governments to share experiences, information and practices and to discuss common goals for the promotion of democratic local governance throughout the Hemisphere.

Americas Conference® and Strengthening Democracy in the Hemisphere

A recent project for the State of Florida, “Good Governance and Democracy in the Hemisphere,” involved IPMCS in working with senior government officials in Brazil, Costa Rica, Paraguay and Uruguay. This was followed by the IPMCS partnering with The Miami Herald and the Inter-American Development Bank to plan the Americas Conference® hosted at the historic Biltmore Hotel in Miami, FL. The theme was “New Leadership—New Focus: Good Governance and Economic Development for the Hemisphere”. The Presidents of Dominican Republic and Haiti, the Vice-Presidents of Argentina and Panama, as well as many cabinet ministers and senior government officials participated in this event.

ASPA Conference

The American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) celebrated its 70th anniversary conference in Miami. The Department of Public Administration, IPMCS and the South Florida Chapter of ASPA helped to host the national conference. More than 1,100 international, federal, state and local government officials and employees, scholars, practitioners, new professionals and students came together for training, networking, exchanging ideas and learning about best practices and theory in the field. The theme, “Governance in the Midst of Diversity: Bridging Opportunity & Challenge,” focused on exploring and developing innovative practices for public administration to address the growing diversity of communities like Miami both around the country and throughout the world.
Students with Bachelor’s degrees may apply for the MPA program. Generally, students should have a Master’s degree prior to admission to the Ph.D. program, though outstanding applicants may also be considered with only a baccalaureate. Admission is not restricted to students with prior work in public administration and the program encourages applicants with diverse academic backgrounds. For the Ph.D. program, an applicant is expected to have a GPA of 3.5 or better for all graduate course work and a combined score of at least 1120 on the GRE quantitative and verbal sections, with a minimum of 500 on each of these components. Students whose native language is not English must achieve a minimum of 600 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

Students must also demonstrate knowledge of American political institutions and fundamentals of social research methods. While the admission process is competitive, the Department considers all of the evidence in the application file in making a decision. The Department’s website http://pa.fiu.edu includes a detailed section on the application requirements and advice for each degree program. For questions, call 305.348.1271 or email rosenbau@fiu.edu.

We hope that after learning about us, you will want to include us in what will be one of the most significant experiences of your life.

For more information visit our website at: http://pa.fiu.edu

We encourage students to apply online at: http://gradschool.fiu.edu/admissions.html
The mission of FIU’s PhD program in Public Affairs is to advance the field of public administration, and the related social and behavioral sciences more generally, through the creation of new knowledge and the education and training of its next generation of teachers and scholars. It is also to provide educational opportunities for practitioners in the public, non-profit and private sectors who seek a high level of policy, analytic and governance knowledge and research skills. Finally, through its enrichment of FIU as a knowledge community, it contributes to the enhancement of the University’s capacity to meet the needs of the local, national and international communities for the highest quality of research, teaching and service.