



**“My M.P.A. in Urban Management gave me a cutting edge. When employers compared my resume to others, the degree from St. Mary’s set me apart because my public administration skills applied directly to my job. The networking opportunities helped me get that first job.”**

**– Sandra Kiolbassa-Walsh,  
(M.A. ’93)**

**The Public Administration program at St. Mary’s University trains students to become highly effective and successful public policy leaders or analysts.**

Public Administration graduates are in high demand by local and state government agencies and nonprofit organizations throughout Texas and the Southwest.

A comprehensive curriculum promotes professional excellence and exposes students to classical works and methodologies in the public administration discipline.

These courses are taught by highly respected faculty members and practitioners in urban management and public policy.

**Core Curriculum  
Urban Management**

The Urban Management curriculum focuses on how local governments are administered and managed. Specific courses may include Municipal Law, Urban Economic and Physical Development, Urban Policy and Planning and Urban Political Institutions.

**Public Policy**

The Public Policy curriculum teaches students how local governments, state agencies and nonprofit organizations formulate, implement, analyze and evaluate

public policies. With this foundation, students learn to better examine and understand public problems and policy choices.

Courses address contemporary issues, including managing scarce resources, ethics, leadership and effective service delivery. Specific courses may include Public Budgeting, Policy Formulation and Implementation, Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation.

**Legislative Internship**

The St. Mary’s University Frank L. Madla Jr. and Irma Rangel Legislative Internship Program places graduate students as full-time, unpaid legislative staff for a Texas State Representative or Texas State Senator.

In this competitive internship, students earn academic credit while studying the Texas Constitution, the

Rules of the Texas House of Representatives and Senate, researching and drafting legislation, analyzing policies and proposed bills, interacting with constituents, and following the legislative process. The internship takes place during the Spring semesters of odd-numbered years that coincide with the regular session of the Texas Legislature in Austin, Texas.

**On-site Learning**

An on-site graduate seminar special topics course and a directed readings course covering policy areas tied to the State are also available during the internship. These two optional courses allow students in the legislative internship to complete nine to 12 graduate credit hours while participating in the program in Austin.

[www.stmarytx.edu/grad](http://www.stmarytx.edu/grad)

**Career Opportunities**

The master’s in Public Administration trains students to succeed in many public administration careers. In addition to learning from faculty from a wide variety of disciplines, the individualized nature of the program allows students to develop skills in areas which will best enhance their career expectations. Graduates have pursued a wide range of careers, including:

- City Manager
- Urban Planner
- Policy Analyst
- Legislative Assistant
- Budget Director
- Public Works and Utilities Manager
- Head of a Federal, State or Nonprofit Agency



Mark Reyna (B.A. ’10) and Legislative Intern Program Adjunct Professor David Courreges (M.P.A./J.D. ’05) at the Texas Capitol in Austin

**Course Requirements**

The Master of Public Administration is a non-thesis, 30-credit hour program.

<b>Course</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<b>Core Courses</b>	<b>18</b>
Quantitative Research Methods in Public Administration	3
Public Administration and Management	3
Public Policy and Formulation	3
Leadership and Organizational Culture	3
Ethics and the Public Sector	3
The Management of Public Budgets	3
<b>Internship</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>(Students take electives from their respective track.)</i>	
<b>Urban Management Track Electives</b>	<b>6</b>
Human Resources	3
Urban Planning	3
Urban Political Institutions and Processes	3
Municipal Law	3
<b>Public Policy Track Electives</b>	<b>6</b>
Human Resources	3
Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations	3
Public Policy Analysis	3
Program Evaluation	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

## Faculty

### Alex Briseño

Professor of Public Service in Residence  
Retired City Manager, City of San Antonio  
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### Monica Cruz

Adjunct Professor of Public Policy and Planning and Texas Politics  
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### Henry Flores, Ph.D.

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### Frank Garza, J.D.

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### Steven Neiheisel, Ph.D.

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### Arturo Vega, Ph.D.

Graduate Program Director  
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## MISSION

St. Mary's University,  
as a Catholic Marianist University,  
fosters the formation of people in faith  
and educates leaders for the common good  
through community,  
integrated liberal arts and professional education,  
and academic excellence.



ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



Graduate School  
Graduate Public Administration Program

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A Catholic and Marianist Liberal Arts Institution



MASTER OF ARTS IN  
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

URBAN MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS