

Course Information

In the Master of Public Policy (MPP) Program, students develop a comprehensive understanding that enables them to collaborate with senior policy leaders from government, business and the community to address issues in a practical and empirical manner. To fulfil the requirements of the MPP degree, the students must complete a Capstone paper, which is an academically sound, professional-quality paper focused on a public policy issue. The MPP capstone project demonstrates the ability of the student to integrate and apply the knowledge gained across the courses in the program to a particular policy problem or issue. The project provides an opportunity to extend knowledge and understanding within the area of focus of the capstone project, and it exhibits to potential employers the achievement of the student's high level of competence and professional practice.

Capstone Course Timeline

The Capstone course follows a 1-year timeline, beginning in the Fall term (September) of the academic year and ending the following September.

The students work closely with a faculty supervisor in the development of their capstone project. Project ideas may originate from the students themselves, from School of Public Policy (SPP) faculty members, or from selected external organizations including The City of Calgary. As a City practitioner you have the opportunity to bring your idea and pitch it to the students in the Fall. If a student decides to take on your proposal for their capstone project, they will work with you and a faculty supervisor to develop a full proposal and complete their project over the next several months. Your involvement in this process is essential and will help ensure a satisfactory outcome for you and the MPP student.

September	Capstone information session.
October/November	List of proposed projects from SPP faculty members circulated to students. Potential collaborators from external organizations are invited to pitch their proposals to the students. Students start contacting potential supervisors and external collaborators.
February	Student's draft capstone proposal due to supervisor February 28.
May	Capstone research and writing begins.
July	Full draft of paper due to supervisor July 15.
September	Final version of capstone project, approved by supervisor, submitted by September 15. Collaborators will receive a copy of the final paper and be asked to attend student presentations.