WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PHD IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS?

• Join the faculty of a college or university
• Conduct research at nonprofit think tanks
• Lead research programs at federal and state government agencies
• Join private consulting firms working to solve societal problems
• Produce the evidence needed to create effective public policies and thriving communities

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Public Affairs program at the Humphrey School will prepare you for a career at the cutting edge of public affairs research.

Our graduates have established successful careers at prestigious universities and innovative public, nonprofit, and private-sector institutions. They discover, analyze, and address pressing issues to make the world better.

SPECIALIZATIONS:

• Public policy
• Urban planning
• Management and governance
• Science, technology, and environmental policy

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities is a large, top 10 U.S. public research university that provides ample opportunities for engaged scholarship and collaboration with students in many fields of study.

All PhD students present research at national conferences and can network with their peers who are engaged in scholarship that is redefining the meaning of public affairs.

An advanced degree in public policy gives students the tools to analyze why and how important decisions are made, and how to effect change. Our students engage with equity issues directly through their specialization.

MAKE YOUR MARK.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

LOCATION

Research & Networking

Engagement
OUR IDEAL CANDIDATES

- Are eager to be on the frontier of public affairs research
- Have a strong interest in one of our faculty areas of expertise, such as transportation, sustainable development, governance, or income inequality
- Have a passion for equity and a desire to advance the common good in our diverse world
- Want to improve their critical thinking skills
- Are ready to make their mark

The Humphrey School welcomes candidates from all fields and all backgrounds. Successful applicants will be clear about the research they wish to undertake and why they think the Humphrey School is the best place to do that research. The successful applicant can articulate a research focus that closely aligns with one of our faculty members. Admission is limited to full-time students.

YOU WILL LEARN

- To identify and address research questions about pressing global issues
- How to conduct rigorous quantitative and qualitative research
- The communication skills to advance your research project

THE CURRICULUM

- Two integrative seminars (6 credits)
- Research design seminar (3 credits)
- Seminar on current research in public affairs (3 credits)
- Research methods courses appropriate to the dissertation research (12 credits)
- Specialization (up to 18 credits)
- Thesis (24 credits)

FUNDING AND SUPPORT

Every Humphrey School PhD student receives strong faculty advising and financial support. Accepted students automatically receive at least four years of financial aid in the form of tuition benefits, stipends, research or teaching assistantships, or partnerships with research collaborators.

For More Information:
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