



Master of Public Administration in Global Leadership (MPA-GL)

Designed for accomplished policy practitioners, managers in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, and other professionals with at least 10 years of progressively senior experience, the MPA-GL is an immersive 10-month mid-career master's program conducted in person at the Columbia University campus in New York City.

The learning experience is unique for each student—you'll enjoy flexibility to design 75 percent of your curriculum, in consultation with the program adviser, assistant dean, and relevant faculty before choosing among 400 courses so that you can tailor the program to your individual needs.

The MPA-GL core curriculum will cover global challenges and innovative approaches to tackling them while also building your leadership skills and your capacity for critical analysis, strategic decision-making, and diplomacy.

Outside of the classroom, you'll have the opportunity to attend School-wide seminars, closed-door roundtables and workshops, and engage in off-site experiential learning opportunities, where you'll meet and learn from leaders of major global institutions.



“For talented professionals who are ready to take on the world’s most pressing challenges, SIPA provides the education they can’t get within their own organizations—the knowledge, the skills, and the connections to make an impact at the highest level. To do that while experiencing the singular environment of New York City is a truly unique opportunity.”

Keren Yarhi-Milo, Dean, Columbia SIPA

Program Length: 10 months
Degree Awarded: MPA

Curriculum

The MPA-GL’s customizable curriculum will help you achieve your professional goals. You’ll receive personalized advising and leadership coaching to help align your coursework with your career objectives and personal interests.

Summer Program

A six-week (6-credit) immersion includes private sessions with SIPA faculty as well as cohort-building activities.

Fall and Spring Semesters

You’re required to complete at least 14 credits in both the fall and spring semesters. In addition, you’ll be able to take courses from across the University, including Columbia’s business, law, and climate schools.

You’ll also be part of a 2-credit policy leadership workshop each semester that will introduce you to global leaders in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.



The Columbia SIPA Advantage

Customize a curriculum that aligns with your passions.

Interact with Columbia's distinguished faculty and visiting global leaders.

Join a diverse cohort of highly accomplished professionals and build lifelong professional relationships.

Go beyond the classroom and take advantage of New York's career and cultural opportunities.

Join Columbia University's global network of nearly 400,000 alumni who are shaping the future in every discipline and sector.

Application documents

All materials must be submitted in English through the online application portal at apply.sipa.columbia.edu/apply.

Essay Questions

Video Essay

Professional Resume/CV

Letters of Recommendation (2)

Academic Transcripts

Interview (invitation only)

Application Fee: \$95 USD (non-refundable)

GRE/GMAT Test Scores (Optional)

GRE school code: 2161 (no department code)

GMAT school code: QF8-64-56 for MIA or QF8-64-99 for all MPA programs

TOEFL/IELTS (If Applicable)

Required if your native language is not English or if your undergraduate degree was not taught in English.

Optional Fellowship Essays



"The MPA in Global Leadership helped me strengthen my understanding of global policy challenges and gain skills for my leadership position."

Lucía Suárez MPA-GL '25

COLUMBIA SIPA MPA-GL AT A GLANCE



25k+

SIPA'S GLOBAL ALUMNI NETWORK



10

YEARS OF WORK EXPERIENCE ON AVERAGE OF MPA-GL STUDENTS



31

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED IN MPA-GL COHORTS TO DATE



CAREER OUTCOMES BY SECTOR

1/3 private sector

1/3 public sector

1/3 nonprofit sector

QUESTIONS?

sipa.columbia.edu
mpagl@sipa.columbia.edu
(212) 854-9746



For more information about the program, scan the code.

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MPA in Global Leadership

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