London School of Economics and Political Science
MPA Dual Degree

Spending your 2nd Year at the LSE School of Public Policy in 2022/23
Life at LSE

London School of Economics and Political Science

• Founded in 1895
• Dedicated to the social sciences
• Around 12,000 students from over 140 countries
• Over 100 languages spoken on campus
• Over 200 public events each year
Central London Location

LSE Campus

[Map showing London's central location with key points and landmarks]
Living in London

A diverse, historic and cosmopolitan world city
Our home – LSE Centre Building
MPA facts and figures

- Started in 2003 with 18 students
- More than 1,000 alumni worldwide
- In 2021/22, MPA students come from over 30 different countries
- Average age of 26.5
  - 63% women, 37% men
- 250 full-time SPP students in 2021/22
Our Dual Degree Partners

• Students will join the MPA Dual Degree at LSE from:
  ▪ Sciences Po in Paris
  ▪ The Hertie School in Berlin
  ▪ SIPA, Columbia University in New York
  ▪ Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore
  ▪ GraSPP at the University of Tokyo

• Between 10 and 15 students join the MPA Dual Degree at LSE each year
MPA dual degree curriculum

- All second year MPA students at LSE take four units of courses in each year.
- Courses are either:
  - one unit, which last all year (two terms’ teaching)
  - 0.5 units, which last for one term
- Language courses cannot be taken as part of the MPA but are available as extra-curricular courses for a subsidised fee.
MPA Dual Degree Curriculum

MPA Capstone
(1.0 unit)

1.0 unit of option courses
(one full unit or two half-units)

MPA Dual Degree

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MPA foundations

• LSE first year students will have studied:
  ▪ Micro and Macroeconomics for Public Policy
  ▪ Quantitative Approaches and Policy Analysis
  ▪ Political Science for Public Policy

• Your classmates will have strong methodological and technical foundations and will apply these in Year 2

• You may be able to take some of the above courses as options
MPA Capstone

• Group working experience (4-5 students per group)
• Researching and resolving a real public policy issue for the client
• Projects are sourced by LSE and introduced at the start of Year 2. Students submit preferences and are allocated to projects.
• The Capstone runs from October to March alongside the taught courses and groups manage their own workload with the support of their Capstone supervisor (a member of LSE faculty)
• Wide range of clients in both the public and private sectors including government departments, international organisations and NGOs
Capstone Clients

Some of our recent Capstone clients include:

1. OECD
2. European Investment Bank Institute
3. Findexter
4. Joint SDG Fund
5. Plan International
6. City of Cape Town Isixeko Sasekapa Stad Kaapstad
7. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
8. Unilever
Option courses (electives)

- The School of Public Policy offers a range of option courses. Most are listed [here](#).
- A small number of further option courses are available to Year 2 students who have appropriate prior experience.
- School of Public Policy students are given priority on SPP courses.
- Courses may be suspended due to research leave and places on all courses are subject to capacity and scheduling constraints.
Courses at LSE

• SPP students can also request to take courses outside of the School of Public Policy, although pre-requisites may apply for some courses.

• Details of all graduate level courses offered by LSE can be found in the Graduate Course guides (2022/23 information will be available in summer 2022).

• Please note that courses belonging to Executive programmes (six character course codes ending with ‘E’) are not available to full-time students.
Academic support

• Academic Mentor: first point of contact for academic issues, can also sign-post you to sources of support

• Office hours: all academic staff at LSE hold weekly office hours that any student may attend

• LSE LIFE: study support, including training sessions for students

• LSE Language Centre: free English language support during your studies plus subsidised classes in additional languages

• LSE Library: the world's largest library devoted exclusively to the social sciences
Completing the Dual Degree

- You must meet the progression requirements of your first year school to be able to join LSE for Year 2.

- On successful completion of Year 2 at LSE, Dual Degree students will be awarded: ‘MPA Dual Degree (LSE & [your first year school])’

- LSE results are published in mid-July. Graduation is in the second half of July.
School of Public Policy activity

• Policy in Practice Seminar Series and public events
• Professional Skills for Public Policy programme
• Dedicated social and study areas, reserved for SPP students
• Association of Public Policy Students (APPS) – organises social events, networking and fundraising activities
• *The Public Sphere* – journal edited by SPP students
• SPP Womxn’s Network – provides further networking and mentoring opportunities, events and social activities (open to all students)
LSE Careers

- Fairs, presentations, skills sessions, panels, opportunities to meet recruiters
- Thematic events, including consultancy and international organisations
- Vacancies board through CareerHub
- Volunteering opportunities
- Entrepreneurship – LSE Generate

LSE Careers website
https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/careers

Sector information, application and interview advice, blog, career builder
Enhanced Careers and Alumni Support

- Reserved one-to-one appointments with the SPP Careers Consultant for SPP students
- Weekly SPP Careers Newsletter
- SPP Career Networking Evening
- Themed alumni panels
- Opportunities to share experiences with fellow students
After the MPA

• LSE Careers collects data on graduate destinations which is available on-line

• Visit the SPP website for profiles of some of our graduates

• Unfortunately the MPA Dual Degree does not currently qualify for the UK Graduate Route visa
Fees and Funding

• Fees & Expenses
  ▪ Tuition fees for 2022/23 are £26,383
  ▪ Estimated living expenses: £1,300/month, plus £1,000 for one-off expenses

• Funding
  • Guaranteed MPA Dual Degree Scholarship from LSE’s Graduate Support Scheme of ~£6,000

October 2021
£1 (UK) ≈ $1.38 ≈ €1.19 ≈ S$1. 85 ≈ JPY157.05
Practical Information

- Guaranteed single accommodation in LSE housing if you have not previously lived in LSE accommodation before
- Use of UK National Health Service (NHS surcharge applies during visa application process)
- Term dates (three terms of 11, 11 and 7 weeks)
  - Michaelmas Term: late September to mid-December (11 weeks)
  - Lent Term: early January to late March/early April (11 weeks)
  - Summer Term: early May to mid-June (7 weeks) (mostly exams and Professional Skills for Public Policy programme)
How to Apply

• Applications are made through your current school
• The team at your first year school will advise you what you need to provide. This may include:
  ▪ an application statement (particular to LSE)
  ▪ an up to date CV/resumé
  ▪ any additional references / documents that refer to skills or experience gained since you applied to your current school
  ▪ Application deadline to be advised by your current school
What are the Selectors looking for?

- An awareness of the content and focuses of the LSE MPA programme, and a clear interest in them
- A well-written statement of application that shows how the LSE MPA will help you to achieve your career goals
- A demonstration of how any previous academic and professional experience will enable you to contribute to the LSE MPA community
- Applications that focus on areas of study different from those featured in the LSE MPA are less likely to be successful
If you receive an offer...

- It will be conditional on LSE receiving confirmation that you have fulfilled your first year requirements and are eligible to progress to the Dual Degree.
- You may need to take an English language test (if required, this will be confirmed in your offer letter).
- If you require a student visa to come to LSE, you will not be able to begin the visa application process until you hold an unconditional offer.
- LSE’s [International Student Visa Advice Team's](#) webpages contain further information on the visa process.
Your questions

You are also very welcome to contact us at

mpa@lse.ac.uk