Scholarships available for competitive applicants

Master of Public Policy in Digital Society

The Master of Public Policy in Digital Society is a 12-month online program that trains prospective policy leaders to navigate the rapidly changing dynamics of the technological landscape. It offers students the knowledge and skills necessary to grapple with the complex social, political, and economic issues that have accompanied the digital age.

By leveraging their training as both policymakers and technologists, graduates of the program will be expected to lead interdisciplinary teams in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. They will be able to draw on a combination of theoretical knowledge, subject matter expertise, and technical skill to devise innovative solutions to some of the most pressing challenges associated with emergent digital technologies.

For more information:
publicpolicy.mcmaster.ca

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About the Program

- A blend of seminar-based instruction and skills development labs designed to develop a mastery of public policy along with critical digital competencies in areas such as programming, data science, and product development;

- A pioneering co-teaching model which pairs reputed academics with accomplished practitioners to provide students with both a scholarly and professional perspective on complex policy issues;

- A 12-month program distributed across three consecutive terms running from May to April to accelerate time to graduation;

- Small class sizes, and an outstanding instructor-to-student ratio;

- Multidisciplinary faculty from fields including public policy, political science, economics, law, and communication studies;

- An advisory board comprised of leaders in government, industry, academia, media, and non-profit organizations;

- Exclusive opportunities to engage with policy leaders from around the world;

- An optional co-op stream for students wanting practical work experience that builds on their degree.

As a graduate, you should expect to leverage the program's interdisciplinary training as both a policymaker and technologist to bridge gaps within the public, private, and community sectors.

Classes begin in May.
Review of applications will begin in late January. For details on the program and how to apply, visit: publicpolicy.mcmaster.ca.

The MPP program is offered online. Optional in-person learning experiences may be made available throughout the year.

"I've spent my life advocating for a safer and healthier internet. This program -- and the students who are a part of it -- are so needed right now."

Mark Surman, Executive Director, Mozilla Foundation

"I entered the program with the goal of becoming a Policy Analyst and the resources, knowledge, and support from the faculty helped me achieve it."

Garrett Myles '24, Policy Analyst, Public Service Commission, Alberta Public Service

"The experience shared by policy practitioners in our courses and skills labs, highlighting the digital aspects of different policy-making categories, is what makes the MPP-DS program unique. As an immigrant to Canada, the support from my McMaster MPP-DS family has made a big difference in my career and life."

Sanchita Rajvanshi '23, Senior Policy Advisor, Digital and Data Policy, Strategic Policy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement

"The networks I was able to create through the program – whether it be via courses, fireside chats, events, or work opportunities, are ones I leverage today in my current role."

Alicia Demanuele '22, Policy Researcher, Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society (University of Toronto)

"The innovation and relevance of the program is the key to our success. The combination of theoretical knowledge, subject matter expertise, and technical skill to devise and implement original solutions to some of the most pressing challenges of the digital age has made our students very employable and in high demand."

Greg Flynn, Assistant Professor and Academic Director, Master of Public Policy Program

For more information please contact:

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Social Sciences
Master of Public Policy in Digital Society

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