Every aspect of the Carolina MPA program is designed to prepare you for leadership—the robust curriculum, emphasis on collaboration, practical work experience, and interaction with expert faculty and public professionals. When you graduate, you will be prepared to make a difference in your community and beyond.

Carolina’s MPA program is designed to help students reach their leadership potential with rigorous academic study combined with practical experience. In every course, no matter the subject area, the focus is on leadership.

There is a great need in the world of public service for individuals who will take on leadership roles, find innovative as well as pragmatic solutions, and inspire others to create lasting and positive change in their organizations and communities. Our graduates attain leadership positions in every level of government and in organizations that support the public interest.

If you are eager to tackle the challenges that will define our communities and our world going forward, join us at Carolina MPA.

THE WORLD NEEDS YOU. YOU NEED CAROLINA MPA.

Preparing leaders who think strategically, act with integrity, and serve with commitment
SHAPE YOUR COMMUNITY.

Nick Dula ‘08
Downtown Economic Development Director and Main Street Manager
City of Lenoir, North Carolina
www.cityoflenoir.com

When Nick Dula left his hometown of Lenoir for UNC-Chapel Hill in 2001, he could see the start of the economic devastation that would result from the offshoring of thousands of jobs in this once-thriving furniture manufacturing town. As an undergraduate majoring in economics and public policy, he was exposed to the concepts of economic and community development. Through subsequent work experiences, he saw the impact that local government could have on communities, and he decided to return to UNC for graduate school. Just five years after receiving his MPA degree, Nick is helping to revitalize his hometown.

“We’re still in a tough spot in Lenoir, but now I have the tools and knowledge to help remedy the problems. That was our charge at graduation: go and do some good with these skills.”
Jennifer Christian ‘03
Special Assistant
NeighborWorks America, Washington, DC
www.nw.org

Jennifer Christian worked on housing projects in central Appalachia during high school, each summer through college, and for five years after graduating. She had a passion to help others and saw the possibility of a career. In order to be most effective and have the greatest impact, she decided to earn an MPA. Now Jennifer helps create strong and sustainable governing boards nationwide that work to improve the lives of low-income families.

“The Carolina MPA program emphasized all of the skills that are critical to my daily work as I manage complex, team-focused projects and a budget of close to $70 million.”

Charles Perusse ‘92
Chief Operating Officer
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
www.northcarolina.edu

Charlie Perusse’s career path started to take shape during an internship with the Wake County, North Carolina, budget office. He saw firsthand that all government services require sufficient financial resources in order to be successful. From fiscal analyst to state budget director to COO of the 17-campus UNC system, he has applied his interest in analytics, as well as his communication and critical thinking skills, to bring complex projects to fruition.

“Work truly isn’t work if you’re passionate about what you’re doing. The main reason that each of us gets into public service is to improve people’s lives.”

ACT ON YOUR PASSION FOR SERVICE.
Both students and alumni benefit from the extraordinary level of Carolina MPA alumni engagement. Alumni participate in our application and recruitment process, mentor student interns, and help us maintain a high job placement rate. Additionally, alumni and faculty members often stay connected to each other throughout their careers.

"At Carolina MPA, you have a broad support network that wants you to succeed, to find a good job, to experience a meaningful career, and to make a real difference in our communities and in the world. When I look back at critical points in my career, in nearly every instance an MPA connection—faculty, staff, or fellow alumni—made the difference."

Chris Morrill ’85
City Manager
City of Roanoke, Virginia
www.roanokeva.gov
President, Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada
When Mary Blake was deciding on a graduate program, she knew one thing for sure: she would never tire of work related to the arts. In the Carolina MPA program, she honed the leadership skills that would allow her to work in an art-filled environment while contributing to her community. In her current role, she helps to support a museum that offers free admission to the public and award-winning education programs for students.

Mary Blake ’98
Manager of Board Relations
North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina
www.ncartmuseum.org

“I use the principles of leadership that I learned in the MPA program in my work with top community leaders from around the state who serve on the museum’s boards.”

Today’s public leaders must be effective collaborators, working in partnership with organizations across jurisdictional and sectoral boundaries. No matter where you choose to serve, a Carolina MPA education will not only prepare you to lead, but will equip you to do the work you dream of, in service to others and your community.

ALUMNI BY SECTOR

LOCAL GOVERNMENT 25%
PRIVATE COMPANIES 23%
STATE AGENCIES 17%
OTHER 15%
NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS 11%
FEDERAL AGENCIES 9%
Professor Maureen Berner is drawing attention to a growing national issue by creating an accurate picture of hunger in North Carolina. She is documenting and evaluating the prevalence of food insecurity across the state. Since 2008, with the assistance of many MPA students and photojournalist Donn Young, she has tracked the local nonprofit food assistance that is largely invisible in the world of government statistics. Think of the pantry in a local church basement or the volunteer-led Meals on Wheels program. Students gather and evaluate the data that Berner presents to local governments, the media, and policymakers. Berner works with nonprofits, food banks, local governments, and state agencies on improving food assistance programs.

“I could not sustain this vital research without the assistance of many talented MPA students. Their work helps to make sure that the issue is well-documented.”

—Maureen Berner, Professor of Public Administration and Government

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—Maureen Berner, Professor of Public Administration and Government

School of Goverment faculty teach and advise 12,000+ public officials each year and bring that practical experience into the classroom every day.

44 semester hours • On-campus: 2 years • Online: 5–8 terms

CORE CLASSES ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF PUBLIC MANAGEMENT

• Elective courses from your field of interest
• Management internship to demonstrate leadership
• Portfolio exhibiting your development
• Comprehensive oral exam

For more information, visit www.mpa.unc.edu.
Whether you pursue your MPA degree on campus or online, you will be a Tar Heel, with all the pride of academics and athletics that identity carries. Students experience small classes with expert faculty and the resources of a large, nationally acclaimed university.

ACADEMIC RESOURCES
- 22 libraries comprise the UNC-Chapel Hill library system, many of which are discipline-specific
- Elective courses available for on-campus students from other UNC departments and at Duke, North Carolina State, North Carolina Central, and UNC-Greensboro
- On-campus students may seek dual degrees with law, planning, information/library science, and social work

FINANCIAL AID, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND FELLOWSHIPS
The MPA program provides financial assistance to many of its students. In addition, research assistantships, scholarships, and fellowships are available for top on-campus candidates. Online students may be considered for MPA@UNC fellowships.

EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES
UNC-Chapel Hill offers an abundance of social, cultural, and educational opportunities that includes more than 600 student organizations and a world-class performing arts center.
- Fierce competitors in 28 NCAA Division I sports within the Atlantic Coast Conference
- Intramural opportunities on campus include more than 60 team and individual sports