Master of Public Policy

Build evidence-based skills. Lead measurable social impact.
The University of Chicago
A community of scholars committed to free and open inquiry.

One of the world’s great intellectual destinations, the University of Chicago empowers individuals to ask tough questions, cross disciplinary boundaries, and challenge conventional thinking to enrich human life.

UChicago’s diverse and creative students and alumni drive innovation, lead international conversations, and make masterpieces. Alumni and faculty go on to become Nobel laureates, CEOs, university presidents, attorneys general, literary giants, and astronauts.

“The University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy has a long tradition of training leaders to use evidence and clear thinking to wrestle with the world’s most complicated problems. That toolkit enables them to make a real impact in the world.”

KATHERINE BAICKER
Dean and Emmett Dedmon Professor
Harris School of Public Policy,
The University of Chicago
Why Harris Public Policy?
As a student here, combining a strong foundation in data analysis with hands-on engagement in Chicago and beyond, you’ll investigate the world’s problems— with a view to solving them.

Combine a strong foundation in data analytics with elective options across UChicago to make a measurable difference in addressing the most challenging social problems.

Our renowned faculty spearhead innovative policy research, investigate solutions to prevent police misconduct, stop lead poisoning in children, and reveal why nations fail. You’ll learn the latest methods for modeling and analysis of enduring challenges.

“My Harris policy degree and training, particularly the quantitative focus, gave me a tremendous amount of flexibility to pursue different areas. That skillset made me very attractive to employers, and I was ultimately hired to do urban planning because of my rigorous, interdisciplinary preparation at Harris and the fact that I understood data.”

KIMBERLY DRIGGINS, MPP’95
Executive Director,
Washington Housing Conservancy
Harris School of Public Policy
2020–21 Incoming Class Profile

STUDENTS

577
56% women
44% men

total students

UNDER-REPRESENTED MINORITY STUDENTS

22%

U.S. incoming

GLOBAL REPRESENTATION

36
38
39

U.S. states
languages
countries

51%*
50%*

U.S. students
international students

U.S. REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

44%
22%
17%
17%

Midwest
South
Northeast
West

EDUCATION

14%

already hold advanced degrees

YEARS OF WORK EXPERIENCE*

40%
29%
30%

0–1 years
2–4 years
5+ years

All data is accurate as of October 14, 2020. The number of students reflects the expected total enrollment.
*Due to rounding, numbers do not add up to 100%.
Take the core and more — personalize your path.

In the two-year Master of Public Policy degree, core courses in the first two quarters provide an invaluable foundation for applying learnings throughout your career. You can begin selecting electives from both Harris and divisions across the University in the spring quarter of your first year.

Harris’ core curriculum equips you with a range of methods and theories to analyze problems effectively. You’ll gain the critical thinking and rigorous, interdisciplinary analytical skills to cross sectors and lead measurable impact throughout your career.

Hone your expertise in your preferred policy area through elective courses at Harris and across the University, including the Booth School of Business, the Law School, and the Division of the Social Sciences.

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<tr>
<th>FIRST YEAR — Core Curriculum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUTUMN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microeconomics I</td>
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<td>Statistics I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analytical Politics I</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>SECOND YEAR — Nine Elective Courses</th>
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<tr>
<td>AUTUMN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sample courses could include:*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Order and Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conflict: Root Causes,</td>
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<td>Consequences, and Solutions</td>
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<td>for the Future</td>
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<td>Hydropolitics</td>
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*Available elective courses are subject to change each year.

See all Harris programs: harris.uchicago.edu/academics
Customize your experience.

Join a diverse community of students from around the globe who will challenge and champion you.

At Harris, you can participate in more than 20 student organizations, from the Asian Policy Forum to Women in Public Policy. Harris Student Organizations are another outlet to make connections, put policy into practice, and develop and refine your leadership, teamwork, and project management skills.

Asian Policy Forum
Behavioral Economics in Public Policy
Committee on Muslims in Public Policy
Education Policy Student Association
Global Affairs and Public Policy
Harris Community Action
Harris Consulting Club
Harris Energy and Environment Association
Harris Student Government (the official student government organization of Harris)
Innovators in Social Policy
Inter-Policy School Summit
Latin America(n) Matters
Minorities in Public Policy Studies
OutPolitik
Urban Policy Student Association
Women in Public Policy

11 Certificates at Harris

DATA
ANALYTICS
STEM Eligible

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL

FINANCE & POLICY

GLOBAL
CONFLICT STUDIES

HEALTH
POLICY

INTERNATIONAL
POLICY & DEVELOPMENT

MARKETS & REGULATION

MUNICIPAL
FINANCE

POLICY
ANALYSIS

POLITICAL
CAMPAIGNS

SURVEY
RESEARCH

Explore all Harris certificates: harris.uchicago.edu/certificates

*The Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy (GPHAP) offers additional certificates.
Learn alongside policy innovation leaders.

Harris faculty work at the frontiers of policymaking, asking tough questions to fearlessly address the world’s most complex challenges.

**Ariel Kalil**
- Professor, Harris School of Public Policy
- Director, Center for Human Potential and Public Policy
- Co-director, Behavioral Insights and Parenting (BIP) Lab

Using tools drawn from behavioral economics and neuroscience, Kalil leads a variety of field experiments designed to strengthen parental engagement and child development in underresourced families.

**James Robinson**
- The Reverend Dr. Richard L. Pearson Professor of Global Conflict and University Professor
- Institute Director, The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts

Robinson, co-author of *The Narrow Corridor* (2019) and *Why Nations Fail* (2012), uses insights from game theory and global history to explore the underlying relationship between poverty and the institutions of a society and how institutions emerge from political conflicts.

“After taking Statistics II with Professor Austin Wright, I wanted to contribute to his research and gain experience in applying economic tools in the real world. Professor Wright was happy to have me assist him as the lead teaching fellow for the International Policy Action Lab.”

GEET CHAWLA, MPP’21

Learn more: harris.uchicago.edu/directory/expert-guide
The Harris Experience

Engage with an active community of fellow students. Gain access to influential leaders working across the policy spectrum in private, public, and nonprofit organizations.

When you join Harris, you join an alumni network that’s passionate about making a measurable social impact in their local communities and around the world.

Real-World Preparation

As an open data city, Chicago affords opportunities for Master of Public Policy students to engage with real data sets that can be used to create a measurable impact in policy innovation.

Mentor Program

Harris mentors call on their experience to help students connect academic training with practical opportunities to navigate their transition to professional careers.

harrs.uchicago.edu/mentorprogram

Policy Labs

Harris Policy Labs is a unique initiative where teams of second-year students apply their rigorous core education to real-time public policy challenges faced by client organizations. Students who complete the program hold a competitive advantage in the job market.

harrs.uchicago.edu/harrispolicylabs

Leadership Credential

Through completion of the Leadership Credential, Harris students build transferable skills: self-awareness, professional adaptability, project and program management aptitude, and communications expertise.

harrs.uchicago.edu/leadership-credential

Centers and Institutes

Our research centers and institutes serve as catalysts for research and engagement with the policy community around the world. Harris also supports other partnerships and initiatives, and is home to the University of Chicago Urban Labs.

harrs.uchicago.edu/research-impact/centers-institutes
Harris is committed to fostering a community that engages students, faculty, and staff from a wide range of backgrounds and welcomes diverse perspectives.

Truly and thoroughly exploring policy issues requires the involvement and understanding of diverse viewpoints, experiences, and traditions including but not limited to: race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, religion, socio-economic background, and social or political belief.

Consistent with the University of Chicago’s commitment to free expression, the Harris community consists of numerous students, faculty, and staff involved in organizations that work to encourage inclusion. Some organizations that have special roles in promoting inclusion at Harris are:

- The Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board
- Asian Policy Forum
- Women in Public Policy
- Black Action in Public Policy Studies
- Minorities in Public Policy Studies
- Latin America(n) Matters
- OutPolitik
- Harris Talks
- The Student Diversity and Programming Group

Read more about Harris’ Diversity and Inclusion initiatives: harris.uchicago.edu/about/diversity-inclusion
Your career trajectory takes off here.

**Harris Career Development Office**
The versatility of the Harris MPP degree means a wealth of career options. Whether it’s your first job or your next role, whether you’re looking to advance in your current organization or pivot to a new field, the Harris Career Development Office can help.

**Careers**
Harris graduates lead successful careers across sectors, throughout the United States, and around the globe. To help students and alumni refine their professional skills and search for career opportunities, the Harris Career Development Office provides many resources, including:

- Individual career counseling
- Workshops
- Employer information sessions
- On-campus and virtual recruiting events
- Employment database
- Internship support

**Alumni Network**
When you graduate from Harris, you join a lifelong network of more than 180,000 UChicago alumni and over 4,000 Harris alumni. Your new network is making a measurable impact in communities across the globe. Alumni serve as mentors to students and hire recent graduates in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

**SELECTED EMPLOYER LIST**

*Lily*  
*manatt*  
*World Resources Institute*  
*The Chicago Community Trust*  
*UNDP*  
*Deloitte*

Read the 2020 Career Outcomes Report and see the full employer list: [harris.uchicago.edu/CareerOutcomes](http://harris.uchicago.edu/CareerOutcomes)

“I continue to really appreciate the warm relationships I’ve built through Harris. My classmates came to my wedding in India six years after I graduated. I’m impressed by the breadth and depth of the careers of my classmates and value them in my network.”

**GITA RAO, MPP’04**  
Chief Credit Officer, Primary Care Development Center
CLASS OF 2019
Career Outcomes

Total Number of Graduates

325

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46%</td>
<td>54%</td>
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Students representing

37

countries

Top Policy Areas
Alumni working in policy-related careers most commonly reported working in the following policy areas:

- **HEALTH**
- **FINANCE AND TRADE**
- **ECONOMICS AND FISCAL**
- **ENERGY**

96%* had job offers

94%* secured employment

90% of those employed had accepted offers by three months of graduation

Average Years of Work Experience, including internships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-1</th>
<th>23%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5+</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Represents percent of students who were seeking employment.

16% of students have previous master’s degrees

26% domestic underrepresented minority

2% of students pursued a PhD after graduation
Truth-seekers wanted.

Apply today at harris.uchicago.edu/MPP
Check out the Admissions Blog at harris.uchicago.edu/blog

The University of Chicago does not discriminate on basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, status as an individual with a disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, or other protected classes under the law. For more information and resources, visit equalopportunity.uchicago.edu.