

M.A. Public Policy and Governance



Postgraduate Programme
*Developing Leaders **for** Social Change*

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M.A. Public Policy and Governance

Public Policy and Governance are fields of study that focus on public affairs with a shared interest in making public institutions work effectively. Governance deals with the institutional, legal and procedural attributes of how state authority is exercised to achieve collective goals. Public Policy studies executive decisions and processes, evaluates outcomes that aim to achieve collective purposes, and provides solutions to public problems.



The Master of Arts in Public Policy and Governance (MPG) will prepare students to become critical and analytical thinkers who can develop effective and equitable solutions to public policy and governance challenges. The programme will help students learn about the ideas, mechanisms and practices of public policy as well as the nature, quality and legitimacy of the institutions and practices of governance. Through a carefully designed curriculum the programme aims to prepare students to:

- Critically understand public problems and purposively contribute to their solutions
- Professionally evaluate policies and programmes
- Reflectively engage with public affairs through careers in the government, development organizations, social enterprises, think tanks, the media and other agencies involved in public affairs.

Programme Design

The M.A. Public Policy and Governance is a full-time two-year year, four- semester programme of 72 credits with credit distribution as follows

- i. Twelve core courses 36 Credits – In Semester I, II, III
- ii. Seven Electives 21 Credits – Semesters III and IV
- iii. Field practice 11 Credits– All semesters and semester breaks
- iv. Two Open courses 4 Credits – may be taken in any semester

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4
Politics and Democracy in India	Everyday State in India	Programme Evaluation	Elective 4
State and Governance in India	Legal Foundations of Public Policy	Qualitative Research Approaches for Public Policy	Elective 5
The State, Market and Economy	Values and Ethics in Public Affairs	Elective 1	Elective 6
Public Policy in India	Policy Analysis	Elective 2	Elective 7 Or Dissertation
Data, Research Design and Descriptive Methods	Causal and Inferential Methods	Elective 3	
Open Course 1	Open Course 1		
<p>Field work: Policy & Governance Hub (4 Credits) – during the term time & the first winter break between I and II semester. Internship 1 (3 credits) during the break between II and III semesters Internship 2 (4 credits) during the break between III and IV semesters.</p>			

Core Courses: Core courses adopt a multi-disciplinary approach to understand and examine policy and governance in India and build methodological capacity to analyze and contribute to these domains. They draw from disciplines such as Anthropology, Economics, History, Law, Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology, and Statistics which are foundational to the understanding of Public Policy and Governance domains. They cover the various facets of Public Policy and Governance to prepare students with the knowledge, skills and temperament to subsequently engage with specific sectors and themes. Concurrently, methodological courses equip students to identify and define problems, examine underlying causal and interpretive processes and use sophisticated techniques for policy and governance research. All 13 core courses are worth 3 credits each.

Electives: All electives are in the second year and will allow students to extend their understanding of the foundation disciplines, deepen their methodological training as well as develop domain expertise

in particular fields. An illustrative list of electives will comprise courses on land governance, e – governance, gender, health, education, environment, budgeting, taxation, public finance, and corruption

Independent Study: Students can choose to do a faculty-guided independent study, in the fourth semester, in lieu of one elective course. This gives students the freedom to go beyond the syllabus and explore a topic of their interest, in depth. They will have the freedom not just to define the topic of their study but also to shape the course work and the parameters for evaluation

Dissertation: Students who are interested in academic pursuits in the field of public policy may choose to write a dissertation for six credits in lieu of two of the seven elective courses. The aim of the dissertation is to build students’ ability in analytical thinking and academic writing. Through the dissertation writing process student are also expected to demonstrate their ability to apply and integrate knowledge obtained from the courses and the field. The dissertation writing process will consist of a proposal submission, and the writing and defence of the final dissertation.

Open Courses: A well-rounded and balanced curriculum that allows students to explore areas that focus on themes related to the arts, culture, the sciences and other subjects of topical interest. Students are required to study two courses from a wide range of subjects such as literature, arts, cinema, epics, science, history, dance etc. based on their interest. About 10-15 open courses are offered each semester. [Click here](#) for details of Open Courses.

Field Practice: Rigorous field-engagements and internships have been designed as part of the programme to help students learn by observing how policy works in practice. The field engagement has three units that are staggered to enable students apply classroom learning to appreciate policy and governance problems and solutions from the ground.

Field Practice Units	Short Description
Law and Policy Hub * (4 credits)	10 Wednesdays through the first and second semester and 5 weeks in the first winter break.
Summer Internship (3 credits)	6 weeks between Semester II and III
Winter Field Project (4 credits)	8 weeks between Semester III and IV

Law and Policy Hub: Through the hub projects students will learn to identify and understand a real-world public problem according to a theoretically-informed protocol. The objective of this unit is to provide students with sufficient and systematic immersive exposure to the nature of public problems and the sites of public problems, which would include both institutions of the state and points of interface between the citizens and public institutions. Having got their exposure to the site of public policy students will also identify and understand a real-world policy intervention and study it in-depth. This is expected build their understanding of how policy interventions work in the real-world situations.

Internships:

(a) The six-week-long first internship will be in a range of organisations which work on policy and governance issues. The students will choose their organisations in consultation with the field mentors of the University. The field mentor will work with the organisations to ensure that the students get to work on specific tasks so that they can “learn by doing” in a real-world, work-life situation. Students will submit a report reflecting on their learning during the internship which will be evaluated. Structured feedback based on this evaluation will help prepare students for the second internship which will be for eight weeks during the second winter break (between third and fourth semester).

(b) The objective of the second internship help them build on the learnings from the first internship by providing an opportunity to learn by applying what they have learnt in the class-room and the field-engagements in an organisational set-up. Further, the second internship also aims to connect students with the networks of policy practice and organisations. As such the second internship is largely student-driven and is for 4 credits.

Faculty

Our faculty come from disciplines such as Political Science, Law, Economics, and Anthropology besides Policy Studies, and have engaged with governments and multilateral institutions in the areas of land governance, local governance, policy evaluation, institutional reforms and other areas in Public Policy. Students will also benefit from the University’s close association with Azim Premji Foundation which has been working with six State Governments in shaping and implementing policies and programmes in the primary education sector. Detailed profiles are available at: <http://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/faculty-SPG>

Career Opportunities

Governance and Public Policy are recent professional domains that provide wide ranging career opportunities. Our former students are engaged in challenging careers in areas such as but not limited to programme evaluation, research, policy analysis, programme management, advocacy and other aspects of programme operations and governance.

[Click here](#) to read more about our placements.

[Click here](#) to listen to Students’ vignettes

Unique Learning Environment

The teaching and learning processes inside and outside the classroom are designed to ensure that students and faculty engage each other in dialogue and discussions so that students develop deep critical thinking and self-learning abilities.

<p>Courses</p> <p>Foundational understanding of the domain through core courses and over 100 electives for students to choose from. Strong grounding on theory, practice and research.</p>	<p>Faculty</p> <p>The faculty team of 130 comes with extensive experience in teaching, research and field practice. The teacher-student ratio of 1: 10 enables close support, mentoring and feedback. Click here for faculty profiles</p>
<p>Integrated Field Practice</p> <p>A mix of field experiences spread across all semesters consisting of immersion visits, organizational internships, faculty-mentored research projects and independent field projects.</p>	<p>Vibrant Environment</p> <p>An engaging class room experience with interactive pedagogic tools. Learning opportunities through various events - weekly colloquiums, national and international conferences, workshops etc.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Learning from Diversity</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Students come from almost all states of India with different educational and socio-economic backgrounds, fresh undergraduates and those with work experience. Over 50 percent of our students are women.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>We value and encourage this diversity and you will enjoy and learn with this experience.</i></p>	



About the University



Azim Premji University was established under the Azim Premji University Act 2010 of the Government of Karnataka. Azim Premji Foundation, the sponsoring body set up the University as a fully philanthropic and not-for-profit entity, with a clear social purpose.

The availability of trained professionals in education, development and allied social sectors in India is grossly inadequate, given the scale, complexity of issues and the wide range of competencies required to work in these areas. The key objective of the postgraduate programme is to address this significant talent gap and prepare competent, motivated, socially committed graduates and enable them to engage with social sector.

The University started in 2011 and since then has admitted over 2500 students. It currently offers five postgraduate programmes; M.A. Education, M.A. Development, M.A. Public Policy and Governance, M.A. Economics and LL.M. in Law and Development. We offer Undergraduate Degrees in Social Science, Science, Humanities and a Dual Degree in Science and Education

Seven Batches of postgraduate students have graduated and consistent with our social purpose, almost all of them work in the social sector. Many of our graduates have also set up Social Enterprises implementing pathbreaking solutions to complex social problems.

The University conducts several continuing education programmes, in collaboration with many state governments, for functionaries in the Education and Development domains. Research is an important area of emphasis and the University Research Centre is currently engaged in several research projects in the Education and Development domains. In addition, the University also hosts national and international conferences, seminars, workshops, public lectures and brings out resource material and publications in English, Kannada and Hindi as a contribution to India's school education.

In a very short span of time, the University has built a team of 200 dedicated people engaged in teaching, research and administration

Postgraduate Programmes

The postgraduate programmes follow a semester and credit-based system. The Curriculum consists of a set of essential core courses, a wide range of elective courses and a well-structured field engagement.

Core Courses cover foundational knowledge and Skills, while also developing a deeper understanding of the domain of study. In the second year, students have the option to focus on sub domains/ themes by choosing a specified set of electives. In the academic year 2018-19, more than 100 theme-based electives were on offer. The Integrated Field engagement is a mix of projects and internships spread across all semesters.

Programme Summary	
M.A. Education (Two-year, full time, 72 credits)	Our efforts to improve public education in India requires highly capable and committed education personnel in substantial numbers. The Master of Arts in Education is a unique broad-based programme of study that includes theory, practice, research, policy and planning in education. They will be equipped to take up roles such as Program Associates/Managers, Curriculum designers, Teacher Educators, School Leaders, Policy maker, Researchers etc.
M.A. Development (Two-year, full time, 72 credits)	Development, broadly understood, refers to the creation of social conditions that secure and contribute to individual and collective well-being in a sustainable and equitable manner. The programme aims to prepare individuals capable of informed and thoughtful development action. They can look forward to a variety of roles such as Program Associates/Managers, Domain Specialists, Researchers and other exciting roles in organisations working in the area of livelihoods, sustainability, public health, social entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, advocacy, etc.
M.A. Public Policy & Governance (Two-year, full time, 72 credits)	The MPG Programme systematically and critically explores the nature and practice of complex public problem solving in a developing constitutional democracy. The programme draws on the disciplines of law, economics, history, philosophy, politics and anthropology to devise an interdisciplinary curriculum that also includes sophisticated empirical analysis of policy choice and programme implementation. Career opportunities would range from programme evaluation, research, policy analysis, programme management, advocacy and other aspects of operations and governance.
M.A. Economics (Two-year, Full time, 72 credits)	The M.A in Economics is a uniquely designed programme to develop the next generation of Economists with the theoretical knowledge, and technical skills to perform high quality analysis, while at the same time being grounded in the institutional, developmental and ecological context of contemporary India. The programme will help students develop strong technical economic skills along with contextual understanding of development issues facing India.
LL.M. in Law and Development (One-year, Full time, 36 credits)	Law and Development seeks to initiate a decisive, novel and meaningful intervention at the intersection of the domains of Law and Development in India. This postgraduate legal education programme is a) inter-disciplinary, b) empirically grounded, and c) refocuses law and legal education to the ethical resolution of critical public policy problems.

ADMISSIONS: Apply Now

We strive hard to ensure that students from disadvantaged economic, social, regional backgrounds can access quality higher education. This inclusion and diversity is important for us to realize our vision and purpose

- ✓ Admission tests and interviews in 30/15 locations, providing easy access
- ✓ Socio-economically disadvantaged students are given additional scores in the admission process

Admissions are through a National Entrance Test (common for all postgraduate programmes), followed by a personal interview by faculty for shortlisted students. The University may also decide to accept other entrance tests/ conduct more entrance tests if required.

[Click here](#) to Apply for the Postgraduate Programme

Eligibility: Bachelor's Degree in Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities, Engineering, Medicine, Agriculture, Commerce, Management, etc. from a recognized University. For the LL.M. Programme the candidate should have an undergraduate degree in Law. We actively encourage applicants with prior work experience and provide additional weightage in the interview process.

Scholarships:

- Extensive need- based scholarships (100%, 70%, 50%) based on candidate's family income.
- Guaranteed 50% tuition waiver for applicants with 3 year of work experience after graduation (For 2-Year Master's Programme only)

Contact Us

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Address: Admissions Office ,Pixel B, PES Campus, Electronic City, Hosur Road, Bangalore

