**The Political Science Department at UNCG offers the Masters of Public Affairs (MPA) degree for full-time and part-time students interested in professional positions in public service. The MPA is an application-based program that provides students with advanced, applied training for work in public and nonprofit organizations. The program offers three concentrations: Community and Economic Development; Local Government Management; and, Nonprofit Management.**

**Degree Requirements**
The MPA degree requires 40 semester hours of coursework; for students who have no significant public service experience and need to complete an internship, the degree requires 43 semester hours of coursework.

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**Job-Seeking Students**

**Destiny Alston** is within the Local Government Management concentration graduating in May 2021. She has experience working as a Graduate program assistant for the Center for Housing and Community Studies. Destiny also interned at the Guilford County Register of Deed office, where she facilitated the Community Interview Series that connected past historical events to current systematic injustices. Her passion is to improve the socio-economic conditions related to housing instability, food security, and health outcomes. She is in search for a job in the housing or health field that involves community engagement or development.

**Grace Craig** is completing her MPA concentrating in Nonprofit Management after receiving her B.A. from UNCG in 2019 in Communication Studies. Her work is focused on community engagement and alignment, helping to ensure that organizations are reaching their intended clients and providing them with empowering services. Grace has completed internships with Guilford Child Development and Ready for School, Ready for Life. Grace is looking for jobs as a Community Engagement Coordinator, a Program Coordinator, or Development Manager.

**Elena Polanco** graduates in May 2021 from the MPA program with a concentration in Nonprofit Management. Throughout her undergraduate career, she was able to gain a lot of experience in project management within her student organization. She then used this experience during her first year of the MPA program for her summer internship with the North Carolina Native American Youth Organization where she helped coordinate a plan and execution of a virtual conference for the participants. She is seeking a nonprofit job that either focuses on project management or data management.

**Ebony Pratt** will graduate in May 2021 with a concentration in Nonprofit Management. She has worked for multiple nonprofit organizations in the triad area and is currently seeking full-time employment with a willingness to relocate. Ebony is passionate about serving in the community and has experience in event management, community engagement, volunteer management, social media management, and website development.

**Forrest White** graduates in May of 2021 from the MPA program with a concentration in Local Government Management. He is currently interning with the High Point Economic Development Corporation (HPEDC) as an Economic Development intern. He is interested in getting involved in local government, but his position in economic development also fits his skillset.

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**Internships are generally performed over the summer in a full-time, paid placement with local government or a non-profit agency. These students have completed their first year in the MPA program. Students are also required to prepare a research project that builds on their internship responsibilities.**

**Jarae Davis** is a first-year student within the Nonprofit Management concentration. He has a lot of experience with children. Jarae worked with a youth group titled S.W.A.G. (Someone with a Goal), which started as a church organization but extended to the youth in the community. He previously worked for the Rowan County School System as a 5th grade teacher as well as a long-term substitute teacher for Charter Schools USA (Concord Lake Steam Academy). He is seeking an internship that involves and continues his work with children.

**Steven Garfunkel** is a first-year MPA student with a concentration in Nonprofit Management. He graduated from UNC Greensboro with a B.A. in Political Science in 2020. He is currently a Graduate Assistant at the UNCG Speaking Center. He leads a weekly meeting with residents of Peacehaven, a community home for adults with disabilities, and leads workshops focused on improving public-speaking skills. Steven is seeking an internship with a nonprofit organization or educational institution working in the field of disability advocacy, social justice, educational enrichment, animal welfare, or community service.

**Anika Massey** is a first-year student in the Nonprofit Management concentration. She graduated from UNCG in May of 2020 with a B.A. in Communications Studies and African American/African Diaspora Studies. She is seeking an internship that deals with community development with roles of communications and social media.

**Troy Moss** is a first-year student obtaining his MPA degree with a concentration in Local Government Management. He graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Sociology with a concentration in Criminology at UNCG in 2020. He has developed his oral, writing and digital communication skills while being a manager in multiliterate centers at UNCG. Troy is seeking an internship in local government management, community relationship and law enforcement.

**Yoshi Munoz** is a first-year student and a Graduate Research Assistant for the MPA program. She graduated from Appalachian State University in a B.S in Political Science and is concentrating in Local Government Management within her MPA degree. She has experience managing teams and works well collaboratively as well as independently. Her interests lies in community and economic development, marketing, and management. She is hoping to secure an internship in local government, public-private affairs, or housing.

**Jamison Pennix** received his B.A. at UNCG in Political Science and a minor in Geography. He is currently a Graduate Research Assistant for the MPA program. He is looking for an internship in Greensboro or Guilford County. His preference for internships is anything within local government. He is familiar with Greensboro’s local government scene and is in search for an environment that would cultivate his skillset.

**Reem Al Raisi** works as a Graduate Assistant in the Political Science Department and is in the Nonprofit Management Concentration. She graduated from UNCG with a B.S. in International Business. Reem Al Raisi comes from a diverse background. She is originally from Oman and studied abroad in Italy and Belgium. Reem is seeking an internship in the field of Nonprofit management and community with a focus on diversity where she can implement her diverse skill sets in the workplace.

**Jamie Sandoval** is currently a Graduate Research Assistant for the MPA program. She is interested in local government management and is the North Carolina City and County Management Association (NCCCCMA) scholarship recipient for UNCG. She received her B.A. at Campbell University in Political Science and Criminal Justice. Her skills are researching, writing, and gathering data. She is looking for an internship within the local government arena or with local police departments.

**Jordan Wright** is a first-year student pursuing his MPA with a concentration in local government management. He obtained his B.A. at UNCG in Communications Studies. He worked as a Graduate Assistant at the Speaking Center and is a Design Consultant at the Digital ACT Studio at UNCG. He is in search of an internship in city management, higher education, or community development.

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Resumes of prospective interns and graduates can be found at: [www.uncg.edu/psc/news/](http://www.uncg.edu/psc/news/)
UNCG MPA Graduate Placements:

NCCJ
(Development Manager)

City of Burlington
(Economic Development Project Manager)

U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC
(IT Specialist)

Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County, TN
(Procurement Officer, Department of Finance)

Rural Forward NC
(Program Support Administrator)

Village of Marvin, NC
(Deputy Clerk & Assistant Village of Marvin, NC)

North Carolina State University
(PhD Candidate—Public Policy)

City of Winston Salem
(Diversity Compliance Specialist)

The Servant Center
(Budget Analyst)

Forsyth County Superior Court
(Deputy Clerk)

Davidson County
(Budget Analyst)

Family Services of the Piedmont
(Case Manager)

Charlotte Community Health Clinic
(Data Analyst)

Forsyth County Superior Court
(Deputy Clerk)

Piedmont Triad Regional Council
(Regional Planner)

North Carolina Department of Transportation
(Transportation Coordinator)

CHESS
(Value Based Contracts Coordinator)

North Carolina Association of Realtors
(GRI Coordinator)

North Carolina League of Municipalities
(Government Affairs Associate)