

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY

MASTER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

ACADEMIC CATALOG
2020-2021



HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY
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Table of Contents

Master of Physician Assistant Studies Academic Calendar	2
Physician Assistant Faculty and Adjunct Faculty	6
Program Description	7
Program Distinctives	7
Accreditation	8
Admissions Policies	
Admission Requirements	8
Admission Requirements for Huntington University Graduates with a Bachelor’s Degree	9
Transfer Students	10
Degree Information	
Graduation Requirements and Progression in the MPAS Program	10
Academic Policies	
Academic Calendar	10
Cancelling Classes	10
Classification of Students	11
Probation and Dismissal	11
University Readmission Policy	11
University Repeating a Course Policy	11
University Appeal Policy	12
Registration and Attendance	
Registration and Advising	13
Class Attendance	13
Adding, Dropping and Withdrawing from a Course	13
Withdrawal from Graduate Programs	14
Financial Information and Assistance	
Tuition for MPAS Program (115 Credit Hours)	14
Financial Aid	14
Refund Policy	14
Completion Plan and Courses	
MPAS Completion Plan	16
Courses in Physician Assistant	17

Master of Physician Assistant Studies

Academic Calendar

2020-2021

Fall 2020

Final Payment Due	Mon, Aug 10
Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, Aug 17
Faculty Workshop	Tue, Aug 25
Fall Cohort Orientation	Fri, Aug 28
Classes Begin	Mon, Aug 31
Final Day to Drop Classes	Fri, Sep 4
Labor Day (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Mon, Sep 7
Homecoming	Fri-Sat, Oct 2-3
Board of Trustees Fall Meeting	Thu-Fri, Oct 15-16
Mid-Semester Break	Mon-Tue, Oct 19-20
Mid-Semester Grades Due at 5:00 pm	Mon, Oct 19
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Wed, Nov 11
Thanksgiving Break	Wed-Fri, Nov 25-27
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Dec 18
Final Grades Due at 9:00 am	Tue, Dec 22

January Term 2021

Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, Dec 21
Final Payment Due	Mon, Jan 4
Classes Begin	Mon, Jan 4
Final Day to Drop Classes	Tue, Jan 5
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Fri, Jan 15
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Jan 22
Board of Trustees Winter Meeting	Thu-Fri, Jan 21-22

Spring 2021

Final Payment Due	Sun, Jan 10
Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, Jan 11
Classes Begin	Mon, Jan 25
Final Day to Drop Classes	Fri, Jan 29
Mid-Semester	Fri, Mar 12
Mid-Semester Grades Due at 5:00 pm	Fri, Mar 12
Spring Break	Mon-Fri, Mar 15-19
Good Friday Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Fri, Apr 2
Easter Monday (No Classes)	Mon, Apr 5
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Fri, Apr 9

Board of Trustees Spring Meeting	Thu-Fri, Apr 15-16
Final Day of Classes	Fri, May 14
Final Grades for Graduating Students Due at 9:00 am	Fri, May 14
Graduation	Sat, May 15
Final Grades for Non-Graduates Due at 9:00 am	Tue, May 18

Summer 2021

Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, May 3
Classes Begin	Mon, May 17
Final Day to Drop Classes	Thu, May 20
Memorial Day Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Mon, May 31
Fourth of July Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Mon, Jul 5
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Wed, Jul 14
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Aug 20

2021-2022

Fall 2021

Final Payment Due	Tue, Aug 10
Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, Aug 16
Faculty Workshop	Tue, Aug 24
Fall Cohort Orientation	Fri, Aug 27
Classes Begin	Mon, Aug 30
Final Day to Drop Classes	Fri, Sep 3
Labor Day (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Mon, Sep 6
Homecoming	Fri-Sat, Oct 1-2
Mid-Semester Break	Mon-Tue, Oct 18-19
Mid-Semester Grades Due at 5:00 pm	Mon, Oct 18
Board of Trustees Fall Meeting	Thu-Fri, Oct 21-22
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Wed, Nov 3
Thanksgiving Break	Wed-Fri, Nov 24-26
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Dec 17
Final Grades Due at 9:00 am	Tue, Dec 21

January Term 2022

Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, Dec 20
Final Payment Due	Mon, Jan 3
Classes Begin	Mon, Jan 3
Final Day to Drop Classes	Tue, Jan 4
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Fri, Jan 14
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Jan 21
Board of Trustees Winter Meeting	Thu-Fri, Jan 20-21

Spring 2022

Final Payment Due	Mon, Jan 10
Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, Jan 10
Classes Begin	Mon, Jan 24
Final Day to Drop Classes	Fri, Jan 28
Mid-Semester	Fri, Mar 11
Mid-Semester Grades Due at 5:00 pm	Fri, Mar 11
Spring Break	Mon- Fri, Mar 14-18
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Fri, Apr 8
Good Friday Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Fri, Apr 15
Easter Monday (No Classes)	Mon, Apr 18
Board of Trustees Spring Meeting	Thu-Fri, Apr 21-22
Final Day of Classes	Fri, May 13
Graduation	Sat, May 14
Final Grades for Non-Graduates Due at 9:00 am	Tue, May 17

Summer 2022

Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, May 2
Classes Begin	Mon, May 16
Final Day to Drop Classes	Thu, May 19
Memorial Day Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Mon, May 30
Fourth of July Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Mon, Jul 4
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Wed, Jul 13
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Aug 19

2022-2023

Fall 2022

Final Payment Due	Wed, Aug 10
Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, Aug 15
Faculty Workshop	Tue, Aug 23
Fall Cohort Orientation	Fri, Aug 26
Classes Begin	Mon, Aug 29
Final Day to Drop Classes	Fri, Sep 2
Labor Day (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Mon, Sep 5
Homecoming	Fri-Sat, Oct 7-8
Mid-Semester Break	Mon-Tue, Oct 17-18
Mid-Semester Grades Due at 5:00 pm	Mon, Oct 17
Board of Trustees Fall Meeting	Thu-Fri, Oct 20-21
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Wed, Nov 2
Thanksgiving Break	Wed-Fri, Nov 23-25
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Dec 16
Final Grades Due at 9:00 am	Tue, Dec 20

January Term 2023

Final Day to Add Classes	Tue, Dec 20
Final Payment Due	Tue, Jan 3
Classes Begin	Tue, Jan 3
Final Day to Drop Classes	Wed, Jan 4
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Mon, Jan 16
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Jan 20
Board of Trustees Winter Meeting	Thu-Fri, Jan 19-20

Spring 2023

Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, Jan 9
Final Payment Due	Tue, Jan 10
Classes Begin	Mon, Jan 23
Final Day to Drop Classes	Fri, Jan 27
Mid-Semester	Fri, Mar 10
Mid-Semester Grades Due at 5:00 pm	Fri, Mar 10
Spring Break	Mon-Fri, Mar 13-17
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Thu, Apr 6
Good Friday Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Fri, Apr 7
Easter Monday (No Classes)	Mon, Apr 10
Board of Trustees Spring Meeting	Thu-Fri, Apr 20-21
Final Day of Classes	May 12
Final Grades for Non-Graduates Due at 9:00 am	Tue, May 16

Summer 2023

Final Day to Add Classes	Mon, May 1
Classes Begin	Mon, May 15
Final Day to Drop Classes	Thu, May 18
Memorial Day Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Mon, May 29
Fourth of July Break (Offices Closed - No Classes)	Tue, Jul 4
Final Day for W Withdrawal from Class	Wed, Jul 12
Final Day of Classes	Fri, Aug 18

Physician Assistant Faculty and Adjunct Faculty 2019-2020

Full-Time Faculty

David Mays Jr., MMS, PA-C

MPAS Program Director, Assistant Professor

Jeanette Dohrman, MSN, CMSRN

Director of Clinical Education, Instructor

Part-Time Faculty

Dr. Janelle Maxwell, DO

Medical Director

Adjunct Faculty

Staff

Beth West

Program Assistant

Curriculum Consultant

Dr. Ruth Ford, EdD, MSBS, OTR, CLIPP, FAOTA

Associate Dean of Health Sciences, OTD Program Director

Program Description

The Master of Physician Assistant Studies program, offered at Huntington University's main campus, provides students the preparation to practice as a PA in various roles. Our program takes a unique approach to the medical education model, offering a Christian environment to foster growth of the student as a person and a practitioner. Huntington University MPAS program will qualify students to sit for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE). Program candidates may apply for admission after completing a bachelor's degree. Our goal is to provide a Christian medical education with a reputation for excellence in clinical care and community engagement through servant leadership.

Coursework is completed over a two-year time span with in-depth learning in designated classroom and laboratory space. The program is housed in the Dowden Science hall, offering a close proximity to the OTA, nursing and other science based programs. Students gain mastery skills in evidence based research, assessment and medical decision making, leadership, professional behaviors, medical ethics, medical delivery systems, and technologies throughout the curriculum.

The central themes of Huntington University's Master of Physician Assistant Studies program are as follows:

- Professional Practice (Faith centered care, evidence based medicine, inter-professional collaboration, ethical practice)
- Healthcare Delivery (life span medicine, diverse population and clinical settings, health technology, global health initiatives)

The mission of the Physician Assistant Program at Huntington University is to develop Christian servant leaders who provide comprehensive, compassionate, and evidence-based medical care to a diverse patient population

Program Distinctives

- Rigorous coursework provides students with a comprehensive preparation.
- The program can be completed in 24 months.
- The program will meet or exceed standards for ARC-PA accreditation.
- Christian emphasis on medical education is integrated in coursework.
- January term offers an opportunity for cultural immersion through community involvement either locally with charities or abroad (Medical mission trips will vary by year).
- Faculty are certified Physician Assistants along with involvement of inter-professional faculty across the spectrum.
- Clinical rotations are diverse to provide foundational knowledge, with the addition of two clinical electives to explore areas of interest in medicine.
- Opportunity for case presentations to students and faculty from clinical rotations.
- Emphasis on leadership and patient advocacy throughout the program.

Accreditation

Huntington University Physician Assistant Program has applied for Accreditation - Provisional from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). Huntington University anticipates matriculating its first class in Fall 2020, pending achieving Accreditation - Provisional status at the March 2020 ARC-PA meeting. Accreditation - Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding accreditation-provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students.

Additional information related to current accreditation status can be obtained from:

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc
12000 Findley Road, Suite 275
Johns Creek, Georgia, 30097
Phone: 770-476-1224
Fax: 770-476-1738
Website: www.arc-pa.org

Admissions Policies

Admission Requirements

- To be considered for admission to the MPAS Program, students must supply the following information. When this information is received, the Admissions Committee will act on the application.
- MPAS Candidates must hold an earned baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university or be in the senior year of undergraduate study. A completed bachelor's degree is required prior to enrollment, as evidenced by a final official college/university transcript. A minimum overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale is required.
- MPAS Candidates must achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all prerequisite science courses, which must have been completed within the last five years preceding application. Courses in progress need to be outlined in writing for plan of completion. Official transcripts showing completion of prerequisites with a grade of C or higher will be required prior to program matriculation.
- MPAS Candidates must achieve competitive scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken within the past five years. The MPAS program admission policy will use the GPA calculation from CASPA (Central Application Service for Physician Assistants) for assignment of points for admission.
- MPAS Candidates must complete a minimum of 20 hours of observational experience with a Physician Assistant. These hours do not have to be completed prior to application, but must be completed before the start of classes.
- MPAS Candidates must complete a minimum of 500 hours of paid patient care experience. These hours do not have to be completed prior to application but must be completed before the start of classes. Examples include patient care tech, CNA, basic paramedic, radiologic technologist, scribe, nurse, occupational or physical therapy assistant, among others.

- MPAS candidates need to submit three letters of recommendation via CASPA. At least one of the three recommendations required for application must be from a healthcare provider, preferably a certified physician assistant.
- Submit the CASPA application by posted deadline through the CASPA website at <https://caspa.liaisoncas.com>.
- Students will be required to pass a criminal background and drug check at time of admission to the program in order to be eligible for clinical rotations, experiential component and to take the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE). Eligibility requirements for the national exam for becoming a physician assistant can be retrieved at www.nccpa.net. NCCPA, 12000 Findley Road, Suite 100. Johns Creek, GA 30097-1409, Phone: 678-417-8100, Fax: 678-417-8135.
- Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination, administered by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants. After successful completion of this exam, the graduate will be a physician assistant, certified (PA-C). In addition, all states require licensure to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the PANCE certification examination. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the PANCE certification examination or attain PA state licensure.

Prerequisites (Your undergraduate degree should include):

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Anatomy and Physiology I with lab | 4 semester credits |
| • Anatomy and Physiology II with lab | 4 semester credits |
| • Biology with lab | 3-4 semester credits |
| • Microbiology with lab | 4 semester credits |
| • Chemistry I with lab | 4 semester credits |
| • Chemistry II with lab | 4 semester credits |
| • Organic Chemistry I with lab | 4 semester credits |
| • Organic Chemistry II with lab | 4 semester credits |
| • Introduction to Psychology | 3 semester credits |
| • Statistics or Research | 3 semester credits |
| • Medical Terminology | 1-3 semester credits |

** The Admissions Committee may choose to waive some requirements for special circumstances. Students may be accepted on a conditional basis until all prerequisites are met. Prerequisites must be completed prior to admission to the MPAS program.*

Admission Requirements for Huntington University Graduates with a Bachelor's Degree

Applicants who have earned a bachelor's degree from Huntington University within the past 10 years with a GPA of 3.5 or higher are eligible for priority admission into the Master of Physician Assistant Studies Program provided they meet all other admission prerequisites. Additional review will be required for Huntington University graduates who earned their bachelor's degrees 10 years or more prior to applying to the program. The same admission application deadlines are applicable for these students.

Transfer Students

Graduate credits earned at other regionally accredited institutions may be transferrable to Huntington University's Graduate Programs. Only graduate courses with a grade of **B-** (2.67) or above are transferable. Generally, such credits must be no older than 10 years and must represent courses that can reasonably substitute for courses in the Huntington University Graduate Programs. Individual program directors determine the suitability of such courses for transfer credit and may deny transfer credit. Students will be asked to provide relevant materials for their transfer courses.

Students in the Physician Assistant Program may transfer in a maximum of 12 credit hours. Although credits may transfer, no transfer grades are recorded nor counted in the cumulative grade point average.

Degree Information

Graduation Requirements and Progression in the MPAS Program

Progression in the MPAS Program

Coursework is developmental in nature and requires coursework to be sequential as listed in the MPAS Completion Plan. Completion of clinical rotations must be completed within 18 months from didactic coursework. Timeline from matriculation to graduation should not exceed four years.

Retention

Students compliant with grade requirements and MPAS program policies and procedures as documented in the student handbook will advance toward graduation through satisfaction of each semester requirements.

Graduation Requirements

The MPAS requires the completion of 115 credit hours in a sequenced two-year sequence. For the first year, the course loads range between 19-24 credits per semester. During the clinical year, each rotation is 4-8 weeks in duration with end of rotation exams to be held on campus, along with professional development lectures and presentations.

Academic Policies

Academic Calendar

The MPAS Program offers courses in a four-term format. Courses are taught during fall (late August through early December), early January, spring (late January through May), and summer (late May through August).

Cancelling Classes

The Graduate School reserve the right to cancel classes with an enrollment of less than five students and to close classes at a maximum announced enrollment.

Classification of Students

Full-time graduate students are those enrolled for at least six hours in a given semester, and half-time graduate students are those enrolled for at least three hours.

Probation and Dismissal

Students must achieve a 3.0 GPA to graduate from the MPAS program. Students who earn more than nine semester hours with a grade of **C+**, **C**, or **C-** will be dismissed from the program.

Failure in coursework or clinical rotations:

Students who earn a course grade below **C-** will be automatically dismissed from the MPAS Program. Students may appeal a grade by following the Graduate and Professional Programs Catalog's policy for grade appeals. Students will have to reapply for admission following remediation of a grade with a signed learning contract. Failure of a clinical rotation will be addressed in the same manner as stated above. Upon acceptance of the University appeal process, remediation of a grade failure in a course(s), lab, or clinical rotation will be specified in the learning agreement based on the amount of missed or incomplete work and time required to meet the course(s) standard.

A student may be placed on probationary contract due to unprofessional conduct, ethical violations, and other concerns. In such cases, the program director, with the input of program faculty, will develop the contract to address the relevant concerns. Failure to comply with the stipulations of the contract within the specified time period may result in dismissal from the program.

University Readmission Policy

Students who interrupt their enrollment for one or more semesters must apply for readmission. Students in continuous enrollment covering a number of years may graduate under the Catalog requirements which were in place at the time of the initial registration, provided the enrollment period does not extend beyond seven years. Students who interrupt their enrollment will graduate according to the Catalog under which the student returns.

University Repeating a Course Policy

Students may repeat courses in which they have received an unsatisfactory grade of **D**, **F** or **U**. With the permission of the academic dean, they may also repeat courses in which they have received a grade of **C** or above.

The student registers for the course as a Repeat course and is charged tuition as with any other course. Should the student be unable to schedule a required course to be repeated before graduation, it may be necessary to arrange to take the course by tutorial instruction which will incur an additional charge.

Although both grade entries become part of the permanent record, only the Repeat course counts as credit toward graduation and is used in computing the cumulative grade point average.

University Appeal Policy

Grievance Procedure for Academic Matters

In any university, disagreements will sometimes arise about grading and other academic matters. Huntington University wishes to resolve these matters in a respectful manner consistent with biblical principles.

In nearly all circumstances, the student should first seek to resolve the disagreement directly with the faculty member. If all possible means to resolve it directly with the faculty member have been exhausted, the student may resolve the disagreement using the following process. All complaints will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law. No adverse action will be taken against the student filing the complaint.

1. Grievance procedure for grades

- a. Students who wish to appeal the final grade for a course on the grounds that it was assigned arbitrarily or capriciously must first seek conciliation directly with the professor. If a satisfactory agreement cannot be reached through informal discussion, the student may seek to resolve the dispute through the following process.
- b. A written appeal to the director of the program must be made **within two weeks of the formal posting of semester grades by the registrar**. The director may grant exceptions to accept appeals after this length of time in the case of compelling extenuating circumstances.
- c. The student must provide the following information in support of the appeal. Appeals will not be processed until all materials have been provided to the director of the program. The burden is on the student to show that the grade is arbitrary and capricious in light of the evidence.
 1. A written explanation of the basis for challenging the grade
 2. Copies of all relevant graded assignments and examinations
 3. A copy of the course syllabus as distributed to the class
- d. The director may ask the professor to provide similar documentation when necessary.
- e. The director will examine the evidence provided to determine whether the grade was arbitrarily or capriciously assigned.
 1. If the determination is that the grade was not arbitrarily or capricious, the director will sustain the professional judgment of the faculty member and the grade will stand. The director will communicate this decision to the faculty member, division chair, and the student.
 2. In the event that the grade assignment is determined to have been arbitrary or capricious, the director will recommend that the faculty member change the grade. The new grade will be determined by the faculty member and the director.
- f. Any appeal of the decision will be referred to a panel consisting of three members of the Graduate and Professional Programs Committee. The panel's decision is final and not subject to further appeal.

2. Grievances about Other Academic Concerns

- a. Students who have concerns about other academic matters involving a faculty member should, in most cases, first seek conciliation with the faculty member.

b. If student and faculty member cannot reach agreement or if the nature of the appeal is such that the student does not feel free to take the matter directly to the faculty member, the student should approach either the director of the program or the director of graduate and professional programs. In order for the University to evaluate and respond to the concern, the student must submit a brief written statement that describes the concern. Supporting materials and documentation, if any, should be included with the written statement.

c. The program director and the director of graduate and professional programs will coordinate efforts to address and to decide the resolution of the student's concern.

d. Either the student or faculty member may appeal this decision by presenting his or her case to the Graduate and Professional Programs Committee. The decision of the Committee is final and not subject to further appeal.

When the faculty member involved is the program director, all appeals should be taken to the director of graduate and professional programs who will present the appeal to the Graduate and Professional Programs Committee for resolution. The decision of the Committee is final and not subject to further appeal.

Registration and Attendance

Registration and Advising

Registration for graduate students is open until two weeks prior to the first meeting day for a class. Graduate students in the MPAS Program are automatically registered with their cohort.

Although faculty and staff advisors attempt to provide the best available information, the students are ultimately responsible for course selection and construction of their program. It is the students' responsibility to see that program requirements are met and that the courses for the intended area of concentration are taken in proper sequence.

Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Students should not absent themselves from class without clearance from their respective professors. Work missed by late entrance or absence must be completed to the satisfaction of the instructor. Instructors may decide to reduce a student's grade for repeated absences. Per the MPAS student handbook policy, a student missing 20% or more of class time may result in automatic failure of the course.

Adding, Dropping and Withdrawing from a Course

Adding a Course

Students may add a course to their schedule in consultation with their academic advisor. A course cannot be added less than two weeks before the start date of the semester/session.

Dropping a Course

Students may drop a course through the fifth day of the fall or spring semester or the second class day of January Term or the fourth class day of the summer semester (prorated for courses that do not meet the entire semester).

Withdrawing from a Course

Students may withdraw from a course (with a grade of W) through the tenth week of the fall or spring semester, the tenth class day of January Term, or the ninth week of the summer semester (prorated for courses that do not meet the entire semester).

Withdrawal from Graduate Programs

To withdraw from the Graduate Programs, students must notify the MPAS program director. Students who do not officially withdraw from the program are given grades of F. **Students receiving financial aid must contact the Financial Aid Office regarding the implications on financial responsibilities.**

Financial Information and Assistance

Tuition for MPAS Program (115 Credit Hours)

****Tuition costs are not finalized****

2020-2021		Typical Student Charges		
Year	Credit Hours	Tuition	Fees	Total Cost
Year 1	65 hours	\$47,250	\$1,500	\$48,750
Year 2	50 hours	\$47,250	\$1,500	\$48,750
TOTALS	115 hours	\$94,500	\$3,000	\$97,500

**Tuition charges distributed by term not by hours. The costs listed above do not include textbooks.*

Tuition and fees are subject to change in subsequent semesters or if a student withdraws and wishes to re-enroll at a later date. Billing statements will be provided prior to each term outlining payment due dates.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available mainly in the form of Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loans and Federal Graduate PLUS loans. Other options may include employer reimbursement, veterans' benefits or private loans.

Refund Policy

Students who officially withdraw or who reduce their course credit load may be entitled to a refund of tuition according to the following schedule. Prior to the beginning of classes, full tuition is refunded. For withdrawals after the official beginning of classes, the date used to compute any refund is the official date of withdrawal. Any financial assistance to students is prorated. Students who have been dismissed may not appeal for refund of tuition.

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Summer</u>	<u>Tuition Refund</u>
First Week	First Class Day	90%
Second Week	Second Class Day	80%
Third Week	Third Class Day	60%
Fourth Week	Fourth Class Day	40%
Fifth Week	Fifth Class Day	20%

After these time frames no refund will be granted.

**Students who are considering a reduction of their status from full-time to part-time or who are planning to withdraw during the semester should discuss those plans with the Office of Financial Aid, since most financial assistance is based on the number of hours enrolled and may be reduced in accordance with the number of hours maintained.*

*****Regardless of participation, no technology fees will be refunded after the start of a class.***

Students who have been dismissed may not appeal for refund of tuition. Students who are called to active military duty and withdraw from classes at any point in the term will receive a refund of 100% of tuition and fees.

Completion Plan and Courses

MPAS Completion Plan

The two-year program (115 credit hours) completion plan for students starting in the fall semester is as follows:

Fall Year 1	20 c.h.	
MPA 600	2	Physician Assistant and Inter-professional Practice
MPA 601	6	Human Anatomy and Physiology
MPA 602	2	Medical Ethics
MPA 603	5	Pathophysiology
MPA 604	3	Pharmacology and Therapeutics I
MPA 605	2	Medical History and Communication Skills
January Term Year 1	2 c.h.	
MPA 606	2	Community Outreach and Missions
Spring Year 1	24 c.h.	
MPA 610	2	Evidence Based Practice
MPA 611	5	Diagnostics and Procedures I
MPA 612	12	Clinical Medicine I
MPA 613	3	Pharmacology and Therapeutics II
MPA 614	2	Physical Exam Skills
Summer Year 1	19 c.h.	
MPA 620	2	Medical Decision Making
MPA 621	5	Diagnostics and Procedures II
MPA 622	9	Clinical Medicine II
MPA 623	3	Pharmacology and Therapeutics III
January Year 2	2 c.h.	
MPA 607	2	Missions and PALS
Clinical Year	50 c.h.	
MPA 630	4	Pediatrics
MPA 631	4	Women's Health
MPA 632	8	Family Medicine
MPA 633	4	Behavioral and Mental Health Care
MPA 634	8	Emergency Medicine
MPA 635	4	Internal Medicine
MPA 636	4	General Surgery
MPA 640	4	Clinical Elective
MPA 641	4	Clinical Elective
MPA 650, 651, 652	4 (1,1,2)	Professional Development

Courses in Physician Assistant Studies

Didactic Year

65 Credit Hours

Fall Semester Year 1

20 Credit hours

MPA 600 Physician Assistant and Inter-professional Practice

(2 credits)

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the healthcare delivery system. In this will be a history and outlook for the physician assistant (PA) profession, examining the collaborative relationship between physician assistant, physician and other health care professionals and the impact on patient-centered care. It will also address licensure, credentialing, insurance, billing and coding, reimbursement, HIPAA, and regulation regarding professional practice. Students will be introduced to the various settings in which the PA can practice medicine including public health concepts.

MPA 601 Human Anatomy and Physiology

(6 credits)

This lecture and lab course is an advanced study of human anatomy and physiology. This course is designed to build upon prerequisite course work completed. Included in this is virtual dissection utilizing state of the art Anatomage table along with prosected cadaver experiences offsite. This course is designed to provide an advanced knowledge of human anatomy and physiology as it pertains to function, normal and diseased state, identification of normal and abnormal structures as well as genetic and molecular mechanisms of function.

MPA 602 Medical Ethics

(2 credits)

This course explores the system of moral, societal, and ethical issues in practicing medicine. Exploration of ethical responsibilities in the physician assistant profession in regards to patients through all ages and backgrounds including end of life care. Discussion on the impact that culture, age, and location have on overall care. Students will debate ethical issues, intellectual honesty, and appropriate professional conduct in varying situations.

MPA 603 Pathophysiology

(5 credits)

This course is designed to create a foundation of knowledge on disease states throughout the body. We will explore genetic and molecular mechanisms of health and disease, cellular, and subcellular abnormalities leading to pathogenesis and further explore the complexity of the human body as it pertains to practicing medicine.

MPA 604 Pharmacology and Therapeutics I

(3 credits)

This course is the first of a three semester sequence. The course is designed to teach the principles of pharmacology and medical therapeutics including pharmacokinetics, mechanisms of action, dose-response relationship, and function of medications in the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Exploration will be through integrated multi-disciplinary approach with lecture content and case study.

MPA 605 Medical History and Communication Skills

(2 credits)

This course is structured to introduce students to obtaining an appropriate medical history along with communication and counseling skills. This includes interpersonal communication skills to effectively counsel and provide education to patients, families and colleagues in a culturally competent manner. Students will be introduced to documentation of a complete medical history, a skill which will be built upon through course progression.

MPA 606 Community Outreach and Missions*(2 credits)*

This course is designed to give students an opportunity for community engagement and cultural immersion through volunteer opportunities locally or mission work globally. Program will offer optional global experiences varying from year to year. Students can also choose to stay local and work with local charities in varying capacity.

Spring Semester Year 1**24 Credit Hours**

MPA 610 Evidence Based Practice*(2 credits)*

This course is designed to introduce students to research, interpretation, and evaluation of updated, evidence based medical literature. Students will gain experience framing a question, evaluating statistical methods, application of data to patient-centered care, and prepare for future research or publication projects.

MPA 611 Diagnostics and Procedures I*(5 credits)*

This course is the first of a two semester sequence. Coursework is comprised of lecture and hands-on laboratory demonstrations to provide students the opportunity to explore physical exam, laboratory, radiographic, procedural techniques, and electrocardiogram (ECG) findings and interpret as it pertains to patient care. A comprehensive review of the 12-lead ECG allows students to evaluate and interpret data effectively and systematically. This course will coincide with Clinical Medicine I course to provide applicable reference points.

MPA 612 Clinical Medicine I*(12 credits)*

This course is designed to provide students an understanding of the varying components of clinical medicine. This semester will comprise of content from Behavioral and mental health, Women's health, reproductive health, Cardiology, Pulmonology, Gastroenterology, Hematology, and Genitourinary systems. Course design is lecture based with integrated case studies. This course will explore mechanisms of disease, evaluation, diagnostic criteria, and medical management of conditions across diverse populations and age groups.

MPA 613 Pharmacology and Therapeutics II*(3 credits)*

This course is the second of a three semester sequence. The course is designed to teach the principles of pharmacology and medical therapeutics including pharmacokinetics, mechanisms of action, dose-response relationship, and function of medications in the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Exploration will be through integrated multi-disciplinary approach with lecture content and case study. This course will coincide with Clinical Medicine courses to complete a holistic treatment approach.

MPA 614 Physical Exam Skills*(2 credits)*

This course is designed to introduce students to medical physical examination techniques. This course will be comprised of lecture, demonstrations, small group work, and practical examinations to provide functional recall of knowledge.

MPA 620 Medical Decision Making**(2 credits)**

This course is designed to foster the growth of the student's clinical skills prior to the clinical phase of the program. Students will be introduced scenarios and cases to evaluate and provide a differential diagnosis, propose a cost-effective work up, evaluate results, and provide a treatment plan with appropriate referral services. The lecture component to the course will review the possible differential and ways to establish a diagnosis for common complaints.

MPA 621 Diagnostics and Procedures II**(5 credits)**

This course is the second of a two semester sequence. Coursework is comprised of lecture and hands-on laboratory demonstrations to provide students the opportunity to explore laboratory, radiographic, physical exam findings, procedural techniques, as well as exposure to CPR/ACLS material. Students will be required to become ACLS certified as part of this course. This course will coincide with Clinical Medicine II course to provide applicable reference points.

MPA 622 Clinical Medicine II**(9 credits)**

This course is designed to provide students an understanding of the varying components of clinical medicine. This semester will comprise of content from Pediatrics, Dermatology, EENT, Orthopedics, Endocrine, Infectious disease, Rheumatology, Neurology, and General Surgery. Course design is lecture based with integrated case studies. This course will explore mechanisms of disease, evaluation, diagnostic criteria, and medical/surgical management of conditions across diverse populations and age groups.

MPA 623 Pharmacology and Therapeutics III**(3 credits)**

This course is the third of a three semester sequence. The course is designed to teach the principles of pharmacology and medical therapeutics including pharmacokinetics, mechanisms of action, dose-response relationship, and function of medications in the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Exploration will be through integrated multi-disciplinary approach through lecture content and case study. This course will coincide with Clinical Medicine courses to complete a holistic treatment approach.

Clinical Rotations Year 2**50 Credit Hours**

Clinical schedule will vary per student based on clinical site availability. There will be a January term opportunity for students during the second year of the program for mission opportunities similar to the first year, but also advance certifications.

January Term Year 2:**2 Credit Hours**

MPA 607 Missions and PALS**(2 credits)**

This course is designed to give students an opportunity for community engagement and cultural immersion through volunteer opportunities locally or mission work globally. The program will offer optional global experiences varying from year to year. Students can also choose to stay local and work with local charities in varying capacity. There will be an opportunity for all students to become PALS certified on campus during this course.

MPA 630 Pediatrics**(4 credits)**

This four-week rotation is designed to expose students to the setting of pediatrics. This rotation may be inpatient or outpatient. With the guidance of a preceptor, students will perform history and physical exams, discuss or obtain diagnostic tests and develop a treatment plan including differential diagnosis. Students will understand how to communicate effectively with preceptors, healthcare professionals, patients, and family members as applicable. Students will build upon information provided throughout the didactic phase on normal versus abnormal development, disease processes, prevention, and treatment plans across the pediatric population. Students may perform procedures with guidance of a preceptor.

MPA 631 Women's Health**(4 credits)**

This four week rotation is designed to expose students to the setting of obstetrics and gynecology. This rotation may be inpatient or outpatient. With the guidance of a preceptor, students will perform history and physical exams, discuss or obtain diagnostic tests, and develop a treatment plan including differential diagnosis. Students will understand how to communicate effectively with preceptors, healthcare professionals, patients, and family members as applicable. Students will build upon information provided throughout the didactic phase on normal versus abnormal development, prenatal care, disease processes, prevention, and treatment plans across the female population. This rotation may include newborn deliveries. Students may perform procedures with guidance of a preceptor.

MPA 632 Family Medicine**(8 credits)**

This eight-week rotation is designed to expose students to the setting of family medicine. This rotation will be outpatient. With the guidance of a preceptor, students will perform history and physical exams, discuss or obtain diagnostic tests, and develop a treatment plan including differential diagnosis. Students will understand how to communicate effectively with preceptors, healthcare professionals, patients, and family members as applicable. Students will build upon information provided throughout the didactic phase on normal versus abnormal development, disease processes, prevention, and treatment plans across the life span to a diverse population in the ambulatory primary care setting. Students may perform procedures with guidance of a preceptor.

MPA 633 Behavioral and Mental Health Care**(4 credits)**

This four-week rotation is designed to expose students to the setting of mental health. This rotation may be inpatient, outpatient, and/or emergency setting. With the guidance of a preceptor, students will perform history and physical exams, discuss or obtain diagnostic tests, and develop a treatment plan including differential diagnosis. Students will understand how to communicate effectively with preceptors, healthcare professionals, patients, and family members as applicable. Students will build upon information provided throughout the didactic phase on normal versus abnormal development, disease processes, prevention, and treatment plans across the life span. Students may encounter therapy sessions and alcohol or drug dependence programs while on rotation. Students may perform procedures with guidance of a preceptor.

MPA 634 Emergency Medicine**(8 credits)**

This eight-week rotation is designed to expose students to the setting of emergency medicine. This rotation will be in the emergency department setting. With the guidance of a preceptor, students will perform history and physical exams, discuss or obtain diagnostic tests, and develop a treatment plan including differential diagnosis. Students will understand how to communicate effectively with preceptors, healthcare professionals, patients, and family members as applicable. Students will build upon information provided throughout the didactic phase on normal versus abnormal development, disease processes, prevention, and treatment plans across the life span to a diverse population in the emergency department setting. Students may perform procedures with guidance of a preceptor.

MPA 635 Internal Medicine***(4 credits)***

This four-week rotation is designed to expose students to the setting of internal medicine. This rotation may be inpatient or outpatient. With the guidance of a preceptor, students will perform history and physical exams, discuss or obtain diagnostic tests, and develop a treatment plan including differential diagnosis. Students will understand how to communicate effectively with preceptors, healthcare professionals, patients, and family members as applicable. Students will build upon information provided throughout the didactic phase on normal versus abnormal development, disease processes, prevention and treatment plans across the life span to a diverse population in the varying internal medicine settings. Students may perform procedures with guidance of a preceptor.

MPA 636 General Surgery***(4 credits)***

This four-week rotation is designed to expose students to the setting of general surgery. This rotation will include inpatient and operating room experience. With the guidance of a preceptor, students will be asked to care for patients across the life span in the pre-operative, intra-operative, and post-operative environment which may include inpatient rounding. Students will be provided a further understanding of surgical conditions, operative procedures, injuries, and disease processes. Students may assist in surgical cases and perform procedures with guidance of a preceptor.

MPA 640,641 Clinical Elective I & II***(8 credits)***

These four-week rotations are designed to expose students to the medical setting of their choice. These rotations will provide students an opportunity to gain additional study in an area of interest not required. This can be an inpatient, outpatient, urgent care or surgical rotation. These rotations are designed to enhance student learning during the clinical phase of education.

MPA 650,651,652 Professional Development I, II, III***(4 credits)***

These courses are designed to build upon clinical rotations and to prepare students for the national certification exam. Students will complete summative coursework during the final two semesters. Lectures include discussions dealing with issues of patient safety, medical error, and risk management throughout the clinical year.