American Government Prerequisite Policy

Scope: Applicable to all MPA students

The MPA program requires that all entering students successfully demonstrate a working knowledge of the fundamentals of American Government. The American Government prerequisite ensures that MPA students begin the program with a solid understanding of government at the local, state, and federal levels. This policy codifies how MPA students can fulfill the program’s American Government prerequisite.

Students have the following options for successfully fulfilling the prerequisite:

- Students have taken an undergraduate course in American Government as shown on their official transcripts.
- Students may take an undergraduate course in American Government before beginning the MPA program. This option is required for international students.
- Students may take one of two American Government courses offered by StraighterLine.com. These courses are online, self-paced, and require a proctored final exam.
- Students may take the College Board’s American Government exam as administered by the College Level Examination Program (CLEP).

The admissions directors have the responsibility of ensuring that all students have satisfied this prerequisite with a passing grade or score before beginning the MPA program.