



MOUNT CARMEL COLLEGE

Autonomous

Master of Arts In Public Policy

PROSPECTUS 2018-19

MASTER OF ARTS IN PUBLIC POLICY

Overview

As economic growth propels India towards becoming a middle-income country over the next decade, it is imperative that its structures, processes and ideas of governance keep pace. Closing the governance gap requires talented individuals to be equipped with the right ideas, competencies and networks. The pioneering Master of Arts in Public Policy programme is specifically designed to create talented professionals who are well-equipped to engage in the complex arena of public affairs in India. It will provide a firm understanding of the fundamentals of public policy, economic reasoning, and governance and enable participants to apply them in their professional lives.

The programme is also designed to help participants become more engaged in the policy making process, as analysts, as public leaders, officials, public relations specialists, or indeed, as active citizens.

Outcomes that matter

The M.A. in Public Policy equips students with the knowledge of policy making process in India and the factors that influence it. Participants will acquire a range of skills that will help them to actively participate and influence the Government and policy makers in formulating and implementing the right policies for India.

Learning from the best

The faculty is drawn from Mount Carmel College's experienced set of faculty members from different disciplines and also academic experts, practitioners and experienced professionals from influential think tanks such as Takshashila Institution, Janaagraha, Namma Bengaluru Foundation.

Who should attend

The M.A. in Public Policy, a 2-year, full-time programme, is inter-disciplinary in nature and is an applied programme. The programme is designed for fresh graduates and professionals with 1-2 years of work experience – from any background – including humanities, sciences, engineering, journalism, law, finance and others. The programme meets the needs of those engaging in, or seeking to engage in a broad range of professions ranging from the media, civil service, non-government organisations, law, advocacy, regulatory affairs and international business.

Schedule

The third batch is set to begin in June 2018. Admissions are currently open. Regular classes will be held at Mount Carmel College, Bangalore. Students will also get to attend additional guest lectures, both in the classroom as well as online from the best public policy professionals.

Forge a career in politics, governance, policy research, law, advocacy, public affairs, and social change.

Outcomes and Curriculum

A trained, public policy professional

What are the principal policy challenges India faces today? Does the popular discourse frame these problems accurately? Does the political system address the fundamental problems in an efficient and effective manner? How do we evaluate the manifestos, proposals and demands made by political parties, interest groups and civil society? How do we engage as empowered citizens and trained professionals to make a constructive contribution to India's future?

Skills

Through the programme, students would be better able to:

- Identify and understand India's policy environment
- Situate India's role as an emerging geopolitical and geoeconomic power within the context of its developmental challenges
- Apply economic reasoning in analysing public policy challenges
- Engage, negotiate with and partner with government, public and non-governmental organisations
- Acquire the necessary skill set to communicate, persuade, and implement policy ideas.
- Forge effective relationships with policy actors and policy networks.

Curriculum overview

Each semester will consist of 16 credits for Core Courses and 8 credits for Allied Courses

Core Courses: There are 14 core courses and a dissertation in the final semester. These courses focus on the fundamentals of public policy in India and draws from different subject areas of economics, political science, sociology, psychology, history and communicative English.

Allied Courses: The Allied Courses focus on the essential skills required to become a successful policy professional. The skills imparted include communicating effectively, quantitative and data analysis techniques, policy analysis, media strategy, and political campaigning.

Dissertation and Internship: The final semester includes a Master's dissertation thesis and an internship. The dissertation is an academic paper involving in-depth research into a policy topic that the students will work on through the semester.

The internship or attachment is meant to provide students exposure to public policy in practice. Whether they decide to work in a think-tank as analysts or as a campaign manager for a politician, the internship will prove to be an enriching experience.

Assessment: Each course will have assignments and examinations to assess the students' progress. The assignments will be innovative and suited to the current industry needs. Assessment will range from writing essays, blogging, making a short Youtube video to running a simulated election campaign.

Course Outlines

The public policy curriculum was developed under the aegis of a distinguished board of studies. This includes Dr. M Govinda Rao, Member of 14th Finance Commission, and former member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India. The board also included Mr. Ravichandar, of Bangalore City Connect and a member of the former BBMP Restructuring Committee, who has played a catalytic role behind many innovations in the city. It also includes faculty from Mount Carmel College, the Takshashila Institution, Janaagraha, Namma Bengaluru Foundation and Bangalore University.

Semester I:

The first semester will ease the students into the public policy arena with courses such as Introduction to Public Policy, State and Political Institutions and will imbibe the fundamental principles of economics through Microeconomics. In addition, students will develop the required Writing and Effective Communication Skills for Public Policy. Quantitative Techniques for Public Policy and Indian Society and Social Movements make up the allied component in the first semester.

Semester II:

An introductory course in Macroeconomics is essential to developing a theoretical understanding of the structural issues facing India. Public Administration and Governance aims to introduce the students to governance and administrative process involved in policy making and its related challenges. Research methodology will equip the students with analytical skills required to draft new policies, read and critique the existing policies. It also prepares the students for the upcoming Dissertation in the fourth semester.

Drawing upon the knowledge and skills gained thus far, the students are expected to Write a Policy Brief on a specific public policy issue. Students are also exposed to Urban Governance which has become a niche field of study. Media Strategy for Public Policy, an allied course is a hands-on practical course designed for enhancing the skills required for a professional career in public policy.

Semester III:

In the third semester, students are exposed to the important aspects of Public Finance in India: understanding government borrowing and expenditure, tax policy, fiscal federalism and local finance. Policy briefs must be written concisely, coherently and quickly. This requires the ability to collect, understand, visualise and handle quantitative data and use the data to build conceptual models which helps in persuasive arguments. The students are provided with this training in the analytical skills for public policy paper. The course on Development Studies is aimed to give the students an appreciation of the trade-offs involved in pursuing economic growth and development Law and Policy making are like facets of the same coin. Students are taught to combine their knowledge in law with policy making to frame, advocate and implement effective policies for the public good. Geopolitics, an allied paper dwells into the current policy challenges affecting India and the world.

Semester IV:

This semester largely revolves around the Master's Dissertation, a 10-12,000 words in-depth research study, that the students will have to submit. Behavioural Sciences and Public Policy will introduce the students to the new and exciting developments in the field of behavioural economics and psychology and its impact on public policy. The Policy Analysis Workshop is an exciting three day, intense workshop where the students come up with a policy proposal to tackle a real/simulated problem. Internship will give practical exposure to students, as they work on a live public policy challenge, as faced by government, private sector, non-profit, research or other organisations. Finally, Ethics of Governance aims to impart frameworks for solving policy dilemmas.

Faculty

The course will combine teaching resources of Mount Carmel College along with experts from various think tanks and professionals from the field of public policy. Apart from this the course will also have guest lectures from eminent personalities in the field of policy making such as Mr. Govind Rao (member, 14th Finance Commission), Prof. Rajeev Gowda (MP Rajya Sabha), Ms Tvara Misra (Assistant Tax Commissioner, Govt of India), V Ravichandar (member BBMP Restructuring Committee), Mr. Rajeev Chandrashekar (MP Rajya Sabha).

Course Faculty

Dr. Suma Singh Associate Professor & Dean Humanities

Ms Alice Mathew Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Ms. Juliana Lazarus Associate Professor & HOD, Department of Journalism

Ms Kavya Shree Kumar Assistant Professor, Department of Economics

Experts from think tanks – Takshashila Institution, Janaagraha and Namma Bengaluru Foundation.



Administration

Admissions Policy

Candidates are expected to be deeply committed to transforming India for the better by engaging in public affairs. It welcomes applicants from any discipline.

Eligibility

Candidates should have a Bachelor's degree (at least 50% marks) in any discipline.

The ideal candidate should have:

- Strong communications skills, especially the ability to write effectively
- Analytical reasoning ability
- An open mind and the ability to acknowledge personal biases and value judgements.
- Undertaken either one or a combination of internship, volunteer activity, extra-curricular engagements or professional work experience.

Additional qualifications:

(These do not determine the selection process, but will give the candidate an advantage during the M.A. programme.)

- 1-3 years of work experience
- An ability to work with numbers
- An understanding of the basic principles of economics

Application Process:

The course begins in the second week of June 2018.

Application Deadline: 19 May 2018.

Stage 1: Apply online on the college website with supporting documents. The application form will be available **ONLY** online from March first week.

Stage 2: Once your application has been reviewed and cleared by the review committee, the course coordinator will contact you to submit an essay and a Statement of Purpose within 5 days.

Stage 3: Interview round. Interviews can be held remotely, if candidate is not from Bangalore.

Fees

Application Fee: Rs 500

Course Fee: A special introductory offer of Rs 1,00,000 per candidate per year.

Contact

For further information, write to: mapp@mccbllr.co.in

About Us

Mount Carmel College, Autonomous is owned and managed by the congregation of the Carmelite Sisters of St. Teresa (CSST). The institution since 1948 has been working towards the cause of “Empowering through Education”.

Over the years the college has grown in strength in terms of variety of programs offered and student strength. Today, the college offers 34 undergraduate programs, 2 B.Voc programs, 18 post graduate programs and doctoral programs. Affiliated to Bangalore University, MCC was granted autonomous status in 2005. The college has successfully completed three rounds of accreditation by NAAC and was awarded “A” grade in its third round in 2012. It is recognised as College with Potential for Excellence (CPE) by UGC. MCC is ranked among the top twenty colleges in India by India Today and Week magazines.

Vision:

Mount Carmel College, Bangalore, envisions a life oriented education that empowers the students through a humanising and liberative process, to be agents of transformation and development at different levels of life. Enabled and empowered, they respond pro – actively to concerns and conflicts inherent in today’s reality, especially those of women and persons who are unable to exercise their freedom to be human and work for the integrity of creation.

Mission

- To promote a value based education
- To contribute to the transformation of society through being socially conscious and responsible
- To synergize women and the less privileged regarding their basic human rights
- To promote inter-cultural and inter-religious harmony and concern for the human family
- To facilitate leadership among the students, enabling them to proactively involve themselves in social liberation
- To provide quality, integral vocational and career oriented education and create a climate for human and educational excellence
- To work towards the integrity of creation and foster interconnectedness, kinship and eco justice

Empowering through Education