



SCHOOL OF  
**PUBLIC AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**  
Indiana University

## Accelerated Master's Programs

### Description

The Accelerated Master's Program (AMP) allows exceptional undergraduate SPEA students to earn a prestigious Master of Public Affairs (MPA) or Master of Science in Environmental Science (MSES) degree from SPEA's top-ranked programs in just five years. You'll earn two degrees in less time than it would take to earn each separately by completing your first year of graduate courses during your undergraduate senior year. Interested students can also pursue the dual MPA-MSES degree and receive two master's degrees, in addition to their undergraduate degree, with just one additional semester in the Accelerated Master's Program.

Our Accelerated Master's Program is a highly competitive opportunity for outstanding SPEA students. If you are interested in the program, you'll need to plan ahead and be ready to apply during your junior year. Students interested in the AMP are encouraged to visit their SPEA Undergraduate Academic Advisor to ensure proper planning and preparation. Before starting the graduate program, you'll need to complete a minimum of 96 credit hours toward your undergraduate degree. A student must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5\*, and meet specific degree requirements as part of their undergraduate program. All undergraduate students interested in SPEA's accelerated programs are required to consult an academic advisor prior to the start of their junior year to declare their academic intent.

\*BSES students applying for the Accelerated MSES program must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.

### Structure

#### First Year:

You'll complete 24 credit hours of graduate coursework comprised of primarily core MPA, MSES, or MPA-MSES courses and required concentration courses. The credit hours from this first year of graduate study will be shared between the undergraduate and master's degree requirements.

#### Summer:

You'll obtain professionally relevant experience through a number of options, including an internship, overseas education program, and/or research or field experience.

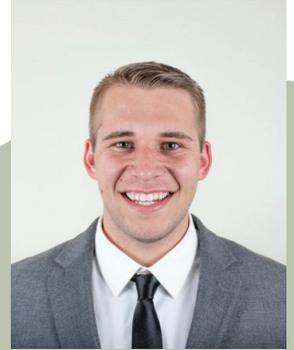
#### Second Year:

You'll take up to 24 credit hours of graduate coursework to complete your concentration requirements and the Capstone requirement. By the end of this second year, you must meet the 48-credit hour requirement for the MPA or MSES programs. Students who are pursuing the dual MPA-MSES degree will generally have one additional summer to engage in experiential learning opportunities and one remaining semester to complete master's coursework and meet the 60-credit hour requirement.

### Undergraduate Criteria

Prior to admission into the AMP, students must:

- Be admitted to a SPEA undergraduate major
- Submit a statement of academic intent prior to the beginning of the junior year, or obtain the permission of the Director of Undergraduate Academic Affairs
- Have completed a minimum of 96 credit hours, but no more than 112 credit hours
- See their Advisor and complete all academic degree requirements per the curriculum sheet for their major
- Have a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA if applying for the accelerated MPA program. Have a minimum of 3.0 cumulative GPA if applying to the accelerated MSES program.



**Wesley Hadley, MPA 2017**

**Sustainability and Sustainable Development;  
Social Entrepreneurship Certificate**

**Internships:** Area Coordinator, Experience Mission (Appalachian Region); Benefit Director, The Bee Corp (Bloomington, IN)

**Involvement:** SPEA Veterans Association, Nonprofit Management Association,

"The Accelerated Master's Program at SPEA has helped me develop skills and understanding that will allow me to do more good when I enter the workplace. I have been challenged by faculty and peers to rethink traditional models of philanthropy and to look for innovative, sustainable approaches to combatting our world's many social problems."

## Application Checklist

### Deadline: March 1

- ❑ **Application form** ([go.iu.edu/speaapp](http://go.iu.edu/speaapp))
  - \$55 application fee must be submitted before the application will be processed.
- ❑ **Departmental Questions** ([go.iu.edu/speadq](http://go.iu.edu/speadq))
  - Upon submission, the Departmental Questions will be automatically emailed to our office.
  - Under Section II, Educational Objectives, please indicate that you are applying for the Accelerated program.
- ❑ **3 Letters of Recommendation** – preferably from faculty members
  - If you are a **SPEA Honors** student you only need to submit one **letter of recommendation**. In the Online application, please list the contact information for your recommenders.
- ❑ **Résumé** – Your résumé may be submitted via the eApplication form, directly to SPEA 260, or emailed to [speaapps@indiana.edu](mailto:speaapps@indiana.edu).
- ❑ **Transcript** – our Admissions staff will look up your Indiana University transcripts on your behalf. If you have attended any other university, please submit official copies of these transcripts.
- ❑ **Interview** – all Accelerated applicants will have a personal interview with SPEA's Director of Graduate Student Services. You will be contacted by the Masters Program Office to schedule an interview after your application has been received and processed.

## Funding

- **Year 1:** Accelerated students are eligible for undergraduate funding options and pay undergraduate tuition rates during the first year of the program; therefore, they are not eligible to be considered for merit-based funding at the graduate level. First-year AMP students may apply for hourly teaching assistantships/graduate assistantships. For additional undergraduate funding opportunities, students should consult with the UPO.
- **Year 2:** AMP students are encouraged to apply for any merit aid opportunities made available to continuing SPEA master's students. AMP students will not be considered for merit-based awards in the same pool with incoming first-year students.

### Sydney Morton, MPA 2016 Public Management

#### Internships:

Consulting, PricewaterhouseCoopers (Bangkok, Thailand); Office of Chelsea Clinton, The Clinton Foundation (New York, NY); Seoul Metropolitan Government Global Intern (Seoul, South Korea); Summer Fundraising Events Intern, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (Norwalk, CT); Corporate Relations Intern, New York Cares (New York, NY)

#### Current Position:

Manager, International Services, American Red Cross National Headquarters (Washington, D.C.)

"Not only did SPEA give me the tools needed for a successful career in public affairs, expose me to important current trends and issues, and inspire me with its community of students and faculty – it opened doors that exceeded all of my expectations. SPEA presented me the opportunity to intern for the Seoul City Government in Korea and the Clinton Foundation's Office of Chelsea Clinton, brought my coursework to Bangkok, Thailand for a semester, and connected me with the career of my dreams at the American Red Cross National Headquarters."



#### For AMP Eligibility:

Undergraduate Program Office  
SPEA Suite 240  
812.855.0635  
[speaugrd@indiana.edu](mailto:speaugrd@indiana.edu)

#### For AMP Information:

Masters Program Office  
SPEA Suite 260  
812.855.2840  
[speainfo@indiana.edu](mailto:speainfo@indiana.edu)