



**UNIVERSITY  
OF ERFURT**

Willy Brandt School  
of Public Policy

**MASTER (MPP)**

**Master of Public Policy**



#### DEGREE

Master of Public Policy  
(MPP)

#### DURATION

4 semesters

#### COURSEWORK

120 ECTS

#### BEGIN OF STUDIES

October

#### LANGUAGE

English

#### TUITION FEES

EUR 1,800 / semester  
(2024/25)

### THE BRANDT SCHOOL

The Willy Brandt School of Public Policy at the University of Erfurt is *one of Germany's leading policy schools*. Our practice-oriented, international, and interdisciplinary approach and our internationally renowned faculty make us *a unique place for policy teaching and learning*.

- We train future leaders in government, civil society, and private enterprise in addressing the complex public policy challenges of our time.
- We are home to cutting-edge research on key areas in sustainable development, that is climate change, inequality, digitalization, violent conflict, and health.
- We generate impact by feeding results back to politics and society in general to inform evidence-based policy making.

The Brandt School is uniquely located in Thuringia's capital *Erfurt*, in the very center of the unified Germany, carrying deep historical significance from the Reformation to the Thirty Years' War, from Weimar to the Wall, with close infrastructural and intellectual ties to other important centers such as Berlin, Frankfurt, Prague, Brussels or Paris to name but a few.

## THE MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY

The Brandt School's Master of Public Policy (MPP) is a two-year *practice-oriented, international, and interdisciplinary degree program*. It is designed for young professionals who wish to pursue a career in public service, including government agencies, international organizations, and the non-profit sector.

Drawing from *political science, economics, sociology, public administration* and *law*, the MPP curriculum equips professional policy analysts and future decision makers with the knowledge and practical skills they will need to advance the public interest and make sound evidence-based policy decisions.

Throughout the coursework, research, and field experience, students *develop a deep understanding of the policy process and the involved institutions and actors*. The rise of the global South is embraced as is the continuing relevance of the global North's legacy. The curriculum is neither limited to mature democracies, nor to elite decision-making, but encompasses all types of policy environments, from state administration to non-state governance, from conflict and transition to development and preservation.





## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Our MPP program trains students for *careers in state-level and national governments, public administration, international organizations, civil society, think tanks, consultancies*, and other private companies.

Mainly training policy analysts and future leaders, the MPP has also paved the way for many alumni to work as social entrepreneurs, diplomats, development experts, stakeholders, journalists, managers, and researchers.

Brandt School Alumni Network:

[www.uni-erfurt.de/en/brandtschool/studies/alumni](http://www.uni-erfurt.de/en/brandtschool/studies/alumni)



Tassilo Scalera,  
MPP alumnus from Germany

*Through the school's interdisciplinary approach, we learn a lot from different fields and get the knowledge we need to solve the problems of tomorrow in an entrepreneurial way.*

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

MPP candidates study two years full-time, earning a total of *120 credit points* (ECTS). The first three semesters are dedicated to course work and the practical modules. During the fourth term, students write their thesis.

All students take eight core modules:

### Core Modules

- Introduction to Public Policy
- Economic Policy Analysis
- Comparative and International Public Policy
- Public Administration and Finance
- Management and Leadership
- Ethics in the Public Sector
- Quantitative Methods
- Advanced Methods

In addition, students may choose two out of four specializations:

### Specialization Modules

- Non-Profit Management and Social Entrepreneurship
- International and Global Public Policy
- Development and Socio-Economic Policies
- Conflict Studies and Management

### Practical Training Modules

Bridging the gap to the policy world is an important part of our teaching philosophy. MPP students, therefore, work with *practical examples and professional partners* and *solve real-world policy challenges* as part of a policy internship and a project group.

### Language Module

Students improve their language competencies within several language modules. Students may choose from a wide variety of languages. Basic German is compulsory for all students without prior knowledge of the language.

### PROJECT GROUPS

During their third semester, MPP students **implement a capstone** – the project group – under the supervision of an academic staff member. They **work in teams** to address a **tangible public policy problem** for an external ‘client’ in an entrepreneurial and professional way.

Past clients include development agencies such as the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), climate consultancies such as adelphi, state agencies such as the Thuringian Agency for Digitalization, non-partisan and charitable organizations such as the Transparency International, international financial institutions such as the European Investment Bank, or philanthropies such as the Open Society Foundations.

Many recommendations developed in these capstones have been adopted by clients. **Our students create impact already during their studies.**



## MAKE THE MOST OF IT

### ■ Build your network during the program

Get in touch with academics and practitioners through courses, guest talks, and make friendships with fellow students to build up your professional network.

### ■ Improve your soft skills

Benefit from expert trainings on topics such as leadership, diversity, communication, and other career offers.

### ■ Learn outside the classroom

Boost your digital literacy through our Digital Learning Lab, join excursions, and work with partners to learn through experience.

### ■ Make an impact

Turn your project ideas into practice through our Social Impact Campus, publish your findings on our blog, or advance policy solutions through your project group work.

### ■ Have a say

Join the Brandt School's student government or the university wide Student Council to represent your fellow students in relevant matters.

### ■ See the world from another perspective

Learn to change perspective through our context-sensitive curriculum, the interaction with your international fellow students, or an exchange semester with one of our partner universities.

## ADDITIONAL OFFERS

- support regarding housing, visa, health insurance, etc.
- mentoring and counselling through faculty, staff, and senior students
- preventive health offers
- university sports courses
- ...and many more.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- higher education entrance qualification (i.e., high school diploma)
- college or university degree (i.e., Bachelor, Master, Diploma, state exam, etc.) with a duration of at least six semesters, ideally in subjects from the social sciences, economics, or law
- professional work experience (minimum of one year)
- above-average grades or above-average professional performance
- strong analytical skills and pronounced interest in solving political problems
- excellent English language proficiency (TOEFL iBT: minimum 90 points, IELTS: minimum of 6.5 points in all disciplines, Cambridge CAE or CPE)







## APPLICATION

We strongly recommend applying before our priority deadline, which ends on *February 28th* of each year. The MPP program officially begins each year on *October 1st*. The orientation week takes place in early October.

You can find all information on deadlines, required documents and enrollment on our website.

[www.brandtschool.de/admission](http://www.brandtschool.de/admission)

## CHECKLIST

- ☒ Curriculum Vitae
- ☒ Statement of Purpose
- ☒ Certified Copies of Diplomas, Degree Certificates and Transcripts
- ☒ Proof of Professional Work Experience
- ☒ Proof of English Proficiency
- ☒ Copy of Your Passport

### GLOBAL, DIVERSE AND INNOVATIVE

Since 2004 more than *770 students from all over the world* have graduated with an MPP. At the Brandt School, diversity is a fact – and to us, this is an invaluable asset. The diversity of the people at the school is reflected in various characteristics such as origin, age, professional, and academic background. Our *alumni come from around 100 countries* and students from 30–40 different countries regularly take up their studies in the current MPP classes. They not only learn from faculty and with each other, but also from each other and our faculty from them.

Our commitment to diversity is also reflected in graduate teaching. Mandatory courses cover global case studies in „Comparative Public Policy,“ strategies of cross-cultural collaboration in „Management and Leadership,“ and heterodox approaches in „Economic Analysis and Modeling.“

We also offer courses with relevant focuses. Previous ones have looked into „Gender and Conflict“ or looked into „Advancing Gender-smart Climate Finance“. In our public events, conferences, and discussions, we take care to *provide space for a diversity of voices and positions.*



*Studying at the Brandt School offered me the valuable opportunity of interacting with students from all over the world, profiting from different points of view and learning in a diverse and motivating environment.*

Ayanga Edubio,  
MPP-alumna from Nigeria

### CONTACT

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### FURTHER INFORMATION

- 🌐 [www.brandtschool.de](http://www.brandtschool.de)
- 🌐 [linkedin.com/school/brandtschool](https://www.linkedin.com/school/brandtschool)
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