2021 CAPPA Ph.D. Orientation

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University of Texas at Arlington
What is a Ph.D. degree?

- Learning & Research
  - Having a strong philosophical & disciplinary foundation
  - Ability to think critically
- Ability to see the connections between concepts
- Rigorous work/assignments
  - Self-driven
- Ability to review and synthesize information
- Question the status quo
- Devote lots of time to study
Knowledge

Breadth vs depth

Early years: Breadth of study
- Learn about problems
- Learn about techniques
- Get ideas

Later years: increasing depth
- Subject matter experts
- Identification of expertise/ niche

Outcome: Create knowledge
CAPP A Doctoral Degrees – PAPP & UPPP

• Two Doctoral Degrees
  • Public Administration & Public Policy (PAPP)
  • Urban Planning & Public Policy (UPPP)

• Very distinct programs - different objectives

• Faculty: https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/cappa/about/public-affairs-planning-faculty

• Grad Adviser: Ms. Barbara Saenz

• Prior to signing up for courses, meet with Chair and get approval.
Dissertation

• Options
  • Traditional monograph
  • 3 articles dissertation
  • Refer to the handbooks
Public Administration and Public Policy (PAPP)

- Uniqueness – Interdisciplinary
  - 8 required courses
  - 4 research courses
  - 1 elective
  - Total coursework: 39 hours
  - Min for degree: 48 hours
- FT student: 2 years to complete coursework
- End of coursework (39 hours), take comprehensive exam
- Proposal
- Dissertation (up to 66 hours)
# PAPP Students

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<th>SUMMER SESSION</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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- **First Year**
- **Second Year**
  - PAPP 5344
  - PAPP 6307
  - PAPP 6309
- **Third Year**
  - PAPP 6399, 6699, or 6999
- **Fourth Year**
  - PAPP 6399, 6699, or 7399

Total Hours: 51-66
Urban Planning and Public Policy (UPPP)

• Uniqueness - Combination of planning, urban design, land use, transportation, environmental sustainability, real estate, and engineering.

• Field Areas
  • Urban Policy and Planning
  • Physical Planning, Development and Urban Design
  • Land Use/Transportation Analysis, Planning and policy
  • Environmental Planning Policy/Sustainability
• Coursework: 39 credit hours
  • Leveling courses: 6 hours
  • Core: 9 hours
  • Methods courses: 12 hours
  • Electives/ Field area courses: 12 hours
• Full-time student: 2 years to complete coursework
• End of coursework (39 hours), present pre-proposal
• Field exam & Proposal
• Dissertation (up to 66 hours)
## UPPP Students

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Total Hours: 48-66
Resources

- The PhD Handbook – one for each doctoral program
- Grad Adviser – Has knowledge of all processes
- Graduate School: [https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/gradschool/resources/workshops-and-programs/navigating-grad-school](https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/gradschool/resources/workshops-and-programs/navigating-grad-school)
- Dissertation Lab: [https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/gradschool/resources/workshops-and-programs/dissertation-lab](https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/gradschool/resources/workshops-and-programs/dissertation-lab)
- [https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/gradschool/resources/workshops-and-programs/online-workshops](https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/gradschool/resources/workshops-and-programs/online-workshops)
- UTA Catalog: [https://catalog.uta.edu/aboututa/](https://catalog.uta.edu/aboututa/)
- UTA Library: [https://libraries.uta.edu/research](https://libraries.uta.edu/research)
- Imagine PhD: [https://www.imaginephd.com/about](https://www.imaginephd.com/about)
## Steps to Follow

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<th>WORK WITH</th>
<th>SUBMITTED TO</th>
<th>WHEN</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Assigned a Faculty Adviser</td>
<td>Faculty Adviser</td>
<td>Grad Adviser</td>
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<td>Milestone Agreement form &amp; select 1st semester courses</td>
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<td>Grad Adviser</td>
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<td>Form Diagnostic Advisory Committee (DAC)</td>
<td>Faculty Adviser</td>
<td>Grad Adviser</td>
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<td>Schedule diagnostic evaluation</td>
<td>DAC</td>
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<td>Set up Dissertation Committee</td>
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<td>Grad Adviser</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Take Comprehensive/ Field exam</td>
<td>DAC/ Dissertation Committee</td>
<td>Grad Adviser</td>
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<td>Take dissertation hours</td>
<td>Dissertation Chair</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Defend proposal &amp; achieve candidacy/ ABD status</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Defend dissertation</td>
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Focus is critical
Understand what research is/involves
Attend research conferences, learn, network
Set own deadlines
Seek faculty advise
Research/ papers = impact!
Create a base of skills, techniques, experience
Be extremely deep in your PhD research
Next 5 years

- Prepare yourself to do great work
  - Knowledge
  - Experience
  - Techniques
  - Mindset

- Find balance – life & work

- Take care of yourself