

Master of Policy and Program Evaluation

كلية السياسات العامة
College of Public Policy

جامعة حمد بن خليفة
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY



Master of Policy and Program Evaluation (MPPE)

The Master of Policy and Program Evaluation (MPPE) is a full-time, two-year degree program, delivered in-person by the College of Public Policy at Hamad Bin Khalifa University. Through a comprehensive, applied curriculum, students assess effectiveness, efficiency, equity and value, and translate evidence into actionable insights.

The program offers academic and professional training in policy and program evaluation, including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods approaches; monitoring and performance management systems; and the ethical and responsible use of data and evidence. It also emphasizes stakeholder-informed and participatory approaches, supporting effective, inclusive and sustainable decision-making.

The MPPE provides training for graduate students from a range of disciplines in the skills needed to design, conduct and communicate high-quality evaluations that inform policy and program improvement in Qatar and the region.

Program mission

The mission of the Master of Policy and Program Evaluation is to educate, equip and empower the next generation of ethically grounded evaluation professionals and policy practitioners in Qatar and beyond.

We strive to provide advanced knowledge and skills to design, conduct and communicate high-quality evaluations that address complex policy and program

challenges and support evidence-informed decision-making for the public good. We foster an inclusive and diverse learning environment that promotes a culture of excellence, integrity, respect, and fairness. We emphasize the design, analysis and application of evaluation methods, including participatory and stakeholder-informed approaches, to improve policies and programs in a rapidly evolving and data-driven world.

The program enhances meaningful contributions to society through evidence use, accountability, and continuous improvement. Our graduates aspire to communicate findings clearly, engage stakeholders effectively, and contribute to positive local and global impact through better policies and programs.

Learning outcome

- ▶ Analyze and frame policy and program evaluation problems using stakeholder-informed, participatory, and context-sensitive approaches across diverse and evolving policy environments.
- ▶ Design and apply appropriate quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods evaluation approaches to generate credible, context-appropriate, and policy-relevant evidence.

- ▶ Critically assess the effectiveness, efficiency, equity, and value of policies and programs using program theory, economic evaluation tools, and evidence-based approaches.
- ▶ Interpret and synthesize evaluation findings and communicate them effectively in written, oral, and professional formats to inform decision-making, accountability, and policy and program improvement in ethically responsible ways.
- ▶ Design and implement monitoring, performance management, and evaluation systems using appropriate indicators, administrative data, and stakeholder-informed participatory approaches to support learning and continuous program improvement.

Program Focus

The MPPE program builds on the core pillars of policy and program evaluation: evaluation design, economic analysis, ethics, and research methodology. The program is designed to combine methodological training, critical inquiry, and applied evaluation practice within an interdisciplinary learning environment. Distinctive features include a strong emphasis on ethics, evidence use, and engagement with real policy and program settings. The capstone and thesis pathways, together with sectoral electives, deepen the core training and provide opportunities for students to work with partners and stakeholders on current evaluation challenges. The program's ambition is to develop professionals who can think critically and act effectively.

Graduates of this program will be equipped to:

- ▶ Function effectively as leading practitioners or senior managers, policy makers, policy analysts, and policy and program evaluators in government, the private sector, NGOs, and other organizations, designing, improving, leading, and implementing effective and efficient policies and programs.
- ▶ Provide solutions to complex public-policy and programmatic challenges that account for economic,

ethical, and societal considerations as well as professional standards, by applying acquired knowledge in policy analysis and evaluation.

- ▶ Apply their broad education in policy and program evaluation to design and conduct credible evaluations, communicate findings to diverse stakeholders, and use evidence to support program improvement and policy decision-making.

Curriculum

A 36-credit program taught over two years that includes:

- ▶ **7 core courses (21 credits)**
 - ▶ PPO 601 Research Methods for Public Policy
 - ▶ PPO 602 Ethics, Law, and Public Policy
 - ▶ PEV 603 Foundations of Policy Cycle and Program Design
 - ▶ PEV 660 Advanced Methods for Program Evaluation
 - ▶ PEV 661 Benefit-Cost Analysis for Program Evaluation
 - ▶ PEV 602 Qualitative Methods for Program Evaluation
 - ▶ PEV 662 Program Evaluation Planning and Designs
- ▶ **3 electives (9 credits) if pursuing the Capstone option, or 2 electives (6 credits) if pursuing the Thesis option, selected from the following courses (as available):**
 - ▶ PPO-672 Digital Governance
 - ▶ SPO-650 Leadership in Public Policy
 - ▶ SPO-657 Education Policy
 - ▶ PPO-651 Global Political Economy
 - ▶ PPO-671 Postwar Reconstruction
 - ▶ PPO-702 Advanced Seminar in Sustainability and Climate Policy
 - ▶ PPO-703 Advanced Seminar in Social Policy
 - ▶ GHP-601 Foundations of Global Health Policy
 - ▶ GHP-604 Data, AI, and Methods in Contemporary Health Policy
- ▶ **PEV 690: Capstone Project (6 credits) or PEV 695: Thesis (9 credits)**

Admission and Application Requirements

Applicants seeking admission to the Master of Policy and Program Evaluation should hold a bachelor's degree from a recognized university with a strong academic record (minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale). Applicants from all academic backgrounds are welcome, including engineering, natural sciences, and the humanities. Preference will be given to those with prior academic preparation in political science, public administration, economics, communications, or other social science disciplines. In addition, prior work experience in a relevant field and/or prior academic coursework in statistics is recommended.

Applicants are required to submit an IELTS score of 6.5 or a TOEFL score of 79 to demonstrate their proficiency in English.

Further details about the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption (where this is an option) are available on the website: admissions.hbku.edu.qa

Application requirements

A completed online application form:
admissions.hbku.edu.qa

Academic transcripts

Official electronic copies of transcripts should be submitted as part of the online application. Final transcripts and graduation statements are required for all previous university studies. All transcripts submitted should include an explanation of the grading system. For those who have not completed their current studies, transcripts must include results from the last completed semester of coursework. Transcripts in languages other than English or Arabic must be accompanied by an official translation. Applicants who are admitted to the program based on copies of or incomplete transcripts will be required to provide original transcripts upon enrollment in order to register for courses.

Standardized test results

Official copies of standardized test results must be sent directly to HBKU. Please refer to the institutional codes below:

- ▶ TOEFL: 4981
- ▶ IELTS: No code required. Students should ask the IELTS center where they tested to send the IELTS TRF to Hamad Bin Khalifa University.

Letters of recommendation

Two letters of recommendation, at least one of which must be from an academic referee. Letters that are not directly written for this program, or are incomplete, will not be accepted.

Personal statement of interest

Applicants should submit a personal statement as part of the online application. The statement should explain why the candidate is applying to the program, and how their studies will contribute to the achievement of their personal objectives, including information about the applicant's research interests and achievements (minimum of 300, maximum of 500 words).

Resume/Curriculum vitae

Applicants should submit a copy of their current resume or curriculum vitae as part of the online application.

Identification document:

All applicants should submit an electronic copy of their passport as part of the online application. Nationals and residents of Qatar should also submit their valid Qatari ID.

Student funding

The College of Public Policy provides opportunities for funding on a competitive basis. Further information will be provided to applicants who are admitted to the program.

Admission inquiries

admissions.cpp@hbku.edu.qa