European Master’s in
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Detailed programme description

Academic Year 2013–2014
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1. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

EMPA-Budapest is a one-year Master’s Certificate programme provided by the Centre for Public Affairs Studies (CPAS) of the Faculty of Economics at Corvinus University of Budapest.

The EMPA programme is offered by a network of twelve different universities. Besides CPAS, the following institutions are involved:
- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium),
- Deutsche Hochschule für Verwaltungswissenschaften, Speyer (Germany),
- Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris (France),
- Institut d’Études Politiques Lyon (France),
- Tallin University of Technology (Estonia),
- University of Liverpool (the United Kingdom),
- University of Vaasa (Finland),
- Rijksuniversiteit Leiden (the Netherlands),
- Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam (the Netherlands),
- University of Geneva (Switzerland),
- Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium),
- University of Bocconi (Italy)

This programme is designed for students enrolling to the MSc in Public Policy and Management at the Faculty of Economics or arriving from the universities of the EMPA network. Exchange students are allowed to take courses offered within the EMPA programme. Individuals who hold bachelor or master’s degree can both apply for this one year certificate programme. Students may spend the second semester in one of the partner universities, in which case they get a Certificate jointly signed by these EMPA partners.

1.1 PROGRAMME AIMS

The public sector needs young practitioners who can cross cultural boundaries and manage effectively in multicultural situations in Europe. Accordingly, many public agencies have sought to employ graduates who demonstrate the managerial, cultural and linguistic skills necessary for national and international careers. The European Master’s in Public Administration (EMPA) was created as a joint response to this demand. The primary objective of the programme is to stimulate the development of European Master’s in Public Administration by internationalising the existing postgraduate degree programmes of the participating institutions. For this purpose, the institutions have developed a common framework for scheduling and organising a one-year study programme on the basis of mutually agreed course requirements, curriculum elements, cross-national and common examination standards and well structured and closely supervised student exchanges.
1.2 MAJOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates will have the skills to:

– Fulfil complex tasks related to their jobs in public administration;
– Identify problems, as well as formulate and implement solutions related to public administration;
– Manage complex systems in an international environment;
– Effectively communicate with different cultures;
– Actively communicate in at least two languages and use negotiation and persuasion techniques effectively.

1.3 PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

The EMPA programme focuses on the comparative analysis of questions of public administration, public policy and public management in different (EU and non-EU) European countries in the context of processes of internationalisation, Europeanisation and European integration.

The programme is designed to provide a comparative understanding of public sector structures, policies and processes in different European countries, as well as to present a methodology for analysing and dealing with different structures and processes of public sector management, guidance and control. A basic topic is the way in which the characteristics of different systems of government and administration within Europe relate to national and sub-national perspectives on issues, processes and institutions of European integration, both within and beyond the borders of the EU.

The main feature of the EMPA-Budapest programme is that it offers a structure of core and elective courses which focuses on Hungarian and Central European characteristics. This strategy provides detailed information for different approaches and questions regarding our public policies. The curriculum is taught entirely in English. In addition to the courses, it includes the execution of a directed research programme on a comparative public administration topic, which should result in a dissertation of not more than forty pages and at the level of a journal article. The project might include field research/internship in another country. The dissertation should preferably be written in English.

Students choosing to register at Corvinus University take the first part of the programme (first semester) at this university. The courses are taught in English. The second part (second semester) of the programme may be taken either at one of the other institutions in the network, or at the same university. The language of instruction is generally English, but it is German in Speyer and French in Paris. This means that graduating students get an MA in Public Administration from the Corvinus University and a certificate jointly signed by these EMPA partners.

1.4 STRUCTURE OF STUDIES

2 academic semesters
Academic credits altogether: 75
1.5 ACADEMIC CONTACTS

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2. COURSES

The detailed description and requirements of all courses are available at the following website:
http://economics.uni-corvinus.hu

Please note that all course descriptions are subject to change and it is always the course syllabus handed out in the first class of the given course that is valid for the given semester!