



Robert M. La Follette
School of Public Affairs
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Curriculum & Career Planning



Hilary Shager, Associate Director
La Follette School Orientation
August 31, 2017

Everything you'll learn about today is on the LFS website:

La Follette Website Resources: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu>

- Student resources: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/students>
 - Advising and Academic Guidelines: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/students/advising-and-academic-guidelines>
 - LFS handbook: https://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/images/student_services/Handbook_2017.pdf
- Career development: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/career-development>
- Outreach and public service: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/outreach-public-service>
- News: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/news>
- Calendar: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/calendar>
- Alumni & friends: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/alumni-friends>

Important dates for University:

https://registrar.wisc.edu/fall_deadlines_at_a_glance.htm

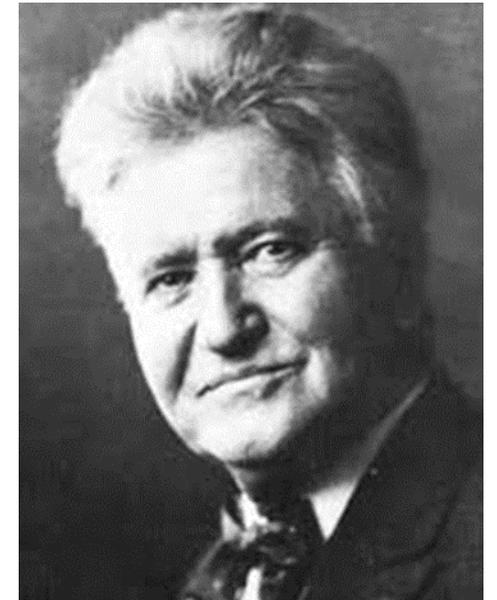


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School Mission & Goals

The La Follette School pursues research, education, and public service in a collaborative setting where students, faculty, and practitioners interact closely and draw upon the outstanding scholarly resources of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In doing so, we:

- produce and publish innovative multidisciplinary policy and management research;
- inform the practice of public affairs locally, nationally, and globally by disseminating knowledge to practitioners and to the broader public; and
- train, mentor, and educate students interested in domestic and international policy and governance in public, non-profit, and private settings.





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Degree Programs

- Both MPA and MIPA are 42-credit programs*
 - ½ Core knowledge base (transferrable skills)
 - ½ Flexible, individualized electives
 - Hands-on learning opportunities
- Courses led by world-renowned faculty
 - Each student assigned two faculty advisors
 - Also draw from across university and high-level practitioner community
- Academic and career advising
 - Admissions & Advising Coordinator, Mo O'Connor
 - For appointments: <https://calendar.wisc.edu/scheduling-assistant/>
 - Career Services Coordinator, Steve Kulig

Student resources: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/students/>

Student handbook: https://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/images/student_services/Handbook_2017.pdf

*Note that requirements will vary for dual or double degree, accelerated (4+1), PhD students



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Master of Public Affairs (MPA)

- 7 core, required courses
 - PA 800: Professional Development Workshop
 - PA 818: Quantitative Tools for Public Policy Analysis
 - PA 880: Microeconomic Policy Analysis
 - PA 874: The Policymaking Process
 - PA 873: Introduction to Policy Analysis
 - PA 878: Introduction to Public Management
 - PA 869: Workshop in Public Affairs



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Master of International Public Affairs (MIPA)

- 7 core, required courses
 - PA 800: Professional Development Workshop
 - PA 818: Quantitative Tools for Public Policy Analysis
 - PA 880: Microeconomic Policy Analysis
 - PA 850: International Governance
 - PA 873: Introduction to Policy Analysis
 - PA 854: Macroeconomic Policy and International Financial Regulation OR
PA 856: Trade, Competition, & Governance in a Global Economy
 - PA 860: Workshop in International Public Affairs



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Electives*

- Substantive area focus
 - MPA examples: Social and Poverty policy, Health Policy, Energy and Environmental Policy, Education, Urban & Regional Planning
 - MIPA examples: Trade and Finance, Development, Energy and Environmental Policy, Security and Defense, Geographic Area
- Take analytical skills to the next level
 - Advanced Quantitative Methods (PA 819)
 - Public Program Evaluation (PA 871, PA 974-MIPA)
 - Cost-Benefit Analysis (PA 881-MPA and MIPA sections)
- Advanced management courses
 - Nonprofit Leadership, Advanced Public Management
 - Tax Policy, Budgeting
- Language study (MIPAs)
 - Up to 6 credits can count toward electives
- Dual degree programs
 - Public Health, Law, Urban Planning, Neuroscience
- Certificate programs
 - Energy Analysis & Policy, Business School Certificates, Global Health, and many more

*Important to note that not all electives are offered every year; talk with advisors about your elective interests

*Please share your experiences, especially re: courses in other departments

LFS Learning Goals and Assessment Plan

Knowledge

- Students will demonstrate understanding of major current and past policy debates, research findings, and analytical methodologies in each of the following core areas: microeconomic policy analysis, quantitative tools for policy analysis, policy analysis, the policymaking process, and public management.
- Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills. They will retrieve and examine the policy literature and evaluate evidence for and against hypotheses, identify knowledge gaps, strengths and weaknesses in existing literature, synthesize knowledge, and develop conclusions.

Applied Research

- Students will read, comprehend, and effectively summarize policy research and policy-relevant academic research.
- Students will effectively summarize data for a general (non-academic) or policy audience.
- Students will demonstrate competency in methods of inferential statistics including those associated with multivariate regression models.

Communication

- Students will communicate in clear written language: a real-world policy problem, relevant scholarly studies and practical applications, a policy-analytic method to investigate the problem, and client-oriented advice to mitigate the problem.
- Students will communicate substance of point 1 highly concisely and in language understandable to a non-specialist.
- Students will communicate substance of point 2 orally.

Professional and Ethical Conduct

- Students will identify and appropriately respond to scenarios involving the ethical and professional responsibilities of public administration.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to maintain human subjects protections when designing studies, collecting data and reporting results.
- Students will know and adhere to high levels of professional conduct, ethical decision-making and legal and regulatory compliance.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to maintain fidelity to objective social science-based research methods.

Professional Skills and Career Preparation

- Students will develop effective job-seeking tools and utilize job-seeking techniques.
- Students will complete high quality group projects, including demonstration of effective project management and teamwork.

MPA Assessment Plan: http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/images/student_services/GRAD_Assessment_Plan_LFS_MPA_062316.pdf

MIPA Assessment Plan: http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/images/student_services/GRAD_Assessment_Plan_LFS_MIPA_062316.pdf



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Professional Development

- PA 800: Professional Development Workshop
 - Develop portfolio (IDP) to use for internship, job search
 - Explore career options via guest speakers, networking events, alumni connections
 - Work on skills to help you get the most out of your La Follette experience
- Professional development mini-courses and events (La Follette & campus)
- Internships and work experience
- Drop-in/appointments with Career Services Coordinator, Steve Kulig

Career Development: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/careerdevelopment.html>

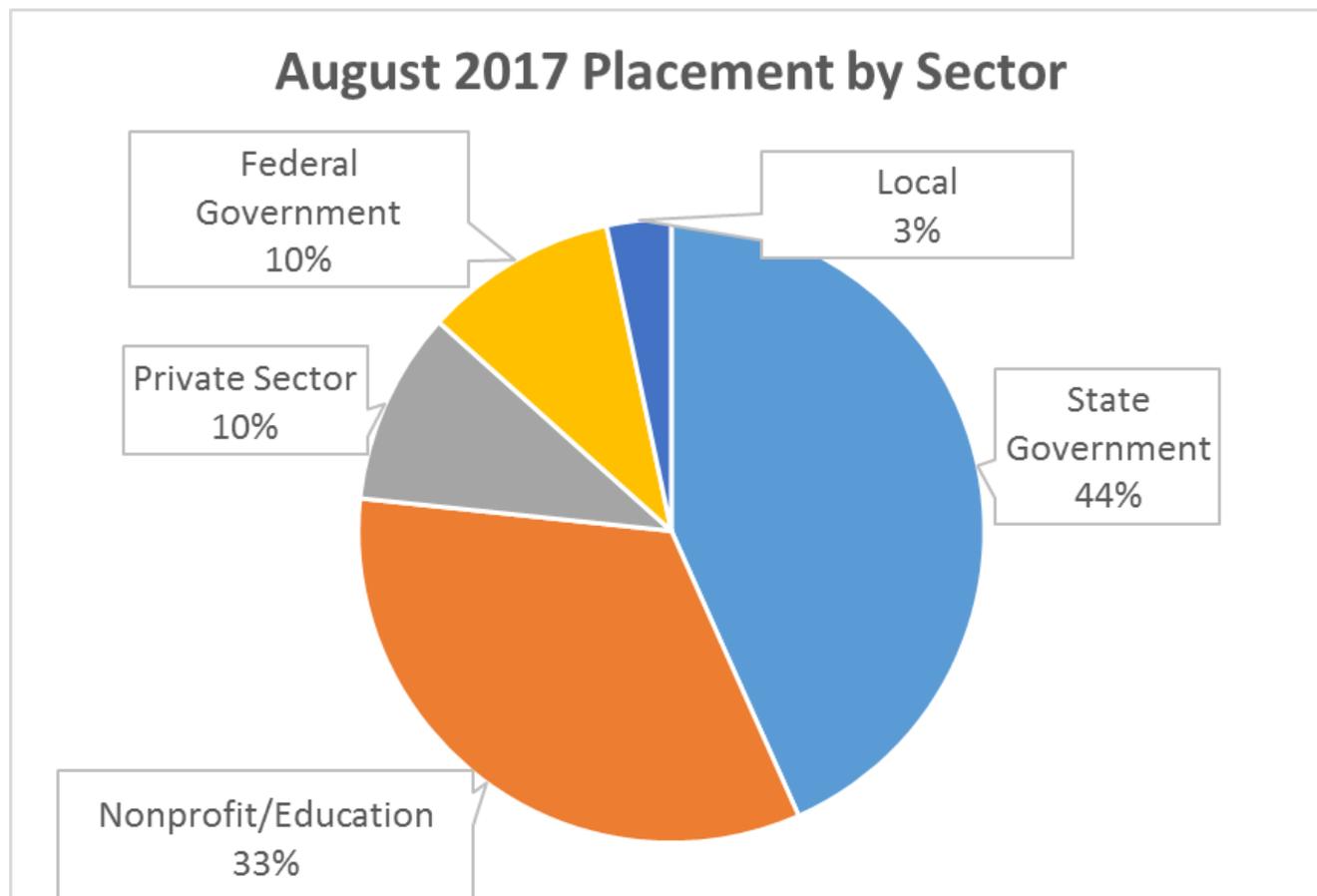
SuccessWorks (formerly L&S Career Services), Government, Politics, Policy, & Law (Marie Koko):
<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/government-politics-policy-and-law/>

UW Grad School Office of Professional Development: <http://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>

UW Job Center: <http://jobcenter.wisc.edu/>



2017 Career Statistics



- 2016 6-month post-graduation placement rate = 97%
- 2017 3-month post graduation rate = 91%
- Reported starting salary range \$36K to \$125K
- Check our website for more information, alumni profiles



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The “Wisconsin Idea” at LFS

“The boundaries of the University are the boundaries of the State”

(and not just the state anymore...)

- Student projects for “real world” clients
- Public symposiums & lectures
- Faculty research and consulting
- WI Family Impact Seminar & Committee Connect
- Evidence Based Health Policy Project
- Wisconsin Women in Government





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Outreach Events

Outreach Specialists

- Bridget Pirsch
- Heidi Normandin

- La Follette in Chicago (+ other cities)
- Policy After Work Series
- Madison Reception for Alumni and Friends
- Spring symposium and other outreach events
- WI Women in Government
- WI Family Impact Seminars & Committee Connect
- **Join us at Hill Fest Welcome Picnic, Tuesday, Sept. 5, 5-7pm**

Outreach & Public Service: <https://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/outreach-public-service>

Wisconsin Family Impact Seminars: <http://wisfamilyimpact.org/>





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La Follette School Communications

University Relations Specialist, Lisa Hildebrand

- La Follette news
- Student and alumni profiles
- *La Follette News & Notes (e-newsletter), Policy Report, Working Paper Series*
- Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn

Calendar: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/calendar>

News: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/news>

Research Publications: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/research/publications>

Editorial Resources: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/students/student-resources>

Alumni & Friends: <http://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/alumnifriends.html>



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Support Staff

- **Steve Kulig**, Administrator & Career Services Coordinator
- **David Wright-Racette**, Student Services Associate
- **Andy Lambert**, Information Technology Specialist
- **Marjorie Matthews**, University Services Associate
- **Cindy Manthe**, Financial Specialist
- **Benefits and Payroll Specialist**, currently hiring

See “La Follette Staff 2017” handout in your folder



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Work Space and Computer Resources

- Work space
 - La Follette lounge (La Follette, basement)
 - La Follette Graduate Student Office (7413 Sewell Social Sciences Building)
 - Conference room and phone available for scheduling
 - La Follette Conference room (La Follette, 1st floor)
 - La Follette PA Office (410 Bascom Hall)
- Campus computer resources
 - UW-Madison Information Technology: <https://it.wisc.edu/>
 - Social Sciences Computing Cooperative: <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/sscc/>
 - Excellent statistical software training
 - LYNDIA: <https://it.wisc.edu/services/online-training-lynda-com/>



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Other Campus Resources

- McBurney Disability Resource Center: <http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/>
 - Obtaining a “Learning Visa”
- University Health Services: <http://www.uhs.wisc.edu/services/>
- University Counseling Services: <https://www.uhs.wisc.edu/mental-health/>
- International Student Services: <http://iss.wisc.edu/>
- LGBT Campus Center: <https://lgbt.wisc.edu/>
- Multicultural Graduate Network: <http://grad.wisc.edu/diversity/mgn>
- Wisconsin Involvement Network: <https://win.wisc.edu/>
- Graduate School: <http://grad.wisc.edu/>



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Welcome to the La Follette School-- you've made a great choice!

- Small program, with supportive, family feel
 - Get to know your faculty and staff
 - Get to know your classmates—STUDY GROUPS, LSSA
- With the resources of a world-class, tier-1 research university
 - UW-Madison recently ranked as high as 2nd in public administration research
 - Faculty who wrote the textbooks
- State capitol
 - Project, internship, and job opportunities—fulfilling the “Wisconsin Idea”
 - Community, federal, global ties
- Enjoy the city of Madison
- **See you at Hill Fest, Tuesday, Sept. 5, 5-7pm!**

