

Doctoral Program in Public Affairs Social Work Track

cohpa.ucf.edu/publicaffairs

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Coleen Cicale, Social Work Track student

Financial Support

The Doctoral Program in Public Affairs and the School of Social Work offer graduate teaching assistantships (GTAs), including tuition waivers. GTAs in the school receive mentoring from faculty experts in education design and delivery. The school also provides graduate research assistantships (GRAs) when available. In addition, UCF and the College of Health and Public Affairs offer scholarships and fellowships, including the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship.



UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL FLORIDA

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT UCF

UCF's Doctoral Program in Public Affairs offers an interdisciplinary Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Affairs with four tracks — social work, criminal justice, health services management and research, and public administration. The program has a community-based focus with an emphasis on collaborative relationships across the public, private and nonprofit sectors.

Social problems are difficult to comprehend as they encompass individual, relationship, community and societal factors. An interdisciplinary approach to these problems provides an avenue to better understand this complexity and leads to innovative responses that transcend any one discipline or field of practice.

A Natural Fit with Social Work

The program is a natural fit with the social work discipline as it focuses on community collaboration, engagement and transformation within a social justice and human rights context. Thus, a starting point for scholarly work includes inquiry into the sources and indicators of inequality.

Curriculum

The program includes 60 credit hours beyond the master's degree, with course work in social inquiry, public policy and research methods. The Social Work Track consists of nine credit hours on theory building, evidence-based interventions and program design.

Careers

Public affairs' graduates secure positions in academia, public service, nonprofit advocacy or public policy. In doing so, they continue their commitment to making a difference in the world.

CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESEARCH AND TRAINING

The School of Social Work has established a university-based Center for Behavioral Health Research and Training — the first of its kind in Florida.

The center links practitioners and agencies with university researchers to conduct relevant and timely behavioral health evaluation and intervention research. The center also provides mentoring and research training support for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and junior scientists in cutting-edge health behavior research.

Behavioral Health Topics

Social work faculty members associated with the center conduct training and research in a variety of behavioral health topics such as chronic illness support, suicide prevention, trauma-informed care, violence prevention, aging in place, mental health, and substance abuse prevention and intervention.