

HIGHER EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION (M.S.)

Master of Science Program

Program Code: MS-SP

Major Code: HEA

Higher Education Administration Department

Bacon Hall 214C, (716) 878-3789

hea.buffalostate.edu/ (<http://hea.buffalostate.edu/>)

The Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration (HESAA) program is a professional preparation program for individuals who are interested in pursuing careers in college and university settings, supporting students in and out of the classroom in functional areas such as academic advising, residence life, student engagement, financial aid, study abroad, and many more. The HESAA degree is a multifaceted program that blends counseling and student development knowledge with administrative and assessment skills, to prepare professionals to work with an increasingly diverse college population. The HESAA program prepares professionals who are socially just, authentic, reflective and collaborative, who will transform systems of higher education for greater student success. The program prepares scholar practitioners who possess the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to advocate for full and equitable participation of all individuals in post-secondary institutions.

Admission Requirements

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale). Applicants who hold a bachelor's degree but do not meet the minimum GPA requirement may be granted provisional acceptance based on the additional requirements.
2. A current resume. Consideration can be given to work-related experience and involvement in the field.
3. **Two letters of recommendation**, of which at least one must be from a former faculty/instructor who can speak to your academic and classroom performance and one must be from a professional who works in student affairs or the field of higher education. Letters of recommendation should address the following:
 - How long they have known you and in what capacity.
 - Strengths and weaknesses as they relate to your academic preparedness and/or professional skills.
 - Assessment of your ability for professional work within student affairs or higher education.
4. A **Statement of Purpose** which addresses your understanding of and interest in the HESAA program, identifies qualities and characteristics you will contribute

as a member of the program, and addresses your academic preparedness for graduate school work. If your GPA falls below the required 3.0 GPA, please address this in your statement of purpose. Your statement will be evaluated as a writing sample.

5. An interview with HESAA program faculty may be required.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses (27 credit hours)		
HEA 616	AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION	3
HEA 617	STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING	3
HEA 618	STUDENT AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION	3
HEA 620	PLANNING AND FINANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION	3
HEA 622	TECHNIQUES OF COUNSELING	3
HEA 624	SUPERVISED PRACTICE I	3
HEA 625	SUPERVISED PRACTICE II	3
HEA 650	ASSESSMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS	3
HEA 689	METHODS AND TECHNIQUES OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH	3
Elective Courses (9 credit hours)¹		
Select three from of the following: 9		
HEA 504	COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION	
HEA 588	TOPICS IN HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 590	INDEPENDENT STUDY	
HEA 591	GENDER, INTERSECTIONALITY, AND HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 619	MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND LEADERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 623	COUNSELING TECHNIQUES FOR DIVERSE CULTURES	
HEA 630	GROUP COUNSELING	
HEA 632	CAREER DEVELOPMENT	
HEA 651	THE LAW AND HIGHER EDUCATION	

HEA 670	MOVEMENTS OF RESISTANCE: COLLEGE STUDENT ACTIVISM
HEA 694	CURRENT ISSUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION
HEA 695	MASTER'S THESIS
HEA 703	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION
HEA 725	FUNDAMENTALS OF DATA MANAGEMENT AND DECISION SUPPORT IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Other elective courses may be selected from related courses/workshops in various disciplines or interdisciplinary areas with adviser approval.

Total Credit Hours **36**

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Selected under advisement

Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 36 credit hours are needed for degree completion: 27 credit hours of required coursework and 9 hours of electives. Students must complete two supervised practice experiences for credit as part of the curriculum and successfully complete the culminating experience.