M.S. IN HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Master of Science in Higher Education Policy and Student Affairs at West Chester University will prepare you to make a difference in the lives of college students by placing them in the center of your work. Higher education is always changing to meet the needs of current students, especially on issues of equity and access. Our M.S. program will prepare you to genuinely understand, analyze, and meet those changing needs and to assure that higher education is a welcoming and supportive space for all students.

The M.S. program is designed to provide students with a theoretical foundation in higher education policy and student affairs. Each course is grounded in the ACPA/NASPA Professional Competencies, and experiential opportunities in the curriculum allow you to put theory into practice in the field. The college campus will become your “lab,” and you will have many learning experiences outside of the classroom, including two internship classes totaling 500 hours in the field.

The critical action research focus is a unique element of WCU’s program. Students complete a thesis which is a developed proposal of an intervention to solve a problem in student affairs and higher education. Our graduates possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities to serve in positions in student affairs, student services, and many other positions in higher education.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
- 39-credit program that can be completed in 2 years
- Capstone experience includes a Critical Action Research Thesis
- Classes meet regularly (Monday-Thursday) beginning at 4:25 p.m.
- Graduate assistantship opportunities

OUTCOMES
Our students are currently working in myriad positions in higher education. A few of them are:

- Residence life
- Admissions
- Student success
- Advising
- Career development and services
- Service learning
- Student leadership
- Financial aid
- Recreation and athletics
- Student activities
- Multicultural affairs
- Fraternity/Sorority Life

FAST FACTS
- Master’s Degree is typical entry level education
- 10% projected industry growth through 2026 (according to U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
- For priority Fall admission consideration please apply by March 1
- Transcripts from all institutions attended
- Two professional and/or faculty recommendations
- A written statement of professional goals
- Interview in person or by phone
- If overall GPA is below 2.8, GRE or GMAT scores may be submitted for consideration

Applicants may apply online at www.wcupa.edu/applynow.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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