# MPSI Program Profile

The MPSI is a two-year master’s degree program of the University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines co-designed with the U.S.-based Golden Gate University and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The MPSI is the maiden academic program offering of the Institute of Governance, Innovations and Sustainability (IGIS) of the USTP.

The MPSI, a practitioner’s program, is designed especially for professionals engaged in any nature of public sector work and those involved in urban and regional planning and development, and other similar fields. Its unique feature is a strong underpinning on the anthropology of the public sector, public welfare, and public interest as an emerging dimension infused in governance thinking and practice. It emphasizes the role of innovative leaders and public managers as prime movers in the public sector.

The distinguished roster of MPSI faculty coming from different universities abroad, top schools in Manila, expert public practitioners have further shaped our MPSI students in cultivating the culture of agility in trying out new ideas and managing risks associated with these new ideas; and adaptability as they change their approaches based on new and emerging insights and findings. The theories, principles and concepts they learn are tested in the diverse learning experiences that simulate public interdependency, finding solutions to local and global challenges with the students acquired ability to handle tensions, dilemmas and trade-offs; analyzing and balancing competing, contradictory or incompatible demands. This is the vision of MPSI for public service… trailblazing public sector innovation …. from ideas to impact.

With the MPSI, you have the opportunity to engage and learn from distinguished public service practitioners and academicians to advance your career. You will gain the needed competitive knowledge and skills to champion the reshaping of the quality of public sector programs and to positively influence the urban development and growth of your locality.

# MPSI Program Updates

Our MPSI students are too happy to share that they find a stronger sense of purpose, directed curiosity and an open mindset towards new ideas, perspectives and experiences. From the uniquely designed curriculum and courses, the MPSI students develop better critical thinking and creativity in finding different approaches to solving problems, and collaboration with others to find solutions to complex problems. They are empowered to think of new solutions, new collective initiatives, new instruments as well as new modes of public supports and management.

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To date, in just four semesters, we are pleased to have Batch 1 (30 public professionals), Batch 2 (34 public professionals) and Batch 3 (48 public professionals) from NTC Central Office and mostly from Mindanao (Regions 9, 10, 11, 12 and BARRM) representing close to 45 national agencies and LGUs who share the same commitment to improving public services by applying the emerging public sector innovation framework. Many of them received awards/recognition, innovation awards and even career step-up/promotion. We are grateful, in fact, to their regional directors or agency officials who have graced the IGIS-MPSI office during the student's capstone study proposals expressing their observations, insights and appreciation to improve and support their capstone solutions.

## MPSI Four Pathways

Pathway 1: PUBLIC POLICY STUDIES ***(MPSI-PPS)***

This concentration enables the students to critically evaluate politics and public policy at multiple levels of governance with a solid foundation in theories, strong analytical and practical components to contribute to a competitive understanding of the design, development and reform of public policies in different institutional contexts and at multiple levels of governance. MPSI-PPS encourages our public sector practitioners whose aim is to acquire remarkable competencies in ensuring that internal policies have been formulated/crafted comprehensively in all aspects of matter, manner and method considering stakeholders and people engagement and inter-operability with agencies.

Pathway 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ***(MPSI-SD) ***

This concentration enables the students to develop critical, analytical, and integrative skills for resolving sustainable development issues and challenges. It focuses on improving the welfare of people and their communities by creating a more convenient, equitable, healthy efficient, and attractive habitat for present and future generations through innovative solutions. MPSI-SD encourages our government personnel in ensuring governance and innovation framework in the service programs and government projects for social, economic and environment sustainability.

Pathway 3: DIGITAL SERVICE PLATFORMS AND E-GOVERNANCE SOLUTIONS

## (MPSI-DEG)

This concentration enables the students to develop the e-governance competencies of those in public work to build and maintain, share and use digital knowledge systems as the imperatives for public service delivery solving problems and resolving issues in the public sector and meet global standards of e-governance. MPSI- DEG encourages our public sector practitioners engaged in reforms and initiatives for the imperative for digitalization of processes and procedures for more responsive public services.

Pathway 4: ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ***(MPSI-ECS) ***

This concentration highlights government institutions taking the center stage in responsible and proactive stewardship. It emphasizes administrative decision-making at all levels of government and possible solutions through stakeholder engagement for risk mitigation against nature and human-induced climate change and impacts on communities. MPSI-ECS encourages our public sector practitioners engaged in championing the challenges in environment, disaster and waste management.

# Program Prospectus

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| **Master in Public Sector Innovations** |
| **Foundation Courses (12 units)** |
| PSI FC101 Anthropology of Public Sector Transformation |
| PSI FC102 Anthropology of Public Leadership and Organizational Analysis |
| PSI FC103 Anthropology of Sustainable Citizenship |
| PSI FC104 Seminar in Capstone Writing: Ethnographic Inquiry and Action Research for Public Sector Innovations |
| **Core Courses (9 units)** |
| PSI CC201 Comparative and Global Public Technopreneurship, Economics and Innovations |
| PSI CC202 Public Resources and Asset Management |
| PSI CC203 Leading Public Design in Program and Project Management |
| **Major/Concentration Courses** |
| **Pathway 1 MPSI: Public Policy****Studies (12****Units)** | **Pathway 2 MPSI: Sustainable****Development (12 Units)** | **Pathway 3****MPSI: Digital Service Platforms & e-Governance Solutions****(12 Units)** | **Pathway 4****MPSI: Environment and Climate Solutions (12 Units)** |
| PSI PPS101: Strategic Planning, Legislation, Execution, and Evaluationof Public Policy  | PSI SD101: Governance and Sustainability | PSI DEG101: Digital Technology for Public Sector Managers | PSI ECS101: Natural Resources Management |
| PSI PPS102: Environmental Policy and Planning | PSI SD102: Innovations in Ecosystems  | PSI DEG102: E-Governance for Regional Integration  | PSI ECS102: Innovations in Environmental Systems Management |
| PSI PPS103: Fiscal Policy for Innovation andGrowth | PSI SD103: Urban Planning & Development  | PSI DEG103: System Analysis and Design  | PSI ECS103: Disaster Resilience and Climate Change Solutions |
| PSI PPS104: Social,Education and Health Policies  | PSI SD104: People and Public Sector Innovations | PSI DEG104: Information Management and Security in the Public Sector | PSI ECS104: Wastes and Innovations |
| **Cognates/Professional Electives** (Any 2 courses of Other Pathways) |
| **COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION** *(effectivity: For those whose Capstone Proposals**are completed on or after January 2025)* |
| **Capstone Writing and Defense (9 Units)** |

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**INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE, INNOVATIONS AND SUSTAINABILITY**

**MASTER IN PUBLIC SECTOR INNOVATIONS**

***Frequently Asked Questions:***

1. *Do we need to take an entrance/admission exam?*

YES. Please submit the following to admissionunit.asocdo@ustp.edu.ph and you will receive your evaluation slip for the admission exam.

Scanned copy saved in PDF or photo for the **following requirements**:

* 1. Transcript of Record (TOR)
	2. Valid ID (previous school ID/employment ID/any government ID)
	3. NSO/PSA Birth Certificate
	4. 2x2 photo (in white background and selfie not allowed)
1. *What if we cannot send all requirements immediately?*

Because of urgency, prioritize sending your TOR and valid ID; please explain that you will send other requirements (PSA/NSO birth certificate and honorable dismissal as soon as available).

1. *When is the entrance/admission exam for the 1st semester AY 2024-2025?*

The Admission Office is now accepting applications for online and on-site admission examinations. **Admission Schedule: June 3 *–* July 5, 2024**. (see another attachment on how to enroll.)

1. *How many units per semester?*

Number of Units per semester is 12 units. This allows faster pacing to finish in two years. This also saves on other fees per semester where more semesters will be costlier. No summer course offerings; summers serve as their catch-up plan space.

1. *How much do we pay per semester?*

Tuition fee per semester for 12 units is a close estimate of P10,000.00. Down payment is a close estimate of P2,000.00.

1. *When does the enrolment start?*
* For the 1st Semester 2024-2025, **enrolment begins by June 17, 2024.**
* The pioneering MPSI Batch started already last January 2021 and completed all academic requirements; finishing their capstone study; preparing for graduation requirements.
* The second Batch enrolled last August 2021 for the 1st semester AY 2021-2022 (August to December, 2021); and Batch 2B last January 2022. All completed academic requirements; working on their capstone project.
* The third Batch enrolled last August 2022 and are now on their 2nd year.
1. *When is the tentative date for the first day of classes? How often do classes meet? Will the classes be face-to-face or online?*

Undergraduate classes will begin on **August 12, 2024**, and for graduate school, classes start on **August 17, 2024**.

There will be a virtual orientation for the MPSI students with the faculty and the IGIS office before the classes start to disseminate necessary information and answer inquiries. Link credentials will be emailed to the students and faculty.

All classes are attended only on full Saturdays (Sunday classes are only possible when a new section is added in the case of many enrollees). All MPSI classes are ONLINE.

1. *When can we choose our MPSI Pathway?*

You could choose your pathways within the first semester. Pathway (major/concentration) subjects will be offered the following semester (your 2nd semester of your MPSI education).

1. *Is the number of years work experience a mandatory requirement?* The 3-years work experience is ONLY PREFERABLE.
2. *Will a bachelor’s degree in Public Administration the only acceptable baccalaureate degree for the MPSI?*

A bachelor's degree in a relevant field to the MPSI Pathway is preferable. It is important that the applicant is engaged in any public sector work but not necessarily working in the government (i.e. in any non- government organization/private sector organization but have some public sector engagement).