



For nearly 70 years, Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs has drawn students from around the world. The Executive Master of Public Administration program is designed for working professionals from a wide array of public, nonprofit, and private sector organizations dedicated to making the world a better place.

The EMPA curriculum focuses on the core analytical and management skills shared by all master's programs, on a schedule that is designed by our students around their work. Students can build on these core skills with a focus on International Economic Policy and Management, Advanced Management and Finance, or Environmental Policy and Sustainability Management. EMPA students have immediate access to an exciting set of programs designed in collaboration with SIPA alumni. They are also welcome to participate in a multitude of events (lectures, conferences, seminars, film series) that are a regular part of the day-to-day life at one of the world's leading public policy schools.

The application process can be completed online at [apply.sipa.columbia.edu/apply](https://apply.sipa.columbia.edu/apply)

### Deadlines

December 15	Spring admission deadline
March 31	Fall priority deadline
July 1	Final fall admission deadline

### Application Checklist

- Completed application
- Personal statements
- Application fee
- Standard and academic résumé/CV
- Three letters of recommendation
- GRE/GMAT: Though the GRE/GMAT scores are required, EMPA applicants who have significant work experience and/or have performed well in previous quantitative courses may request a waiver from the EMPA Program Office.
- TOEFL or IELTS: Students who did not earn a bachelor's degree from an institution in which English is the primary language of instruction must submit TOEFL or IELTS scores.
- Official Transcripts: Transcripts should be scanned and uploaded to the site. If you are admitted to the program, **official transcripts** must be on file in order to register for classes.
- Visa: International executives will take a full-time course load of four courses per semester, making them eligible for an F-1 visa.

### Fellowships and Financial Aid

Applicants to the Executive MPA program who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents and who will be enrolled for a minimum of 6 credits per term are typically eligible for federal Stafford loans. All interested applicants must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available online at [www.fafsa.gov](https://www.fafsa.gov). The School's Title IV code is 002707.

Subject to availability, the EMPA program awards scholarships to applicants who apply by the priority deadline.

### Interviews and Class Visits

Prospective students are strongly encouraged to attend an open house and schedule an informational interview. Open houses are an excellent way to find out more about the Executive MPA program and meet faculty, staff, and fellow applicants. Informational interviews give prospective students a chance to determine if Columbia's program is right for them. Applicants are also invited to sit in on classes and speak with current students and faculty.

To visit a class, please register at [apply.sipa.columbia.edu/portal/ClassVisitEMPA](https://apply.sipa.columbia.edu/portal/ClassVisitEMPA)

To see a list of the upcoming Open House events, please go to [sipa.columbia.edu/register-for-empa-information-sessions](https://sipa.columbia.edu/register-for-empa-information-sessions)

### Contact

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## THE EMPA PROGRAM

### Program Schedule

Classes are offered on Saturdays and on weeknights in the fall and spring semesters. During the summer, a full semester is offered from mid-May until late July, when classes meet on weeknights.

### Credits

The program requires students to complete a total of 54 credits, up to 9 of which are granted for professional and management experience, and 45 of which are earned during the program of study. Upon approval from their academic adviser, students may transfer a total of two courses (6 credits) from outside EMPA course offerings.

### The Core Requirements

The core curriculum provides the professional skills needed to analyze and understand the formulation and management of public policy, including memo writing, oral briefings, group process and team building, and several forms of financial analysis. These tools have been added to more traditional curriculum elements such as organizational analysis, budgeting, financial management, probability theory, applied regression analysis, and applied microeconomics. Students must complete the six classes that comprise the core curriculum, followed by concentration courses, usually in the second year.

### International Economic Policy and Management

The concentration in International Economic Policy and Management prepares students for careers in international agencies, nonprofit organizations, international business and finance, and government. Students develop proficiency in international trade, finance, and economic policy analysis, giving them the conceptual and technical skills needed to understand the complex forces that drive international economic activity in this era of globalization. Course work in political economy and international relations provides students with the training to understand how the international political system and governmental institutions affect national security and foreign economic policies, and to contend with increasingly complex governance issues, such as corruption and human rights.

### Advanced Management and Finance

The concentration in Advanced Management and Finance enables students to deepen the policy and management analytic skills beyond the core curriculum. Students receive rigorous training in public and nonprofit finance. They also learn management innovation tools such as social entrepreneurship, public private

partnerships, strategic planning, web-based communication and commerce, and performance and team management. The concentration provides EMPA graduates with the latest cutting-edge management, communication and finance skills in demand in public service today.

### Environmental Policy and Sustainability Management

The concentration in Environmental Policy and Sustainability Management prepares students for careers in managing earth systems. Coupled with the EMPA core, it emphasizes integrated thinking and learning so that graduates will see beyond linear and fragmented approaches to holistic planning for environmental sustainability. Students develop proficiency in sustainability management, finance, and accounting from a “green” perspective; and environmental politics and policy analysis, giving them the conceptual and technical skills needed to develop real-world solutions that sustainably manage human interaction with natural systems. Course work in environmental politics, policy, and management provides students with the training to understand how environmental policies are devised, implemented, and evaluated.

courses per semester, making them eligible for an F-1 visa. With a full-time course load, international students will complete the EMPA degree in four consecutive semesters, enabling them to graduate in 16 months, or longer if they choose to complete a second concentration.

## THE EMPA FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The EMPA program welcomes professionals from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors from outside the United States who wish to study at Columbia University in New York City. Successful applicants will be part of the regular student body and take the same courses as our noninternational students, but the international students will take a full-time course load of four

## A GLIMPSE OF THE EMPA FACULTY



**WILLIAM B. EIMICKE** is the founding director of the Picker Center for Executive Education and professor in the practice of public affairs at SIPA. Eimicke teaches courses in public management, applied policy analysis, and management innovation.

Eimicke holds a PhD from Syracuse University.



**ARVID LUKAUSKAS** is the executive director of both the Picker Center for Executive Education and the Program in Economic Policy Management.

Lukauskas teaches and conducts research on international and comparative political economy, with a focus on the political economy of finance and trade policy.

Lukauskas received his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.



**STEVEN A. COHEN** is executive director of Columbia University's Earth Institute and professor in the practice of public affairs at SIPA. He is also director of the Master of Public Administration Program in Environmental Science and Policy at SIPA and the director of

the Master of Science in Sustainability Management at Columbia University's School of Continuing Education.

Cohen received his PhD from the State University of New York, Buffalo.



**YUMIKO SHIMABUKURO** is lecturer in discipline of international and public affairs at SIPA. She teaches courses that explore the intersection of political, economic, and social development.

Shimabukuro received her PhD in political economy from MIT.



**RICHARD K. BETTS** is director of the International Security Policy program. He is Leo A. Shifrin Professor of War and Peace Studies and Arnold A. Saltzman Professor of War and Peace Studies. His focus areas are strategic studies and U.S. national security policy.

Betts received his PhD in government from Harvard University.



**JOANN BANEY** is adjunct associate professor of international and public affairs at SIPA. She has taught courses in the EMBA program at Columbia's Graduate School of Business and in the University's Speech Department. She is faculty director of the FDNY

Officers Management Institute and is on the faculty of the NYPD's Police Management Institute.

Baney holds an MBA from Columbia.



**PAOLA VALENTI** is lecturer in discipline of international and public affairs at SIPA. She is an economist with expertise in development economics, applied econometrics, applied microeconomics, and economics of antitrust and intellectual property.

Valenti received her PhD from Cornell University.



**BASIL SMIKLE** is adjunct lecturer of international and public affairs at SIPA. He is also executive director of the New York State Democratic Party whose commentary on politics and public policy is regularly featured on local and national media outlets, including *TheHill.com* where he is a contributor.

Smikle is a PhD candidate in education and politics at Teachers College of Columbia University.



**HOWARD BUFFETT** is lecturer in international and public affairs at SIPA, where he teaches management techniques for improving the effectiveness of foreign aid and global philanthropy.

Buffett earned his MPA in advanced management and finance from Columbia University.



**FRANCISCO RIVERA-BATIZ** is adjunct associate professor of International and Public Affairs at SIPA. He is currently a professor of economics and education at Teachers College and an affiliate professor at SIPA.

Rivera-Batiz earned his PhD in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

## THE EMPA EXPERIENCE

### What Our Alumni Say

“SIPA's policy, finance, and management training, as well as its focus on how to quickly analyze complex issues, has been invaluable to me not only in my private sector career in finance, but in my position as councilman and now mayor. The education I received at SIPA has broadened my analytical approach and has helped guide many of my important policy decisions.”

*Steven M. Fulop*  
Mayor, Jersey City, New Jersey



“What I loved most about SIPA was becoming part of a diverse, global community that challenged and inspired me to learn more about the world and figure out creative, effective ways to make a difference in it.”

*Todd Jacobson*  
Senior Vice President, Social Responsibility,  
National Basketball Association



“The EMPA program helped me tremendously to improve my practical skills and my ability to present ideas through writing and public speaking. I gained invaluable knowledge of management and public policy, international relations and economics from world-class faculty.”

*Guo Dong*  
Associate Research Scholar, Earth Institute,  
Columbia University



“Participating in the EMPA program was one of the best professional and personal decisions I've made in my life. A year after my graduation, I joined the Columbia University team as the new assistant vice president of environmental stewardship. The EMPA program strengthened my skillset and prepared me for my new career.”

*Jessica M. Prata*  
Assistant Vice President, Office of Environmental  
Stewardship, Columbia University



“Returning to school with a full-time job and a young child is not easy. It is an immense responsibility and requires much focus and tenacity. The education and support that I received then, along with lifetime membership in SIPA's tremendous network, made it all worthwhile.”

*Lisa Johnson*  
Chief Operating Officer, Food Bank for New York City



“The School of International and Public Affairs is not just a college that provides ordinary education. The EMPA program is much more than basic coursework. It gives you a broad world view and opens new opportunities.”

*Ahmet Eyup Ozguc*  
Turk Party Leader, Turkey



### Careers

Our graduates pursue careers in the U.S. and abroad in local, state, and federal governmental agencies dealing with critical public policy issues. They also work as managers and staff analysts in nonprofit organizations, private corporations, banks, and consulting firms. Employers in the private and nonprofit sectors are attracted by the Executive MPA's rigorous program in quantitative and managerial analysis, coupled with a deep understanding of governmental processes.

### The EMPA Alumni Forum

The EMPA Forum is open to both students and alumni. Originally founded by alumni and students who wished to remain in contact postgraduation, the Forum has become an organization through which learning and the sharing of ideas can continue throughout our graduates' careers. The Forum hosts a robust program of events for alumni and current students during the year.