School of Public Policy Information Session

12 November 2026



LSE School of Public Policy

Part of LSE

Founded in 1895 as a specialist social science university.

21 Nobel Prize winners among LSE staff and former students

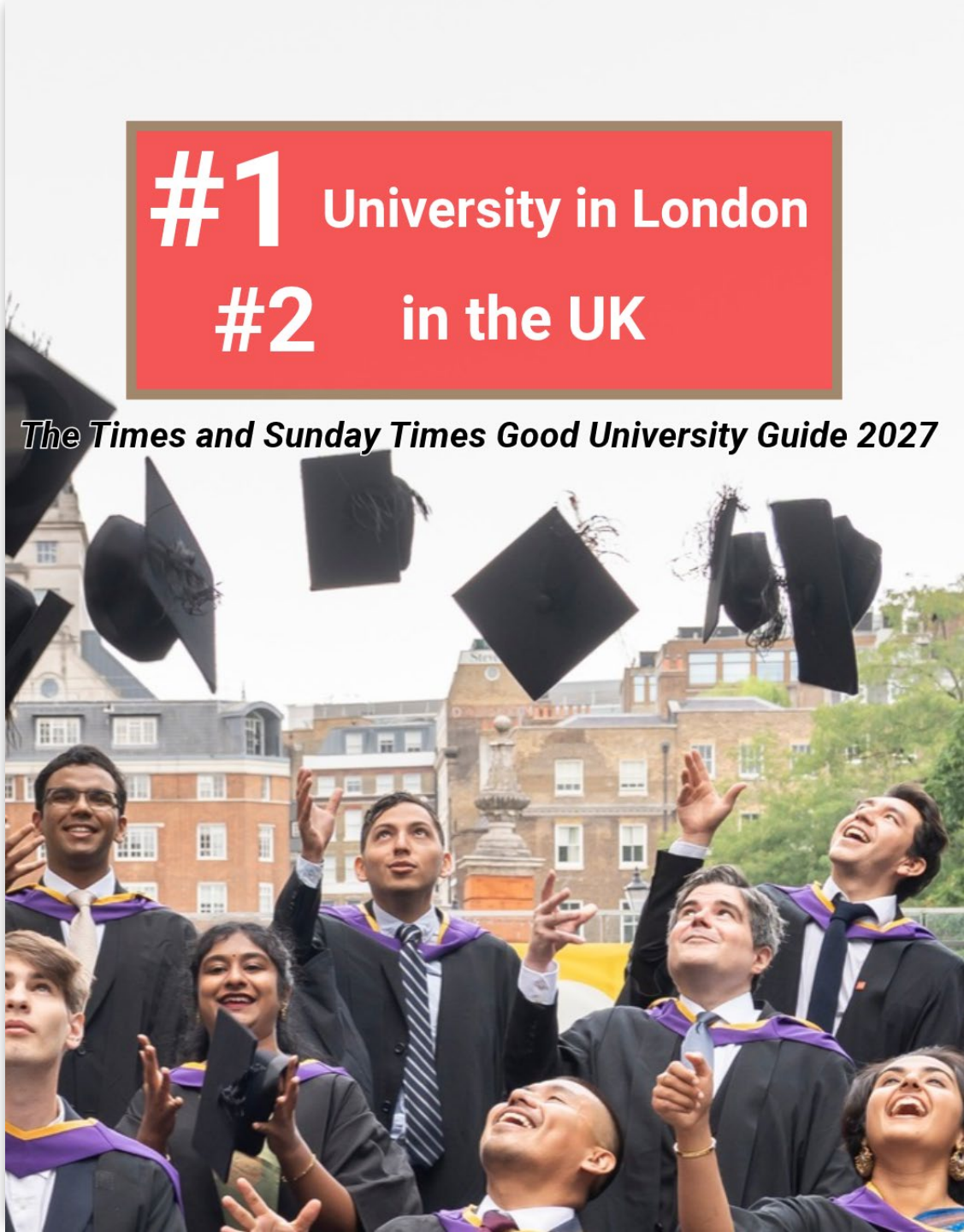
Over 40 world leaders have studied or taught at LSE

11,887 full-time students from 145 countries

245,000 alumni

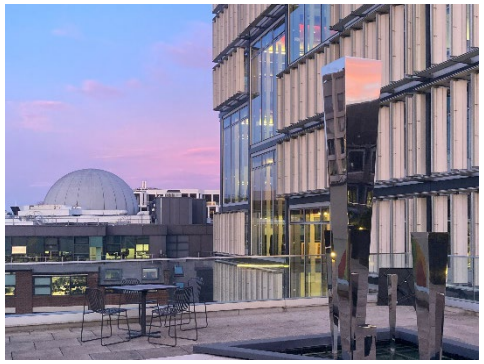
World-renowned public events programme, including an annual Festival, exhibitions and concerts.

LSE is consistently recognised for academic excellence



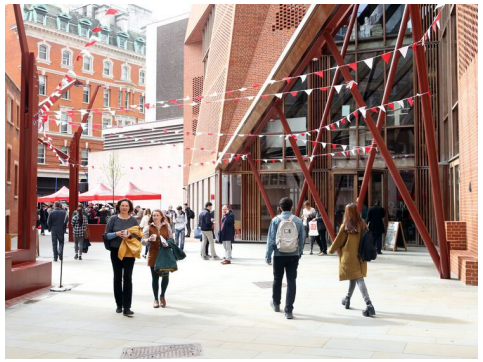
School of Public Policy

A vibrant campus in the heart of London





















LSE School of Public Policy

Our SPP Community
(2026/7 year)

- 8 Postgraduate degree programmes
- 474 Students (years 1&2)
- 64 Nationalities
- 2800 alumni

Backgrounds including:

- Government administration, Law, Economics, Finance, Consultancy, Engineering, NGOs, Healthcare, Education and more.

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Our Programmes

School of
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Master of Public Administration (MPA)

- 2 years, full-time
- Early to mid-career stage students. No requirement for prior professional experience.
- Year 1 - micro- and macro-economics, political science and quantitative methods of analysis plus option courses.
- Year 2 – Practical applications - 6 month Capstone Project with external client, strategic policymaking course, specialisms, option courses.

MPA Students (2026 year one intake):

77	**23**	**26** years	**3.5** years
Year 1 intake	Nationalities	Age (avg.)	Professional experience (avg.)

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Master of Public Policy (MPP)

- Intensive 9-month programme
- For professionals with 5+ years experience
- Six core modules + option courses
- Develop a deeper understanding of how policy, policy-making, and ‘craft of government’ works
- Shape your career trajectory and develop your professional networks

MPP Students (2026 intake):

80	**30**	**32** years	**9** years
Students	Nationalities	Age (avg.)	Professional experience (avg.)





MPA in Data Science for Public Policy (MPA DSPP)

- Welcomed first intake in 2023
- 2 years, full-time
- Develop core quantitative, technical and analytical tools to address modern policy challenges in an increasingly digital world
- MPA DSPP Capstone Project
- 4-week programming bootcamp prior to welcome weeks

MPA DSPP Students (2026 intake – year one):

33	19	26 years	3 years
Students	Nationalities	Age (avg.)	Professional experience (avg.)

MPA
Double Degree Programmes

- 2- years, full time
- Study at two world-leading universities in two cities (London & Paris, New York or Toronto)
- Benefit from the expertise, resources and international alumni networks of both prestigious institutions

- MPA/MGA with University of Toronto (1st year at LSE SPP)
- MPA/MPA with Columbia SIPA (1st year at LSE SPP)
- MPP/MPA with Sciences Po (1st year at Sciences Po – apply via Sciences Po admissions)

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Comparing Our Programmes

	MPA	MPP	MPA DSPP	MPA Double Degrees (x3)	Executive MPA
Duration	2 years	9 months	2 years	2 years	2 years
Format	Full time	Full time	Full time	Full time	Modular
Professional experience required	No requirement	5 + years	No requirement	No requirement	5+ years
Intake size (2026 – year one)	77	80	33	15-27 each (58 combined)	41
Nationalities	23	30	19	21	17
Age (avg)	26	32	26	23	37
Prof experience (avg)	3.5 years	9 years	3 years	3 years	12 years
Prof experience (approx. range)	0.5 – 18 years	5 – 20 years	0.5 -8 years		


Student Networks, Opportunities and Professional Development



SPP Student Networks and Opportunities

- Association of Public Policy Students (APPS)
- Public Sphere Journal for Public Policy (PSJ)
- Womxn's Network

+ Over 200 LSE societies, volunteering, student media and sports opportunities

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Policy in Practice

SPP is a forum for students to discuss policy issues with leading academics and practitioners and connect their classroom learning with real-world scenarios.

- Professors in Practice
- Policy in Practice (PiP) seminar series
- GPPN annual conference
- Turner MIINT programme
- LSE and SPP Public events series



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SPP Professional Skills Accelerator

- A tailored programme with runs alongside your studies, designed to complement the skills and insights that you gain as part of the programme curriculum.
- Day sessions hosted by experts designed to bridge the gap between sophisticated theory and effective practice
- Past sessions have included:
    - Data visualisation
    - Crisis leadership
    - Decision making and negotiation
    - Media training and podcasts
    - Persuasive communication
    - Successful interview skills
    - CV & Linkedin

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Alumni & Careers



Alumni

- 2,800 SPP alumni - Lifelong community!
- Alumni panels and networking events for SPP students and alumni
- SPP alumni/student mentorship scheme
- Alumni profiles
- SPP annual alumni symposium
- LSE 237,000 alumni - ‘Ask an alum’ online tool, events and meet ups around the world.

Careers

- 1:1 career appointments and coaching
- Careers seminars - support with CV, cover letter, networking, career planning, practice interviews
- Career impact sessions followed by networking evening with employers
- ‘Professionals at LSE’ for those with 5+ years professional experience

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Our Alumni



Siddharth Sinha, Associate VP Greenko Group, ex: Google, G20, Gov of India (MPA Class of 2018)

I value the very strong sense of community at SPP… It is a very strong and cohesive group and I feel very welcome here. I would say is SPP is for life, because you can always come back, you can always collaborate with people, and you can always count upon the SPP to connect you with like-minded, people around the world.



Asha Niall, Senior Policy Advisor in Emissions Trading and Linking for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (ESNZ) in the UK Government (MPP Class of 2021)

I spent my time at LSE learning how to analyse and assess government success and failure, how to anticipate and manage risk, and how governance can catalyse or be a barrier to reform. The frameworks taught as part of the courses were formative for me and have been particularly instrumental in my post-MPP work.

Find out more: https://www.lse.ac.uk/school-of-public-policy/alumni/alumni-profiles

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Our Alumni



Prachetas Bhatnagar, Head the Strategy & Operations for the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change's Policy & Politics Practice (MPP Class of 2021)

The MPP gave me something I hadn't fully had before: the formal intellectual underpinning to match the instincts I had built over years in the field. It provided the right signalling to make a credible transition into the public policy space, but more importantly, it gave me the tools and analytical rigour to assess, frame and stress test policy in ways that genuinely hold up.



Alexandra Belias, Head of Product Policy & Partnerships at Google DeepMind (MPA Class of 2011)

The skills I acquired during the MPA were also not specific to a single sector. I ended up in public policy roles in energy, finance and then AI, with a focus that shifted between global, US, Asia, EU or just the UK. Sector-specific knowledge and contacts can always be developed in a new role, but what matters the most is to have solid foundations and an understanding of public policy.

Find out more: https://www.lse.ac.uk/school-of-public-policy/alumni/alumni-profiles

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How to Apply and Admissions

School of Public Policy

Programme Entry Requirements

Academic requirements

A first or upper second-class honours (2:1) degree or a non-UK equivalent in any discipline

Professional experience

- MPP – 5+ years of relevant professional experience (exceptions may be taken into consideration)
- MPA, MPA DSPP and MPA DDs – No formal requirement although students usually have some prior professional experience.

Other

High level of English language proficiency



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Your application

- Must demonstrate a passion for public policy and making a positive impact.

- Must have a strong academic record and be able to demonstrate a commitment to public service

- Must have a clear understanding of the programme and how you will benefit from it.

There will be opportunities for individuals with less experience in economics and quants to develop or refresh their skills via online learning materials prior to the programme starting.



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What is policy-relevant experience?

A wide range of professional/voluntary/interning experience can be relevant. The list below is **non-exhaustive**:

- Work for government agencies
- NGOs/Non-profit organisations/some charity work
- Consulting/advisory roles
- Think tanks/lobbying/special-interest organisations
- Civil-Service roles
- Regulatory work; legal work; compliance work
- Economist roles
- Analyst roles
- Urban planning
- Education
- Development
- Some finance roles, especially those concerned with central banking, regulation or compliance
- Health services
- Defence
- Transportation
- Environment
- Many business or other private-sector roles can also, of course, be policy-relevant

Please don't be discouraged if your own experience does not feature in the list above. Selectors are open-minded, so make the case for its relevance in your Statement of Academic Purpose.



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How to Apply

Online application

Include supporting documents:

- Academic documents
- CV
- Statement of academic purpose
- Two references – can be professional

Application fee £95 (for up to two programme choices)

Decisions issued within 8 weeks

Progress can be checked on Graduate Applicant Portal

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Statement of Academic Purpose

Roughly two pages (1,000 - 1,500 words)

For your chosen programmes, outline your:

- Interest
- Understanding
- Suitability
- Purpose and objectives
- Focus on the origin of your interest in this subject/area

Your statement should:

- describe your academic interests, strengths and background relevant to the programme
- outline your academic ambitions and/or research interests, and any professional aspirations.



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Application deadlines

MPA, MPP, MPA DSPP we encourage applications to be submitted by our early deadline **25 January 2027**

Sciences Po double degree – apply via Sciences Po by **7 February 2027**

Columbia SIPA double degree – apply via LSE by **17 March 2027**

You must submit a **complete application** by the deadline.

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Fees and Funding

SPP region specific scholarships:

- Peruvian Scholarship for Public Service (Peru) – MPA, MPP, and MPA DSPP
- Luksic Scholarships for Public Service (Chile) – MPA and MPP
- David and Duncan Clark Scholarship (Asia) – MPA, MPP and MPA DSPP

SPP scholarship application deadline **25 January 2027** and GFSA form by 8 February 2027.

LSE fees and funding - Graduate Support Scheme (GSS) application deadline April 2027 (date tbc).

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Next Steps

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Upcoming Programme Information Sessions

- Master of Public Administration – 18 November, 2pm
- Executive MPA – 19 November, 1pm
- Master of Public Policy – 26 November, 2pm
- MPA in Data Science for Public Policy – 30 November, 4pm
- MPA/MGA with University of Toronto – 10 December, 3pm

www.lse.ac.uk/school-of-public-policy/study/recruitment-events

School of Public Policy

Find out more and apply to join us!

Find out more about our programmes and students on our website
www.lse.ac.uk/spp/study

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