
**WORK IN THE WEEDS.
LEAD AT 10,000 FEET.**



**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
PROJECT MANAGEMENT
AT THE
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**



Why should you choose GW's Master of Science in Project Management?

Because GW's MSPM has:

- A solid reputation
- Excellent technology, especially for distance students, and a classroom experience on and off campus
- A challenging, highly project management focused curriculum
- A curriculum that goes beyond the PMBOK and exposes students to international methodologies
- Top notch faculty
- A startlingly talented student body
- Very successful graduates
- A student association offering an opportunity to apply theory learned in the classroom
- A career center that fully supports distance and campus students both during and after graduation.
- An alumni association to keep people in touch and support the graduates.

- Craig Baker, MSPM Class of 2010



Project Management Program
George Washington University
Funger Hall, Suite 415
2201 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20052
202.994.6145 (phone)
202.994.2736 (fax)
mspminfo@gwu.edu
business.gwu.edu/mspm
gwprojectmanagement.org

Special points of interest:

- Propel your career forward or down a new path
- Be at the forefront of a growing field—Project Management
- Experience many networking opportunities worldwide through GW's alumni and student organizations.
- Be part of one of the best and longest running project management programs in the world.

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Master of Science in Project Management

Work in the weeds, lead at 10,000 feet with GW's MSPM

The George Washington University's Master of Science in Project Management (MSPM) Program is among the oldest and most reputable specialized degree programs of its kind in the world. With over fifteen years of educating successful project managers, this unique program blends the study of project management with a grounding in general management principles and decision sciences, and guides students in mastering advanced project management techniques. The innovative curriculum balances practice and theory, developing skills that professionals need to become effective project managers.

The MSPM program is ideal for managers who want to enhance their ability to integrate complex projects, motivate people, and achieve cost-effective results. Our faculty, housed in the Decision Sciences Department in the School of Business, provides hands-on learning



MSPM students during a simulation exercise.

with practical application through a blend of qualitative and quantitative courses. A collaborative environment between faculty and students fosters effective teamwork, individual leadership, and project management excellence!

Flexible course options—anywhere in the world!

The MSPM Program is designed to meet the needs of working professionals. In fact, most of our students work full-time and have an average of 15 years of work experience!

Courses are offered on campus in the evening

and through distance learning. Using state-of-the-art distance learning technology, students can complete the degree from almost any location. The distance mode is conducted virtually using course captured video lectures and supplemental

live virtual classroom sessions. The lecture/chat combination allows students to fully interact with peers and instructors.



Duques Hall, home of the GWSB

“The breadth and depth of networks I have formed with my teaching staff and classmates are priceless.”

Ahmad Shinwari, Distance Alumni and Performance Test Engineer



GWSB faculty with ISAE Brasil/FGV faculty, 2009
(Source: <http://modulodc.blogspot.com/2009/10/>)

About George Washington School of Business (GWSB)

The George Washington University School of Business (GWSB) is accredited by AACSB and offers an excellent education. Our international business, finance, and entrepreneurship/small business fields are renowned, and the school prides itself on offering students flexibility in their programs of study.

GW offers [five MBA programs](#), [five special-](#)

[ized masters](#), and a [doctoral program](#).

Our student body is diverse, talented and carefully selected. Our graduates lead Wall Street titans, international conglomerates and the combined armed forces of the United States of America. We advance the frontiers of knowledge through more than a dozen research centers and institutes, studying a full

spectrum of business issues, from international trade to the science of decision making. We are engaged in real-world problems from sub-prime lending practices to climate change.

Source: business.gwu.edu/whygw and <http://business.gwu.edu/grad/home.cfm>

GWSB Faculty

Our faculty has always been among our greatest strengths, and continues to grow even stronger. They come to us from prestigious schools around the world and across the country—including “homegrown” talent from GWSB. Our professors hail from the

private and public sectors, from the board rooms of corporations to the halls of government. These instructors bring a wealth of experience and impressive teaching credentials in a variety of disciplines, and represent a great wealth of knowledge and expertise gained

both inside and outside of the classroom. Faculty members at the School of Business also engage in a wide variety of cutting-edge research at our four research centers.

Source: GWSB 2009 Investors Report

GWSB Points of Pride

GW is increasingly recognized as one of the country’s best business schools. Some of our points of pride include:

Financial Times, 2010

- 5th Worldwide for International Programs
- 30th in the United States for Global MBA programs
- 57th in the World for Global MBA programs
- 60th in the World for Research

U.S. News & World Report, "America's Best Graduate Schools," 2011

- 52th in the United States, Full Time
 - 36th in the United States, Part Time
- ### **Aspen Institute/Beyond Grey Pinstripes, 2009- 2010**
- 10th in the United States
 - 13th Worldwide
- ### **Princeton Review, "Best 301 Business Schools," October 2009**
- 2nd in Greatest Opportunity for Women

About the Master of Science in Project Management

The Master of Science in Project Management (MSPM) Program has an innovative and unique curriculum with industry independent coursework. Our balanced curriculum requires students to study quantitative aspects of project management by taking courses such as Optimization Models for Decision Making, Project Management Finance, Organization Management & Leadership and everything in between.



The Program began in 1996 as one of the first project management degree programs in the world. In 1998 we added the distance component, and in 2010 we removed campus designations—all students are MSPM students and can take campus and/or distance sections. The coursework is the same; the faculty are the same; the lectures are the same; the assignments are the same; and the degree is the same!

Our Program is consistent with, but not limited to, the Project Management Institute PMBOK. In addition to studying planning, scheduling, risk management, and cost estimation, students will learn project portfolio management, executive decision making, how to influence others in a project setting, and will participate in a Capstone in their final term.

The Program is lucky to be housed in the Decision Sciences Department in the GW School of Business, giving students full access to faculty who specialize in using advanced analytical and empirical methods to solve problems and make decisions—just what a good project manager needs!

The degree consists of 36 credit hours and can be completed in as few as two years or as many as five years. Courses are offered in the fall and spring semesters, with a limited summer term schedule.

We offer 3 credit-hour courses that last a full semester (14 weeks) and 1.5 credit-hour courses that last half a semester (7 weeks). This system allows for greater flexibility and access to a broad variety of courses and faculty.

“For several years before applying, I was aware of the excellent MSPM program at The George Washington University. However, with so much business and project management experience, I was uncertain how much I would learn. My uncertainty was replaced by excitement. The program opened new vistas for me in every class from Intro to Capstone, from probabilistic scheduling to AHP for project portfolio selection, from decision sciences to finance to leadership to writing.”

- Susan Bivins, Alumni, Project Executive and Consultant

“I wanted a school, degree and curriculum that would distinguish me as someone who could select and execute the most valuable projects in a portfolio. George Washington University prepared me to walk into a room of executives and defend project selections, budgets, and timelines through a company reorganization and COO replacement”

- Frank McDermott, Alumni and Manager, Provisioning

MSPM Curriculum Guide

Stage 1 – Foundation	6 credit hours
DNSC 6261 Introduction to Project Management	3 credits
DNSC 6202 Statistics for Managers	3 credits
Stage 2 – Core Project Management and Decision Sciences	10.5 credit hours
DNSC 6251 Optimization Models for Decision Making	1.5 credits
DNSC 6252 Risk Analysis for Decision Making	1.5 credits
DNSC 6254 Risk Management	1.5 credits
DNSC 6257 Cost Estimation and Control	1.5 credits
DNSC 6267 Planning and Scheduling	3 credits
DNSC 6259 Project Portfolio Management	1.5 credits
Stage 3 – Advanced Quantitative Application	3 credit hours
DNSC 6262 Directed Computational Project Management	3 credits
Stage 4 – Capstone	3 credit hours
DNSC 6269 Project Management Application	3 credits
Phase A – Management Principles and Electives	13.5 credit hours
DNSC 6247 Organization, Management, and Leadership	3 credits
DNSC 6250 Project Management Finance	3 credits
DNSC 6258 Executive Decision Making	1.5 credits
Decision Sciences elective	3 credits
General elective	3 credits
Master of Science in Project Management Program	36 credit hours

“The GI Bill [through the MSPM Program] gave me the opportunity to pursue some of the credentials that would validate my experiences, the leadership and management experiences, that I acquired while I was in the military. With my degree I was able to pick and choose from a list of jobs and I finally settled on a position with the Department of Homeland Security.”

MSPM Admissions



MSPM graduates with faculty member Dr. Khamooshi at the annual Library of Congress

Each year we admit highly qualified students into the MSPM program. New classes begin in January for the spring semester and in August for the fall semester.

The MSPM Program is geared towards professionals looking to advance their careers as well as exceptional students with prior work experience who are interested in entering the field of project management.

Our students are diverse in many ways.

MSPM Admission Requirements

- A bachelors degree and strong academic performance from a regionally accredited college or university
- At least 3 years of professional, full-time work experience
- A demonstrated interest in project management
- A current GMAT/GRE exam score or more than 7 years of relevant professional work experience
- GW Graduate Admissions Online Application Form
- 500 word Statement of Purpose
- Three letters of recommendation from professional/academic references
- Official transcripts from every college/university attended
- Updated resume
- A non-refundable application fee of \$60 (subject to change)
- Official transcript evaluations for all transcripts from colleges/universities that are not in the United States or Canada (Organizations such as [ECE](#), [AACRAO](#), and [WES](#) can evaluate international transcripts)
- An official TOEFL (score of 100 or higher) or IELTS (score of 7 or higher) score for all applicants who have not completed a degree in a country where English is the sole primary language

They average 15 years of work experience, representing a span of 3 to 26 years of full-time work experience. One quarter of our students hold an advanced degree and more than 30% hold a PMP from PMI. Since our program is discipline independent, our students work in a wide variety of private and public industries from construction, law, engineering, finance, architecture, defense, IT, human resources, marketing, product development, and more. MSPM students hail from more than 30 states plus the District of Columbia and 15 countries with slightly more than half taking most or all their courses in the distance mode.

We welcome those with a passion for learning and project management to consider the MSPM at The George Washington University.

“During orientation, one of the first students I met was a director at the IRS who had hundreds of people reporting to him. The more people I met, the more I was astounded at the talent the program attracted. My fellow students had multiple Master's degrees, PhD's, years of experience, or high level positions.”

Craig Baker, Former PMSA President

Institution Codes

- GMAT: QK4-4F-62
 - GRE: 5246
 - TOEFL: 5246
-

Admissions Links of Interest

- [Apply Now](#)
 - [Request additional information](#)
 - Information sessions
 - [GMAT](#)
 - [TOEFL](#)
 - [IELTS](#)
-

Contacting MSPM Admissions:
202.994.6145
mspminfo@gwu.edu



Send supporting admissions
documentation to:
Project Management Program
Funger Hall, Suite 415
2201 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20052
202.994.2736 (fax)

MSPM Admission Application Deadlines

The MSPM Program accepts students for the spring semester, which begins in January, the summer term, which begins in May, and the fall semester, which begins at the end of August.

We have several application deadlines: 3 deadlines apply to international applicants who need a student visa (international) and 3 deadlines apply to all other students (domestic).

The MSPM Program offers an Early Decision/Scholarship deadline and a Regular Decision deadline for domestic and foreign students in the spring and fall and a Regular Decision deadline for the summer. To be considered for Program scholarships and to guarantee an early, priority admissions decisions, applicants must apply by the Early Decision/Scholarship deadline. The Regular Decision deadline is the last date to submit an application for considera-

Fall Admissions Deadlines

Domestic Early Decision/Scholarship Deadline: May 31

Domestic Regular Decision Deadline: June 30

International Early Decision/Scholarship Deadline: March 1

International Regular Decision Deadline: April 1

Spring Admissions Deadlines

tion for the given term.

Domestic Early Decision/Scholarship Deadline: October 15

Domestic Regular Decision Deadline: November 15

International Early Decision/Scholarship Deadline: September 15

Summer Admissions Deadlines

Domestic Regular Decision Deadline: March 15

Application Process

The first step in applying to the Project Management Program is to attend an information session online or on campus, speak with a Program representative and/or read this information packet and view our website.

The next step is to complete the online applica-

tion form. You will have the opportunity to upload your Statement of Purpose and resume, submit the names of your references, and pay your application fee. If you include an email address for your references, they can complete and submit their recommendations

online; otherwise they need to mail it directly to us. You will also need to send official copies of transcripts and any necessary test scores in their original sealed envelopes and other supporting documentation to us.

Tuition and Financial Planning

Cost of tuition

Tuition is \$1235 per credit hour as of Fall 2011 for MSPM distance and campus courses. There is an additional student activities fee not to exceed \$15/semester, a \$35/semester enrollment fee, a one-time \$100 graduation fee, an optional \$50 library fee, plus the cost of books. Tuition is the same regardless of where students attend class (i.e. distance or on campus). Students will also need to factor in any costs such as air fare, hotel, and transportation associated with the mandatory 2 day orientation for all students at the beginning of the program and week-long residency week for students who take the Capstone course in the distance mode at the end of the program. All tuition and fees are subject to change; up-to-date information is available at the [Colonial Central](#) website.

Third party payment plans

Students can elect to participate in third party billing if a sponsor, such as an embassy, government agency, or private company, is paying in part or full for a student's tuition and related fees. A student whose employer or sponsor reimburses him or her for tuition and/or fees is not eligible for third party billing. Additional information is available at the [Colonial Central](#) website.

Veteran Services

The GW Veteran Services Office is located within Colonial Central and provides both active duty military and veterans with the highest level of student and financial services. GW Veteran Services provides assistance for payments associated with the post-9/11 GI Bill/Yellow Ribbon Program. Additional information is available at the [GW Veteran Services](#) website.

Payment plans

The George Washington University offers a monthly payment plan through ECSI. The plan allows payments to be spread over up to five months for each semester. Additional information is available at the [Colonial Central](#) website.

Loans

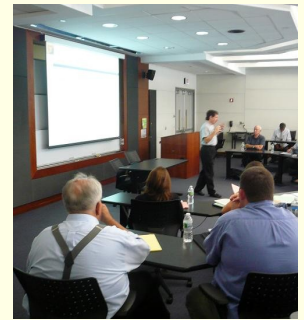
The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) offers financial aid in the form of Federal Stafford, Graduate PLUS, and alternative loans to graduate students at The George Washington University. OSFA processes and distributes loans. Additional information is available at the [Student Financial Assistance for Graduate Students](#) website.

Scholarships

The Project Management Program offers a limited number of scholarships to students applying to the Program. Students who apply by the Early Decision/Scholarship deadline are automatically considered for scholarships.

Fellowships and assistantships

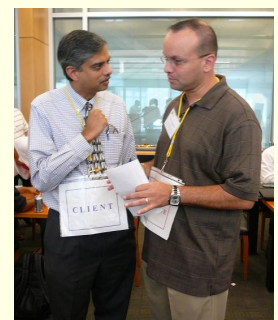
The Office of Graduate Student Assistantships and Fellowships (OGSAF) provides general information about a wide variety of graduate financial support. Additional information is available at the [OFSAF](#) website. In addition, the Decision Sciences Department has a limited number of Graduate Teaching Assistantships available each fall for current students who have excelled in specific courses.



Dr. Denis Cioffi in the classroom

"The George Washington University's domestic and international appeal far surpassed other program offerings around the Washington, DC area. The curriculum has provided me the opportunity to expand my professional knowledge as well as further my understanding of project management theory."

*Ronald Schmelzer, Jr., Former
PMSA President*



Dr. Sanjay Jain consults with a student, 2010.



MSPM Student

“The fundamentals class alone will prepare a student for the PMP exam. That class is also where we are first introduced to Prince2 and other methodologies. From that foundation, the lectures and projects in each successive course take the students to an amazing level of project management education. Some of the homework projects are more complicated than any real projects a lot of the students have ever seen before.”

Craig Baker, MSPM Student



Frequently Asked Questions

When do classes meet?

Because the MSPM Program is designed for working adults, all of our campus classes are held in the evening during the week. Each class meets once a week for 2.5 hours. Students in the distance sections are expected to watch the lecture within two days of the campus lecture recording. There are also hour-long live virtual classroom sessions scheduled in the evening, usually at 8 or 9 PM EST; these sessions are recorded and can be viewed at any time, although we strongly encourage participation.

How many times do students need to visit campus?

All students are required to attend a two-day orientation session before the program starts. During the orientation, students will be given an overview of the curriculum, introduced to the faculty and technology for the courses, and, most important, given a chance to interact with other MSPM students. The second campus requirement is a five day residency week at the conclusion of the Capstone course for all students taking that course in the distance mode.



MSPM students at the Best Practices in Project Management Panel & Networking Reception hosted by the Project Management Alumni

Where can I find syllabi for the courses?

A syllabus book with all syllabi for required MSPM courses is available on the MSPM website, <http://business.gwu.edu/mspm>.

How long does it take to complete the Program?

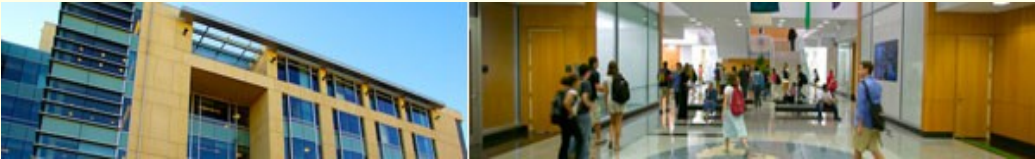
All students must complete their degree within 5 years. Students who attend year-round can finish in as few as 2 years.

How many courses do students need to take each semester?

Students generally take anywhere from 3 credit hours to 9 credit hours per semester in the fall and spring and 0 to 6 credit hours in the summer. Since some of our courses are 1.5 credit hours (7 weeks) and others are 3 credit hours (14 weeks), the number of courses varies even more. Before the start of the program, each student will meet with his or her adviser to plan his or her course of study.

What opportunities exist for students to become involved?

The Program has an active Project Management Student Association, which organizes events, webinars, workshops, and social events for all MSPM students. There are also opportunities to be involved through the School of Business.



Frequently Asked Questions continued

How do the distance learning and the campus modes compare?

Our distance and campus modes are essentially identical with the difference being the way in which students receive the course lecture. Both courses are taught by the same professor using the same syllabus with the same assignments. On campus lectures are captured on video and uploaded to Blackboard within a few hours. Distance students are able to access the lectures through a variety of methods, including streaming video or podcasts on iTunes University.

Students spend one additional hour each week in a live virtual classroom with their classmates and professor. This supplemental session provides a weekly opportunity to interact in real time.

How do students complete assignments and tests in the distance mode?

Students complete tests, quizzes, and assignments online using Blackboard technology. On Blackboard, our course management system, students are able to submit presentations, projects, and papers, as well as obtain articles and other items shared by the instructor.

Can students switch back and forth between the campus and distance program?

Because both the distance and campus courses are part of the same program, students can switch from one mode to the other on a course by course basis.

What is Advanced Academic Standing (AAS) and how do students qualify?

Advanced Academic Standing allows students to graduate with fewer than 36 credit hours by waiving degree courses for equivalent work.

There are three ways to qualify for AAS:

- 1) Students with a current PMP Certification from PMI are eligible to waive 3 elective credits.
- 2) Students may apply to waive up to 6 credit hours for graduate work they completed in the past five years and that is equivalent to courses in the MSPM Program as long as they received a grade of "B" or higher and the course was taken at an AACSB accredited school.
- 3) Students who have completed the ESI/George Washington University Master Certificate Program in Project Management within the past five years may apply to waive up to nine credit hours.

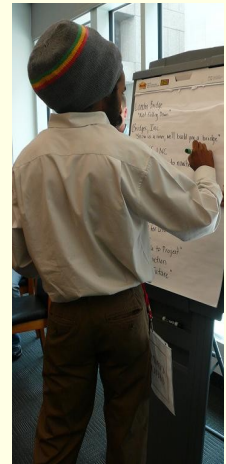
To receive Advanced Academic Standing, accepted students must submit the Application for AAS before starting the program.

What is the joint MSPM/MBA degree?

The first ever general joint MSPM/MBA degree program allows students to simultaneously work toward and earn an MSPM and an MBA from GW! For more information, visit <http://business.gwu.edu/mspm/mbajointdegree>.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

If you have any questions, please call the MSPM office at 202-994-6145 or email us at mspminfo@gwu.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!



A student taking notes



Hands on learning



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Web: www.gwprojectmanagement.org



Anne Koprince, Director

Dustin Pusch, Assistant Director

Additional Sites of Interest

- The George Washington University School of Business: <http://business.gwu.edu>
- The Project Management Student Association (PMSA): www.gwupmsa.org
- The Project Management Alumni Association (PMAA): www.gwprojectmanagement.org/pmaa
- F. David Fowler Career Center: <http://business.gwu.edu/careercenter>
- GWSB Alumni Network: <http://business.gwu.edu/alumni>
- Colonial Central (Student Accounts): <http://colonialcentral.gwu.edu>
- Project Management Institute (PMI): www.pmi.org