



A Guide to Getting an MBA and Specializing in Leadership

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### About this Resource

As business professionals, as strategic thinkers, as innovators, it's important that you cultivate critical thinking skills, an eye for detail, and the ability to implement and refine effective business practices. If you're looking to nurture those skills and boost your career opportunities in the field of business, it might be time to consider a graduate degree in business.

Marymount University now offers a Leadership specialization within our respected Master of Business Administration program. This resource is designed to inform you of the value of Marymount's MBA along with why you should consider pursuing the Leadership specialization if you wish to establish yourself as a relevant, forward-thinking, future leader in the field of business

# What is Business Administration?

Business administration is a course of study that prepares ambitious professionals for managerial roles in companies or organizations. Professionals working in business administration are responsible for overseeing various business operations and may supervise tasks related to accounting, finance, project management, and marketing. Innovative, adaptable professionals who enjoy challenging conventional thinking are a good fit for a role in business administration.

### What is a Leadership Specialization?

Within a business degree, a leadership specialization is designed to help aspiring managers enhance their own capabilities in leadership, innovation, efficiency, teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and strategic thinking. A leadership specialty is designed for both practicing managers who want to reposition themselves in today's workplace and emerging business professionals looking to increase their emotional intelligence, collaboration skills, and confidence as a way of promoting an organization's ongoing success and advancement.



# **Choosing to Study Business Administration**

Trends and best practices continue to evolve in today's business landscape. With that in mind, it's crucial that you choose an MBA program that's designed to prepare you for real, measurable success — a graduate program that's dedicated to weaving inquiry-based learning, hands-on assignments, faculty research, and one-on-one professional development into the curriculum.

With so many MBA programs available today, it's important to ask yourself a variety of questions about the program you're considering in order to ensure that you're choosing the one that will give you the best possible academic training. Consider questions like the following:

- What experience and credentials do the faculty have?
- What kind of options are there for me to augment my coursework?
- Will there be hands-on, experiential learning opportunities?
- What type of job opportunities can I expect upon graduation?
- How diverse is the institution's community?



# Exploring Marymount University's Master of Business Administration

Marymount's <u>Master of Business Administration</u> prepares you to face the powerful market forces that continue to reshape the business landscape. With a rigorous blend of best practices and practical application, our MBA program will prepare you to identify emerging business problems, think critically about options, and design and manage principled and effective solutions in an evolving global world.

In addition, Marymount's MBA program delivers the quality, flexibility, and value sought by professionals in the D.C. area. Some noteworthy facts about the MBA program include:

- Students can choose from one of two specializations: Data Analytics and Leadership
- The program can be completed in 36 credits or in 45 credits if adding a specialization
- Courses are offered year around
- A flexible mix of online and evening classes accommodates the schedules of both full-time students and working professionals
- Students benefit from a highly interactive and personal approach to their learning experience
- Small classes and a collaborative team atmosphere provide the opportunity to connect with a diverse group of students from a variety of business environments
- Marymount faculty members are experts in their fields, providing the critical balance of theory and application
- Marymount's MBA program is accredited by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP)



### **Dual Degree Programs**

Dual degrees present excellent opportunities for MBA students to differentiate themselves in their professional community with two relevant degrees. By pursuing the degrees concurrently, students can merge common subjects and earn both degrees with fewer credits than taking them separately.

- <u>Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Information Technology</u>
- <u>Master of Business Administration/Master of Arts in Human Resource Management</u>
- <u>Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Health Care Management</u>
- <u>Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Leadership & Management</u>
- <u>Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Cybersecurity</u>

### **MBA's 2 Specialization Options**

Marymount now offers MBA candidates two specialization options. Each specialty requires the completion of three additional courses specific to the field of study. Upon choosing to pursue one of these two specializations, MBA students can complete their coursework in 45 credit hours.

#### **Data Analytics**

- IT 540 Enterprise Data Management and Analysis
- IT 546 Principles of Data Science
- HRM 586 People Analytics

#### **Leadership**

- MGT 502 Leading Collaboration and Innovation
- MGT 590 Organization Policy and Strategy
- OD 521 Organization Change and Development



# **Deep Dive: Leadership Specialization**

At Marymount University, we recognize that leadership is not a discipline or a field of study – it's a skill set. For that reason, Marymount has launched a specialization option for MBA students looking to nurture valuable leadership skills. Marymount's Leadership specialization option is designed to prepare MBA students with the **confidence and capabilities to promote values-based leadership** in professional business landscapes.

Further, the faculty at Marymount understand that when budding business professionals are recognized as talented and ambitious, they are often moved into management positions. These management roles require professionals to lead others, but emerging business professionals often find themselves ill-equipped to lead. With this in mind, the three courses in the Leadership specialization have been strategically chosen and give MBA students the confidence and skills to lead now.

### **Course Requirements & Descriptions**

MBA students who want to pursue the Leadership specialization will take the core courses outlined in the <u>Program Requirements</u> and three additional courses. These three carefully chosen courses provide the necessary framework for business professionals to increase their management skills and confidence.



#### MGT 502 Leading Collaboration and Innovation:

The course introduces students to the practice of collaboration and provides opportunities to analyze the management of groups charged with advancing new products in organizations.



#### MGT 590 Organization Policy and Strategy:

This course examines concepts and applications of strategy and sustainability alongside topics of strategic thinking and organizational learning. Students examine models for leader application when executing a mission-driven strategy.



#### OD 521 Organization Change and Development:

This course equips students with the skills, tools, and methods for helping organizations lead, plan, and cope with change.

#### Note:

MBA students who take the three Leadership specialization courses may also choose to pursue the MBA and <u>Leadership & Management</u> dual degree by taking an additional four courses after the Leadership specialization is completed.

# Jobs, Salary, and Career Outlook for Business Leaders

The management employment rate is projected to grow 8 percent from 2016 to 2026, which will result in about 807,300 new jobs. Employment growth is expected to be driven by the formation of new organizations and the expansion of existing ones, resulting in more roles that need to be filled by business professionals with business acumen and confidence. The median annual wage for management occupations was \$104,240 in 2018, which was the highest wage of all the major occupational groups.

MBA graduates who have marketable leadership skills have the potential to work in roles such as:

- Vice President
- Chief Financial Officer
- Financial Analyst
- Product Manager
- Director of Business Development
- Business Developer Manager
- Project Manager
- Budget Analyst

- Sales Director
- Product Marketing Manager
- Marketing Manager
- Operations Manager
- Director of Operations
- Brand Manager
- Human Resource Specialist
- Strategy Manager



# Next Steps

As a future leader in the field of business, it's crucial that you strategically choose a respected graduate program. That's why we'd like to invite you to request more information or to attend one of our upcoming in-person or virtual events — to discover how the Marymount difference ties into your purpose. Or, if you're ready to boost your business career, you can start your online application today.

In the meantime, we hope this resource has been helpful to you, and we can't wait to assist you in advancing your career in the complex and exciting field of business administration. Start your journey with us today!

### **Request More Information**

Attend an Event

### **Apply Now**