The mission of the Stanford Graduate School of Business is to create ideas that deepen and advance the understanding of management, and with these ideas, develop innovative, principled, and insightful leaders who change the world.

The two-year Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) degree program prepares change agents to make a meaningful impact in the world through leadership of business, government, and social-sector organizations. The general management curriculum rests on a foundation of social science principles and management functions, tailored to each student’s background and aspirations. Interdisciplinary themes of critical analytical thinking, creativity and innovation, and personal leadership development differentiate the Stanford M.B.A. experience. Each M.B.A. student undertakes a global experience to provide direct exposure to the world’s opportunities. A Joint Degree Program (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees/#jointdegreeandex) allows Stanford students to combine the M.B.A. with degrees in the Graduate School of Education (M.A.), the School of Engineering (M.S. in C.S., M.S. in E.E.), the Stanford Law School (J.D.) as well as interdisciplinary degrees in Public Policy (M.P.P.) and in Environment and Resources (M.S.). Dual Degree programs are offered with the School of Medicine (M.D./M.B.A) and the program in International Policy Studies (M.A. in IPS/M.B.A).

The primary criteria for admission are intellectual vitality, demonstrated leadership potential, and personal qualities and contributions. No specific undergraduate major or courses are required for admission, but experience with analytic and quantitative concepts is important. Almost all students obtain one or more years of work experience before entering, but a few students enroll directly following undergraduate study.

The Stanford Master of Science in Management for Experienced Leaders Program (MSx) is an intensive, one-year course of study for middle-management executives leading to the degree of Master of Science in management. Participants generally have eight or more years of work experience, with at least five years of management experience. Some students are sponsored by their company, but most are self-sponsored.

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) degree program is designed to develop outstanding scholars for careers in research and teaching in various fields of study associated with business education. Students focus on one of seven discrete areas of study including accounting, economic analysis and policy, finance, marketing, operations information and technology, organizational behavior, and political economy.

For detailed information on programs, curricula, and faculty, see the School’s (http://gsb.stanford.edu) web site.


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