



# Graduate Programs in Project Management



**PennState**  
World Campus

**A world of possibilities.  
Online.**

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“Rarely in the business world do you find a discipline that is so diverse in terms of the demands it places on people. You have to be technically proficient, but you have to excel in people skills while keeping an eye on schedules and budgets. You have to understand the technology of the project, but you have to deal with motivation and leadership and understanding how to get a team to work best together. So where else do you find a discipline or a career option that really requires you almost to become a miniature CEO? This is the only place, short of being an executive, where you actually have to understand the entire breadth of a business challenge, and that’s the nature of project management.”

— **Dr. Jeffrey K. Pinto, The Andrew Morrow and Elizabeth Lee Black Chair in the Management Technology, Master of Project Management Lead Faculty**

# Programs in Project Management

If you are involved in project-based work, Penn State's online Master of Project Management and Graduate Certificate in Project Management programs can give you the opportunity to develop the technical, leadership, and management skills you need to be a more effective project manager.

As a student in these graduate-level programs, you can learn how to better manage your project relating to:

- › planning, cost, and value management
- › strategic issues in project management
- › project control
- › project risk analytics
- › team and human dimensions of project management

Decades of experience across several industries went into the design of Penn State's online project management programs, which focus on the common elements that apply to any project, no matter what industry. In addition, our partnerships with major corporations have driven the development of a curriculum that teaches you skills and techniques that can be immediately applied to the real-world projects in your organization.

[worldcampus.psu.edu/mpm](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/mpm)



# Why Penn State?

## Accredited and Acclaimed

The online programs in project management are offered in partnership with Penn State Behrend's Black School of Business, an AACSB-accredited institution — the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide. Penn State is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and is a Project Management Institute (PMI®) Registered Education Provider. Your education from Penn State will be highly respected anywhere in the world.

## Faculty Expertise

All of the courses in the online programs are designed and taught by Penn State professors who combine academic expertise with industry experience. You will have access to faculty known for their exceptional credentials and leading

research in the project management field. Their goal is to understand your career interests and meet your academic needs. The team of faculty is led by Dr. Jeffrey K. Pinto, an internationally recognized scholar in the field.

## Reputation

Having a Penn State degree on your résumé is a great way to broaden your career options and prove to current and potential employers that you are a well-educated professional. No distinction will be made on your official Penn State transcript or diploma that your courses were completed online.

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“When I first thought about doing online classes, I really didn’t know what to expect. Much to my surprise, you really get to know your teachers by name. They remember you if you actually meet them face-to-face. It’s surprising to me that there’s such a connection there.”

— Dana A., Implementation Manager for SAP and Purchasing, Rolls-Royce; MPM graduate

# Network with the Best

## Partnerships Enhance the Programs

The online project management programs were developed in a unique partnership between Penn State, three international corporations, and the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom. Each course was designed with the input of corporate practitioners to make sure that the material presented was topical, timely, and relevant to the demands of the project management field. Project management faculty at Penn State and the University of Manchester developed the curriculum to align it with “A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)” Eighth Edition, Project Management Institute, Inc. (2025), and the UK Association for Project Management (APM).

## The Diversity of Your Peers

One of the unique aspects of the project management field is that it applies to a wide array of industries.

As a student in the online project management programs, you will have the opportunity to network with individuals from across the country and around the globe. In addition to learning real-life applications provided through case studies, you can also gather information from top project managers to learn what strategies they are implementing in their industries.



Penn State’s project management programs bring together high-caliber students from many growing industries, including:

- › automotive
- › banking
- › business
- › construction
- › engineering
- › health care
- › hospitality
- › information technology
- › insurance
- › manufacturing
- › marketing
- › oil and natural gas exploration
- › pharmaceuticals
- › psychology

# Curriculum for Graduate Certificate in Project Management

Penn State's online Graduate Certificate in Project Management is an interdisciplinary, 12-credit program that uses problem-based learning to provide a strong foundation in project management theory and practice. To earn the graduate certificate, you must complete one required project management course and then choose three additional courses from the following:

- › Cost and Value Management
- › Planning and Resource Management
- › Project Risk Analytics
- › Organizations

- › Interpersonal and Group Behavior
- › Strategy: Corporate, Business, and Project

In addition to the Graduate Certificate in Project Management being an excellent stand-alone credential, all of the courses in the program can be applied toward course requirements for the Master of Project Management degree, if you choose to apply and are accepted to the degree program.

To apply or for more information, visit: [worldcampus.psu.edu/project-cert](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/project-cert)



# Curriculum for Master of Project Management

The 30-credit online Master of Project Management degree program uses problem-based learning to provide a thorough understanding of all aspects of project management. While overarching project management theory is incorporated into the curriculum, the main focus of the program is heavily grounded in real-world project examples and applications. To earn the master's degree, students must complete the following 3-credit courses:

- › Project Management
- › Cost and Value Management
- › Planning and Resource Management
- › Project Risk Analytics
- › Organizations
- › Interpersonal and Group Behavior
- › Strategy: Corporate, Business, and Project
- › Management of Projects

**Choose at least 6 credits of supporting course work to customize and complete your degree** (see page 8)

“The project management courses covered everything from contracts, to people and culture, to strategy and resources management. They were all very distinct, and each one covered a different area that you will run into in corporate America. I learned new tools and new ideas that could be pulled from each course and applied to the real world. My course work was all wrapped in a project management framework, which is what I do every day.”

— **Rich S., Rolls-Royce Learning and Development Award recipient; MPM graduate**

# Customize Your Degree

For the final 6 credits in the master's degree program, you have the opportunity to select supporting courses to tailor your degree to your professional focus and career goals. Choose at least 6 credits from additional course work in:

- › advanced project management
- › supply chain management
- › engineering leadership and innovation management
- › enterprise architecture
- › SAP Enterprise Resource Planning software
- › independent study for a creative or research project based on a current project management issue in your organization

## Two Credentials, One Degree

Because the 12-credit Graduate Certificate in Project Management consists of four courses from the Master of Project Management program, you can begin by pursuing the certificate, and then choose to continue and apply to the degree program.

This will allow you to add a quality credential to your résumé even before completing the full master's program.



“My main objective was to be able to maintain my productivity at work while also learning outside of work on my own time. This program allowed me to choose my courses so that I could best balance my work and school responsibilities.”

— **Stephanie S., MPM graduate**





# Proven Leadership in Online Delivery

## Flexibility and Convenience

Penn State knows that as an adult student, you need flexible and convenient learning options. The online learning format offered by Penn State World Campus makes it possible to fit a graduate education into your life. Though courses have fixed start and end dates with assignment deadlines, you can decide when to do your course work to meet those deadlines.

## Learner and Technical Support

Without having to set foot on campus, you will have access to an array of support services, including course scheduling assistance and academic advising, technical support offered by the friendly World Campus IT Services staff, and career counseling with a Licensed Professional Counselor.

## Library Services

As a Penn State World Campus student, you will have access to one of the largest research libraries in North America, with hundreds of online research databases, thousands of scholarly journals (many available online and in full text), and millions of materials. You can search the online catalog and review databases as if you were sitting at a terminal in any Penn State library.

## Networking Opportunities

Interact with dedicated, goal-oriented peers from across the nation, creating a network of great ideas. As you communicate regularly with classmates and faculty members, you will gain insights that you can apply to your career immediately.

# Begin Your Application Today

## How to Begin

Admissions decisions for the Master of Project Management and Graduate Certificate in Project Management programs are based on the quality of the applicant's credentials relative to those of other applicants. The decisions are based on a review of a complete application portfolio. The degree and certificate require separate applications.

### Application Requirements for the Master's Degree

- › Official transcripts from each institution attended
- › References (2)
- › Official TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable
- › Program-specific questions/materials, including a Statement of Purpose

For the most up-to-date information about the master's application, please visit:

[worldcampus.psu.edu/mpmapp](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/mpmapp)

### Application Requirements for the Graduate Certificate

- › Official transcripts from each institution attended
- › References (2)
- › Official TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable
- › Program-specific questions/materials, including a Statement of Purpose

For the most up-to-date information about the certificate application, please visit:

[worldcampus.psu.edu/cpmapp](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/cpmapp)

## Did You Know?

- › Penn State credits and degrees earned online are identical to those earned on campus.
- › Penn State World Campus has enrolled students from all 50 states and all 7 continents.
- › Our online courses involve frequent interactions between students and instructors.
- › The PMI® Project Management Salary Survey — Ninth Edition found the median annual base salary of project managers in the United States to be \$135,000.

# Contact Us

## Admissions Questions

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