Professional Science Master’s Programs

Science-based employers are looking for professionals who possess science or mathematics knowledge as well as business fundamentals, project management, team-building, and communication skills. By earning a Professional Science Master’s (PSM) degree, you can acquire these desired work skills and gain an advantage in today’s increasingly competitive job market.

What is a Professional Science Master’s Degree?

The PSM is an innovative graduate degree designed to allow students to pursue advanced training and excel in science without a Ph.D., while simultaneously developing highly-valued business skills without an MBA. PSMs prepare students for science careers in business, government, or non-profit organizations, where workforce needs are increasing. Programs are characterized by “science-plus,” combining rigorous study in science or mathematics with skills-based coursework in management, policy, or law. Most require a final project or team experience, as well as a “real-world” internship in a business or public sector enterprise.

Program Field Examples:
- Bioinformatics
- Computational Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Forensic Science
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Industrial Mathematics
- Industrial Microbiology
- Physics with Business Applications
- Quantitative Finance

PSM Programs...
- Emphasize written and verbal skills, leadership, and team building
- Include project or team experience as opposed to thesis
- Provide connections to potential employers through internships
- Can accommodate working professionals

What do you learn in a PSM Program?

Most PSM programs are interdisciplinary. Physics majors may wish to study physics entrepreneurship, health physics, or nanoscale physics, while microbiology students might choose a PSM in food safety, microbial systems analysis, or industrial microbiology. Additionally, PSM students learn career search skills, and some interact from their first day on campus with local business and public sector employers, who act as advisors to their program. It is this close cooperation with local employers that guarantees that the skills and subject matter taught are cutting edge and relevant.

Who hires PSM degree graduates?

Employers of recent PSM graduates in the biosciences range from large, multinational pharmaceutical companies to newer biotechnology companies. Graduates with an interest in intellectual property and technology transfer are working with the federal government or for university technology transfer operations, while financial mathematics graduates are popular hires for banks, brokerage houses, and the insurance industry. Forensic chemists are finding exciting opportunities with state and local forensic laboratories. Regardless of the employment sector, PSM graduates are finding exciting, well-compensated careers.

Where can I find additional information?

Search for PSM programs in your field of interest at www.sciencemasters.com or contact the Council of Graduate Schools at profmasters@cgs.nche.edu to learn more about the PSM initiative.
Professional Science Master’s Programs

The worlds of science and business are merging and a new breed of scientist is necessary to maintain America's competitive edge in the global marketplace. These new scientists are Professional Science Master's (PSM) graduates who have the academic and professional skills to effectively bridge science and business.

What is a Professional Science Master’s Degree?

The PSM is designed to prepare students with the scientific training necessary to advance and excel in science, while simultaneously developing highly valued business skills. Programs are developed in concert with employers and characterized by “science-plus” curricula, combining rigorous graduate study in science or mathematics with skills-based coursework in management, policy, or law. PSM programs emphasize the written and verbal communication skills, leadership, and team-building required in professional settings. Instead of a thesis, most PSM degrees require a collaborative research project, as well as an internship in a business or the public sector. PSM graduates are equally as comfortable in the science lab as in the board room, court room, and other professional settings.

Program Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PSM Degree</th>
<th>Science/Technology Courses</th>
<th>+</th>
<th>Professional Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Simulation, Geographic Information Systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Industrial</td>
<td>Differential Equations, Linear Algebra, Matrix</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Leadership, Organizational Decision Making, Human Resources Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Theory, Cost Benefit Analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Discovery and</td>
<td>Gene Expression Systems, Proteomics, Molecular</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Evolution, Experimental Immunology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forensic Science</td>
<td>Drug Chemistry/Toxicology, Molecular Biology,</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Case Law, Expert Witness Testimony, Formal Reports, Rules of Evidence</td>
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<td>Quantum Chemistry, DNA Technologies</td>
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Why Mentor PSM Students and Hire PSM Graduates?

- **Interdisciplinary scientists.** PSM students receive advanced training at the cutting-edge interfaces of science and technology. The combination of science with workplace skills and experience means PSM graduates require minimal additional training, saving employers time and money in professional development.

- **Excellent communicators.** PSM programs attract students who 1) are looking for scientific careers in the business, government, or nonprofit sectors 2) thrive in team-oriented environments and 3) seek career advancement.

- **Innovative problem-solvers.** The PSM capstone experience is a team-oriented, multidisciplinary research project addressing challenges and opportunities in the real world. The PSM graduate’s capstone and internship experiences prepare them to hit the ground running for your company.

Where can I find additional information?

Find out how you can get involved in PSM programs in your field and how PSM graduates can meet your workforce needs at www.sciencemasters.com or contact the Council of Graduate Schools at profmasters@cgs.ncche.edu.