Community Resources and Development (Nonprofits and NGOs), MS

An eager professional like you can hone a solutions mindset and pair that with your unique talents and skills to address critical issues affecting important community organizations and the people they serve --- and create positive change.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Community Resources and Development (Nonprofits and NGOs)

The MS in community resources and development with a concentration in nonprofits and NGOs is a research-oriented degree program.

Students learn to analyze and understand critical topics and issues pertinent to the fields of tourism, parks and recreation management, nonprofits and nongovernmental organizations, and sustainable communities.

At a Glance

- College/School: Watts College of Public Service & Community Solut
- Location: Downtown Phoenix

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

- Nonprofit Leadership and Management, BS
- Nonprofit Leadership and Management (American Indian Studies), BS
Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students are advised by their academic departments to apply.

**Degree Requirements**

30 credit hours and a thesis, or
36 credit hours including the required applied project course (CRD 593)

**Required Core (15 credit hours)**
CRD 500 Research Methods (3)
CRD 502 Statistical and Data Analysis (3)
CRD 530 Community Services Management (3) or advanced inquiry course (3)
CRD 552 Critical Issues (3)
CRD 555 Theoretical Perspectives in Community Development (3)

**Required Concentration (6 credit hours)**
NLM 510 The Nonprofit Sector (3)
NLM 562 Social Entrepreneurship (3)

**Elective or Research (3 or 9 credit hours)**

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**
CRD 593 Applied Project (6) or
CRD 599 Thesis (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Completion of the master's degree in community resources and development requires two years of study, on the average. Students may select a thesis or applied project. Advising and direction in both options are under the direct supervision of an assigned faculty member.

The thesis option is a research-oriented program and is recommended for students planning to continue graduate studies beyond the master's degree. Students in the thesis option take an advanced inquiry course, and they take three credit hours of elective coursework. The thesis option must be defended in an oral examination before a supervisory committee of at least three faculty members, one of whom will reside in another department.

The applied project is intended for students seeking additional knowledge and expertise relevant to professional career development. Students in the applied project option take CRD 530 as part of their core coursework and take nine credit hours of electives.

**Admission Requirements**
Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in any field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. statement of professional and academic goals
4. three letters of recommendation
5. current resume
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

Only complete application files are reviewed or considered for admission. Students without undergraduate academic work in related disciplines are required to take six credit hours of deficiency coursework in addition to the master's degree requirements. Deficiency coursework may be taken in conjunction with master's degree-level classes.

Applicants interested in financial aid need to submit their applications by February 1 for fall semester admission and October 1 for spring semester admission. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Application Deadlines

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Career Opportunities

This degree program builds student expertise in nonprofit leadership and management and is designed to prepare graduates for careers in:

- charitable associations
- foundations
- governmental agencies
- nonprofit organizations
- private-sector businesses

Contact Information

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