Global Management (Global Affairs), MGM

This concentration provides you with specialized cross-training in international affairs and the fundamentals of global management. It is designed for future leaders in nonprofit, governmental or international business roles.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MGM Global Management (Global Affairs)

Understanding the intersections between business and politics is more important than ever for managers and executives in the private, nonprofit and public sectors. The World Economic Forum's latest Future of Jobs Report and McKinsey Global Institute's Jobs of the Future report both have suggested that transdisciplinary, virtual collaboration and cross-cultural competence are extremely important job skills for the near future.

Thunderbird's MGM program with a concentration in global affairs equips students with the knowledge base and hard skills needed to thrive in the growing job markets at the nexus of global business and international politics.

Thunderbird School of Global Management has produced unique leaders for over 75 years, leaders in every sector capable of tackling the world's greatest challenges. The alumni network comprises 45,000 graduates and 170 chapters around the globe.

At a Glance

- College/School: Thunderbird School of Global Management
- 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 plus master's degree with:

Asia Studies (East Asia), BA
Asia Studies (South Asia), BA
Asia Studies (Southeast Asia), BA
Biological Sciences, BS
Biological Sciences (Biology and Society), BS
Biological Sciences (Genetics, Cell and Developmental Biology), BS
Biological Sciences (Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior), BS
Business (Business Administration), BA
Business (Communication), BA
Business (Food Industry Management), BA
Business (Global Agribusiness), BA
Business (Global Logistics Management), BA
Business (Global Politics), BA
Business (Health Care), BA
Business (Information Security), BA
Business (Language and Culture), BA
Business (Law), BA
Business (Public Service and Public Policy), BA
Business (Sports Business), BA
Business (Statistics), BA
Business (Sustainability), BA
Business (Technology), BA
Business (Tourism), BA
Business Data Analytics, BS
Business Entrepreneurship, BS
Economics, BS
Engineering Management, BSE
Finance, BS
Global Health, BA
Global Management, BGM
History, BA
Industrial Design, BSD
Industrial Engineering, BSE
Informatics, BS
International Trade, BS
Jewish Studies, BA
Liberal Studies, BA
Management, BS
Marketing, BS
Marketing (Digital and Integrated Marketing Communications), BS
Marketing (Professional Sales), BS
Philosophy, BA
Philosophy (Morality, Politics and Law), BA
Religious Studies (Religion, Culture and Public Life), BA
Religious Studies (Religion, Politics and Global Affairs), BA
Supply Chain Management, BS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and how to apply.

Degree Requirements

49 credit hours, a foreign language exam, including the required capstone course (TGM 597)

Required Core (3 credit hours)
TAM 582 Communicating and Negotiating in a Dynamic Global World (3) or
TGM 506 Communicating and Negotiating Across Cultures (3)

Concentration (12 credit hours)

Electives (12 credit hours)

Other Requirement (21 credit hours)
foreign language
TGM 515 Navigating Global and Regional Business Environments (3)
TGM 517 Global Accounting and Financial Management (3)
TGM 545 Global Leadership and Strategy (3)
TGM 557 Global Marketing and Data Analytics (3)
TGM 586 Global Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Business (3)
TGM 596 Thunderbird Experiential Practicum (6)

Culminating Experience (1 credit hour)
TGM 597 Thunderbird Personal Leadership Development (1)

Additional Curriculum Information
For concentration coursework, students choose four courses from an approved list for a total of 12 credit hours. Students should contact the academic unit for approved course list.

Electives are approved by the academic unit.

Except for TGM 596 and the foreign language requirement, other requirement courses may be substituted with approval of the academic unit.

Proficiency in a second language is required for graduation from the Master of Global Management degree program. Students whose native language is not English who meet the admission requirements for the master's degree program satisfy the language requirement.

Students whose native language is English must satisfy the graduation requirement for language proficiency by waiving this requirement through an oral proficiency interview administered by a third-party vendor or by successfully completing six credit hours of 400-level or higher foreign language coursework as part of the program electives.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Thunderbird School of Global Management.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any subject or related 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 are required to submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. resume
4. essay response to application question
5. one professional or academic reference
6. GMAT or GRE may be required
7. interview
8. proof of English proficiency

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

The resume should demonstrate the applicant’s professional and academic history.

An interview is required. Final applicants may be asked to complete an additional interview.

Applicants are exempt from taking the GMAT or GRE if they have eight or more years of professional work experience or a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.25 or above. Applicants who do not meet either requirement are reviewed by the application committee and may receive an exception on a case-by-case basis.

Tuition Information
When it comes to paying for college, everyone’s situation is different. Students can learn about ASU tuition and financial aid options to find out which will work best for them.

Program Learning Outcomes
Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Develop the ability to build sustainable and trusting relationships with others from diverse parts of the world.
- Evaluate how the political and economic factors shape the global community.
- Develop the ability to inspire others in a global world.

Global Opportunities
Global Experience
Students in Thunderbird's Master of Global Management program have unique opportunities to apply and hone their learning in international settings. Experiential learning exposes students to actual problems faced by leaders of multinational businesses and governmental or nonprofit organizations that operate on an international level. Working with Thunderbird professors, their fellow students, alumni and corporate partners, students master and apply global management principles and concepts to meet real business challenges through special courses, labs and projects. Thunderbird offers a wide variety of experiential learning engagements, giving students the ability to solve real-world challenges by collaborating with the school's corporate partners around the world. Some options include:
Global Field Seminars
This one- or two-week seminar exposes students to the dynamics and nuances of doing business in a focused region of the world. Teams of students go on company site visits and attend high-level meetings and presentations with business, government and cultural leaders as well as with Thunderbird alumni. Students gain invaluable hands-on experience while expanding their global business skills so they can become major assets to any organization they join after graduating.

Thunderbird Global Challenge Laboratories
This is a client-facing, project-based course built on a six- to seven-week immersion assignment in a key emerging or advanced market. Projects take students to destinations all over the world. They are tailored to the business needs of the client and challenge students to provide sophisticated data and market analysis, strategy recommendations and plans for sustained growth that are both practical and effective. For more information, students should visit Thunderbird's Global Challenge Lab website.

Career Opportunities
This concentration prepares graduates to take on management and executive positions in government agencies such as the U.S. Department of Commerce, the State Department and the Treasury Department or similar roles in the government of a student's home country. The global affairs concentration also positions graduates for leadership roles in international organizations such as the World Bank or World Trade Organization and in major companies that require analysts to monitor policy trends, managers to oversee global supply chains and representatives to advance global business interests to governments, both domestic and foreign.

Career examples include:

- business continuity planners
- diplomats
- intelligence analysts
- political scientists
- regulatory affairs specialists
- social and community service managers

Contact Information
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