Master in Engineering Management Program
 Frequently Asked Questions

Is the GRE required?
No, the GRE requirement has been waived in consideration of the current global situation.

Is this a STEM program?
Yes, it is a STEM program. MSEM international students are eligible for OPT.

What is the duration of the program?
The duration of the program varies depending on how many courses you take each semester and how you take advantage of winter and summer session offerings. For example:

- One-year completion: Students can start the program early by taking 2 courses in the summer, and then take 3 courses in the fall, 1 in the winter and 4 in the spring, to graduate in May.
- Two-year completion: This is the path many international students follow, taking 3 courses in fall and spring of the first year, doing a meaningful internship in the summer, and then 3 courses in fall and 1 course in spring of the second year to complete the program.
- Off-campus students: While working full time, professionals tend to take one to two courses a semester and take some winter and summer offerings as well. This allows them to graduate within 2-3 years.

These are examples and many variants are possible. Note that by default, the graduate school sets the duration of a MS program as 4 years. This is just a maximum duration for the program (although it can be extended to 6 years if special circumstances arise).

What is the difference between the MSEM on-campus and off-campus (online) programs?
The diploma and credentials are identical. The courses are taught by the same faculty members and follow the same curriculum. Students can take a mix of on-campus and online courses seamlessly to best accommodate their schedules and preferences.

How many courses do I need to take on campus vs online?
The program can be completed fully online. However, if you are an on-campus student, the College of Engineering requires taking the courses on campus in the fall and spring semesters (unless they are not available on campus) and international students are required by immigration to be full time on campus in fall and spring semesters, which requires taking at least 9 credits and at least 6 of those need to be on campus.

I am interested in a 100% online program; will I ever be required to come on campus?
No, you are not required to campus. The program can be completed fully online, fully on-campus, or in a blended fashion. Your choice. Some of the more technical elective courses are only offered on-campus, since they are geared to PhD students, but the main ones are offered both online and on-campus. A variety of management electives are always offered online.
**How much does tuition for this program cost?**
The graduate student tuition and fees for on-campus instruction are available through the UMass bursar's office. The cost of online courses is $650 per credit ($1,950 per 3cr course) for MSEM courses in the College of Engineering and $925 per credit ($2,775 per 3cr course) for electives taken at the Isenberg School of Management, plus a $60 term fee. Engineering offers management courses specifically designed for engineering and STEM professionals so that the full program can be completed within Engineering. Many additional electives and core courses to choose from are available to interested students through the Isenberg School of Management.

**Can I defer admission?**
We are allowing students to defer admission for up to a year given the current situation.

**Upon admission into the program, do I need to accept within two weeks? Is this a hard deadline?**
Yes, please accept right away if intending to come. Your application will be otherwise withdrawn, and you would need to reapply. Note that there is no cost associated with your acceptance and it is not binding for you. Please keep us updated and withdraw if your plans change.

**How many courses can I transfer from a different institution?**
You can transfer up to 6 credits (which is typically 2 courses).

**Are assistantships/scholarships available?**
No, there are no assistantships or scholarships directly available to incoming students. Once here, top students may find research assistant positions working closely with faculty; some students may find teaching assistant opportunities at various departments within the university.

**As an international student, can I work on campus?**
Yes! You can find full information on the steps to follow and opportunities available here: https://www.umass.edu/ipo/iss/f-1-student-employment

“F-1 students are eligible to work on-campus as long as you are maintaining your immigration status. Employment is limited to a total of 20-hours per week (including assistantships) while school is in session, and 20+ hours per week during vacation periods (i.e. Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, Spring Break, Summer). Remember to Apply for your Social Security Number (SSN) and complete I-9 paperwork with Human Resources. Employment of an academic nature (teaching, research, etc.) at one of the Five Colleges (Smith College, Mt. Holyoke College, Amherst College and Hampshire College) is generally considered “on-campus employment.” Please contact your IPO advisor for more information on F-1 student employment at one of the 5 College campuses.”

**What employment opportunities are available on-campus?**
This is the link to the job board for all students: https://em.umass.edu/seo/search/JobSearch.aspx
International students should select ‘Non-work study’ and ‘on-campus’ in the drop-down menu within the search tool. Work studies are not an option for international students. These are only available to domestic students who fill out the FAFSA and qualify for Financial Aid.

This is the specific link for graduate job opportunities:
https://www.umass.edu/graduate/funding/job-opportunities

**Is it possible to establish corporate partnerships?**
Employees of corporations that participate in the UMass College of Engineering Corporate Partnership Program are eligible for a 15% discount off all online engineering classes that form part of this program. Please contact muriel@umass.edu if interested in establishing a partnership that can provide your organization with employee educational benefits, a recruitment pipeline, and research/project collaboration opportunities.

**I am a new student. When do I start registering for courses?**
If you are joining in the Fall, the Graduate School will contact you in early June to let you know it is time to register for courses and provide instructions.

**How do I enroll in UWW (online) courses?**
You can enroll in UWW (online) courses through SPIRE by first requesting an enrollment appointment: *Enrollment > Summer/Wtr/Non-deg Enroll Appt.*

**Can I start taking courses in the summer or winter before my official program start?**
Yes! If you are joining in the Fall, for example, you are not yet an active student in summer but can enroll for summer courses as a non-degree student or contact the program administrator, Kevin Romani (kromani@umass.edu) to move your program start date to the summer term. (Note: Graduate Entering Fee of $507 is due at program start)

**Is the Master's in Engineering Management a thesis or non-thesis degree?**
It is a 10-course, non-thesis program. If you are interested in working on a particular topic in depth, up to two courses can be independent studies where you work closely with a faculty member.

**Because of my current workload, I will be taking only 1 course per semester until I graduate. Am I allowed to do that?**
Yes, you have up to 4 years to complete the MS, and extensions are possible as well.

**Can I take a semester off while completing the program?**
Yes, this just requires signing up for continuous enrollment continuation (that is, enrolling for GRADSCH 999).

**Is it possible to send me a link/pdf of all the courses (including electives) for this online Engineering Management Master's program with the semesters they are offered?**
The full details on courses and program requirements can be found at [https://mie.umass.edu/msem/courses-electives](https://mie.umass.edu/msem/courses-electives). The *tentative plan* of course offerings each
semester over the next two years is provided on the Program News area on the right column of that page.