

# University of Delaware

## MS in Evaluation



### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Science in Evaluation prepares professionals for the successful design, implementation, and management of program, policy, and organizational evaluation. Students are prepared in the science and art of evaluation. The specific skills that will be developed are: identifying evaluation needs, negotiating evaluation questions, developing program models, designing evaluation studies that are responsive to information needs, and carrying out and reporting the results of these studies in ways that improve the ability of programs, policies, and organizations to address social problems. The program grounds these skills in the theoretical foundations for evaluation and the ethical principles of evaluation practice.

The program is designed to meet the needs of both traditional graduate students and working professionals, with graduates having the skills and knowledge to work with a wide variety of populations and in diverse settings. The program provides opportunity to pursue specific areas of emphasis within Evaluation, including (but not limited to): measurement, quantitative design and analysis, qualitative evaluation, economic evaluation, or customized study focused on a specific program area (family studies, community development, educational leadership, organizational development, health promotion).

### ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

The admissions criteria identify those applicants who are likely to be successful evaluation professionals. Specifically, the program seeks to attract applicants who have: (1) a demonstrated commitment to social change and betterment through effective programs and other interventions, and (2) an academic and/or professional background that indicates the ability to successfully complete the program. Acceptance to the program is based on a composite of the applicant's scholastic record, standardized test scores, letters of reference, and personal statement. Relevant work experience may also be taken into consideration. Admission is selective and competitive based on the number of well-qualified applicants and the limits of available faculty and facilities. Those who meet standard minimum academic requirements are not guaranteed admission, nor are those who fail to meet these requirements necessarily precluded from admission if they offer other appropriate strengths. Applicants for the Master of Science in Evaluation will apply to the Office of Graduate Studies.

The specific criteria are:

1. Applicants must have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree. Evaluation is an interdisciplinary field, so the discipline in which the applicant received his or her degree is not necessarily a decisive factor in admissions.
2. Applicants must submit a written statement of the reasons for their interest in evaluation, their motivation to pursue a graduate degree, and their professional goals and objectives.
3. Applicants should have an overall undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0

- or higher (on a scale of 4.0 = A).
4. Applicants should have a GPA of 3.2 or higher in their undergraduate major.
  5. Applicants must take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), which will be evaluated as part of the overall admissions process. A minimum GRE score of 1100 is required for admission, but may be waived if other academic or professional achievements are exceptionally strong.
  6. If English is not an applicant's first language, then the applicant must demonstrate a satisfactory command of English. The TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) is required of all foreign applicants. A minimum score of 600 (paper-based test), 250 (computer-based test), or 100 (TOEFL iBT) is required for consideration for admission.
  7. Applicants must provide letters of recommendation from three (3) people familiar with the candidate's academic record and/or professional achievement.

***Program Director:***

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