

JOINT MBA/MA IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The joint MBA/MA in educational leadership is an innovative program leveraging the resources of the School of Education and the Lorry I. Lokey School of Business and Public Policy at Mills College. The joint MBA/MA is designed specifically to prepare future educational leaders and managers for success by giving them knowledge of both educational processes and dynamics, and strategic business and management skills. The degree helps graduates confront the complex challenges of the rapidly changing educational landscape.

The joint MBA/MA enables graduates to:

- work with new models of schools, such as charter schools run by management companies and nonprofits
- respond to increased demands for accountability and reporting mechanisms from diverse sets of stakeholders in the educational field
- address the dynamic between constrained resources and increased expectations for educational quality and specialized services
- develop turnaround processes for troubled schools
- work in education startups, nonprofits, and ed tech companies.

Distinctive Features

- **Leadership development:** By following the MBA/MA in educational leadership focused course of study, our students acquire the expertise needed to cross the traditional boundaries of business and education.
- **Accelerated program:** Students graduate in three years or less, depending on their previous fulfillment of foundation courses and individual course loads. This is at least one academic year less than it would take to obtain two separate degrees, helping students more efficiently begin the next stage of their careers.

Course Work

Students take courses from those offered at the Mills College School of Education and the Lorry I. Lokey School of Business and Public Policy, and the program is designed so that classes from each school complement each other fully. Courses are chosen to promote the knowledge and skills students need in areas such as leadership, strategy, operations, marketing, finance, information and technology management, ethics, human resource management, urban education, ecology of schooling, child development, and organizational development and change. See the Requirements page for a list of courses required for this program. See the Education Course List & Descriptions (<https://catalog.mills.edu/graduate/programs/education/#coursestext>) and MBA Course List & Descriptions (<https://catalog.mills.edu/graduate/programs/mba/#coursestext>) pages for paragraph-length descriptions of individual courses.

Career Opportunities

The joint degree program prepares students to serve as educational administrators in Pre-K–12, higher education, and out-of-school programs and institutions; leaders and business officers in independent

and charter schools; directors of educational nonprofits; educational consultants; and business consultants working in the education sector.

Requirements

(a minimum of 68 semester course credits)

The joint MBA/MA in educational leadership degree is a 68-72 credit full-time program. Students take 36 units of MBA course work and 32-36 units in education. It is expected that students will complete this program within two and a half (2.5) to three (3) years, depending on the number of foundation courses transferred into the program, the availability of summer courses, and the student's course load. The residency requirement is four (4) semesters.

Foundation Courses

(a minimum of 12-semester course credits)

Students who have taken foundation courses prior to entering the program may count a maximum of three (3) of the MBA listed foundation courses toward the degree. Courses must be approved by the Lokey Dean's office upon application to the program. This option is available for courses completed with a grade of B or better that covered comparable course material, were equivalent to one Mills semester credit, were taken within five (5) years prior to the date of entry into the MBA program, and were taken at an accredited four-year college or university. (Financial and Managerial Accounting may be taken at an accredited junior/community college or continuing education program in which the courses have been certified for credit eligibility towards the CA Certified Public Accountancy exam). After students have started the program all courses are to be taken at Mills.

Code	Title	Credits
MGMT 209	Economics for Managers ¹	3
MGMT 214	Financial Accounting ¹	3
MGMT 215	Managerial Accounting	3
MGMT 216	Corporate Finance I	3

¹ Courses must be taken within the first three (3) semesters of the program.

Core Courses

(a minimum of 41-semester course credits)

The required core courses are central to the degree and cannot be substituted by outside programs.

Code	Title	Credits
MGMT 226	Management Information Systems	3
MGMT 230	Marketing Management	3
MGMT 232	Operations Management	3
MGMT 263	Quantitative Methods ¹	3
MGMT 279	Applied Economic Analysis	3
MGMT 290	Strategic Management	3
EDUC 220	Urban Education	4-5
EDUC 265	Child Development for Early Childhood Leaders	4
EDUC 225	Inquiry and Action in Urban Contexts	3-4
EDUC 227	Issues of Race and Ethnicity in Education	4
EDUC 226	Ethical & Moral Considerations in EdL	4
EDUC 287	Human resources Management	4

¹ Courses must be taken within the first three (3) semesters of the program.

Fast Track Business Degrees for UC Berkeley Students (<https://catalog.mills.edu/graduate/programs/mba/fast-track-business-degrees-uc-berkeley-students/>)

Approved Electives

(a minimum of 15 semester course credits)

Students must take a total of 15 semester course credits in electives at Mills; 6 credits from MBA offerings and at least 9 credits from education course work. Students will select electives based on their interests and professional goals in consultation with their advisors.

Code	Title	Credits
MBA Electives		
MGMT 223	Digital Marketing	3
EDUC 211A	Independent School Leadership I	4
EDUC 211B	Independent School Leadership II	4
MGMT 224	Persuasive Communications	3
MGMT 227	Negotiations	3
MGMT 228	Governmental Accounting and Nonprofit Accounting	3
MGMT 247	Project Management	3
MGMT 249	Business Analytics	3
MGMT 270	Nonprofit Management	3
MGMT 271	Funding Social Impact	3
MGMT 274	Innovation in Business, Social, and Government Organizations	3
MGMT 275	Social Entrepreneurship	3
MGMT 278	Social Impact Consulting	3
Educational Leadership Electives		
EDUC 201	Social Foundations of Education	3
EDUC 276	Leadership and Administration in Early Childhood Programs	3
EDUC 280	Special Topics in Education	4

Related Programs

Master's Degrees

MBA (<https://catalog.mills.edu/graduate/programs/mba/full-time-part-time-mba-/>)

One-Year MBA (<https://catalog.mills.edu/graduate/programs/mba/one-year-mba/>)

Master of Management (<https://catalog.mills.edu/graduate/programs/mba/mm/>)

Joint Degrees

Joint MPP/MBA (<https://catalog.mills.edu/graduate/joint-degree-programs/joint-mppmba/>)

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Accelerated Degrees

BA/MBA (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bamba-accelerated-degree/>)

BA/MM (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/bamm-accelerated-degree/>)

BA/Joint MPP/MBA (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-degree-programs/joint-mppmba-accelerated-degree-program/>)