Program Highlights

The Social Entrepreneurship concentration (SOCE) provides the theoretical and practical toolkit to engage real-world issues in industry, nonprofits, government, public policy, and education. Underlying the social entrepreneurship program is a commitment to social justice and care for human dignity. By the end of the program you will be equipped to analyze problems, develop strategies to solve them, and execute these solutions effectively. Mason’s commitment to innovation creates an environment where emerging social entrepreneurs can turn innovative ideas into reality.

Who's in the Program

Students range from recent college graduates to mid-career professionals, and include athletes, professionals working in the nonprofit, government, and private sectors, and people who want to start their own business. A trait shared by those in the SOCE program is a desire to model and implement sustainable, practical, and ethical solutions to social problems, while working effectively within complex networks made up of divergent groups of stakeholders.

Experiential Learning

Experiential learning is an essential component of your degree. You will engage in internships and other co-curricular activities. Students have interned at Ashoka, a global network for social entrepreneurship, as well as with the Armed Services Arts Partnership, an organization re integrating veterans through the arts, and Together We Bake, a comprehensive workforce training and personal development program. Mason’s location in the Washington, D.C. area affords students unparalleled access to key business, public, and nonprofit organizations.

Career Paths

Graduates move on to successful careers in higher education and nonprofit organizations. Others choose to start their own businesses. The concentration in SOCE will equip students with the subject matter expertise, strategic knowledge, technical support, and social networks needed to create, operate, develop, and accelerate startups; bring ideas to scale; and improve existing programs’ effectiveness.
Degree Requirements - 36 Total Credits

**Required Courses** - 14 Credits
- MAIS 796 ProSeminar
- MAIS 797 Interdisciplinary Studies Proposal
- INTS 550 Social Innovation In Action
- INTS 535 Leadership in a Changing Environment
- GBUS 540 Analysis of Financial Decisions or MBA 711 Entrepreneurship
- INTS 540 Contemporary Issues in Social Justice Human Rights

**Interdisciplinary Perspectives and Competencies in Social Entrepreneurship** - 9-12 Credits
- Environmental and Public Policy, Finance and Accounting, Business and Project Management, Leadership and Well-Being

**Subject Matter Expertise** - 6 Credits
- 6 credits of courses with an emphasis in the social problem they seek to address through entrepreneurship; the theme of the emphasis courses should be reflected in the student’s experiential learning project.

**Experiential Learning** - 3 Credits
- Capstone Project of Thesis - 1 or 4 Credits

Faculty and Research
Faculty in this program are both traditional academics and practitioners with experience in the world of social entrepreneurship. They have expertise in social innovation, leadership and institutional change, management, and financial analysis, as well as experience across the range of public and private sectors.

How to Apply
Along with the completed Application for Graduate Admission and application fee, applicants should submit:

- Official transcripts from previous institutions of higher education attended
- Goals statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- Resume
- Formal writing sample

See [chss.gmu.edu/admissions](http://chss.gmu.edu/admissions) for complete details on the application process.

An Accelerated Master’s pathway (BAM) is available to current undergraduates. For more information about this program, visit: [chss.gmu.edu/accelerated-masters/about](http://chss.gmu.edu/accelerated-masters/about)

MAIS: A Master’s With A Mission
The Interdisciplinary Studies (MAIS) program in the College of Humanities & Social Sciences consists of multiple established degree paths that exist in partnership with academic units and faculty across the University. It offers a home for students with broad academic interests who seek a master’s degree that will help them to create a better world. While their degree paths may vary dramatically, our students share a desire to address critical problems facing the world today.

Available Degree Paths
- Computational Social Science - Energy and Sustainability
- Individualized Studies - Religious Studies - Social Entrepreneurship
- Social Justice and Human Rights - War and the Military in Society
- Women and Gender Studies

Contact Information
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