



**University of Houston-Downtown**

**Master of Security  
Managment**

**Student Handbook  
Academic Year 2018-19**

# Master of Security Management

Tom Winn, MSM, Program Director/Lecturer  
[winnt@uhd.edu](mailto:winnt@uhd.edu) b476, 713-221 8531

The Master of Security Management (MSM) is an innovative online program developed in collaboration with leaders in security management. The goal of the program is to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to address the continuously changing cybersecurity and global security environment.

UHD's MSM degree better prepares managers to reduce the risk to organizations by identifying the threats, be they cyber threats or traditional criminal and terrorist threats. Course discussions include mitigating the risks of cybercriminals, cyber terrorists, extortion, multinational criminals, business continuity and leading teams of security experts. Students will be versed on identifying emerging threats, making risk assessments and implementing risk based security plans to better protect organizations.

The MSM is a fully online that is intended to match the busy schedules of working professionals. We offer a program start in the Fall and Spring.

## Program Learning Outcomes

*Graduates of the MSM-Security Management program will be able to:*

LO#1: Integrate and apply cross-functional business and security knowledge to solve a problem; and apply critical reasoning from strategic and global learning perspectives in managing risk.

LO#2: Develop, implement and refine policies, plans *and programs* which include:

- Comprehensive identification of organizational security risk exposure;
- Cost-effective risk mitigation strategies;
- Recovery strategies; and
- Strategies for refinement and improvement based upon lessons learned during implementation.

LO#3: Analyze and use statistical data to inform decisions relating to operational security.

LO#4: Work in, or, operate effectively within a cross functional group or team.

LO#5: Use effective oral communication to:

- Converse at an executive level with functional units within the organization about business and organizational security issues; and
- Convey critical information during a crisis situation to a variety of audiences.

## Admission Overview

Admission is competitive and selective, and is designed to identify applicants who have the

ability, interest, and qualities necessary to complete the program, with the potential to contribute to the field of security management.

### **Admission Checklist**

Applicants seeking admission will provide the following application materials for review by the MSM Admissions Committee:

- A Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
- A completed *Apply Texas* application form.
- Official transcripts from all degree granting institutions
- A letter describing an applicant's background and desire to be in the Master of Security Management
- An up-to-date professional resume
- Graduates of universities where English is not the primary spoken language could be required to provide a TOEFL score or UHD approved equivalent.  
<http://catalog.uhd.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=805#international-applicants>
- International undergraduate degree often require an equivalency review as required by the Graduate Catalog  
<http://catalog.uhd.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=805#international-applicants>

### **Admission Process Overview**

MSM applications and accompanying documents are typically reviewed by a committee of the Program Director and faculty members who are familiar with the MSM and have recently or, currently teach in the program.

### **Degree Requirements**

The MSM requires completion of 36 hours (12, 3-semester hour courses) with a minimum G.P.A. of 3.0. Students must choose between two concentrations to complete their degree:

Enterprise Security is related to managing more traditional roles of corporate security.

Cyber Security is related to protecting and organization from the current global cyber-threats.

There are seven, three semester hour core classes that all students in the MSM must take:

#### *Core Classes of the MSM*

SM 6360 Enterprise Security Management

SM 6362 Risk Analysis and Abatement

SM 6364 Legal Issues for Security Executives

SM 6365 Cybercrime and Computer Forensics

MGT 6301 Leadership, Motivation and Communication for Security Executives

MGT 6302 Human Resource Management for Security Executives

MGT 6332 Managerial Decision Making for Security Executives

The concentrations are made of five, three semester hour courses.

#### *Cybersecurity Concentration*

SM 6366 Cybersecurity Program Design and Operations\*

SM 6368 Information Security-Focused on Data Security\*

SM 6369 Cyber Networked Security\*

SM 6374 Organizational Resiliency\*

SM 6375 Cyber Operations Capstone\*

(\* these courses are subject to a cybersecurity certificate fee. Fees are assigned to specific course not entire programs)

### *Enterprise Security*

SM 6361 Managing Corporate Investigations

SM 6367 Global Perspectives in Security Management

SM 6370 Current Issues in Security Management

SM 6371 Enterprise Security Capstone

SM 6376 Enterprise Security Solutions

### **Cybersecurity Certificate Program**

Six of the MSM courses can be taken to receive a stand-alone graduate certificate in Cybersecurity. Students who complete the six classes with a 3.0 in the normal course of completing the MSM are eligible to apply for the certificate as well. Those courses are:

SM 6365 Cybercrime and Computer Forensics

SM 6366 Cybersecurity Program Design and Operations\*

SM 6368 Information Security-Focused on Data Security\*

SM 6369 Cyber Networked Security\*

SM 6374 Organizational Resiliency\*

SM 6375 Cyber Operations Capstone\*

(\* these courses are subject to a cybersecurity certificate fee. Fees are assigned to specific course not entire programs)

### **Course Scheduling**

The MSM follows the same schedule as other degrees in the Marilyn Davies College of Business Graduate Programs. During fall and spring we use the 8 week "Part of Term". During the summer we use the 6WksI and 6Wks II.

### **Time to Competition**

The program is intentionally scheduled to be completed over the course of two years but taking one course during each session throughout the two years. Students may take a semester, Part of Term or 6Wks away from taking a class but it will impact their ability to finish in two years. The students typically can rejoin in the next part of term. However the course sequence is ultimately at the discretion of the Program Director.