

# Professional Studies

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The University College offers the Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.) with concentrations in Strategic Leadership and Training and Development in conjunction with all six of the Tennessee Board of Regents universities. Courses are offered online each semester through the Regents Online Degree Program (RODP). For more information contact [mps@mtsu.edu](mailto:mps@mtsu.edu), call (615) 898-5611, or visit [www.mtsu.edu/learn/mps/index.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/learn/mps/index.shtml).

## Requirements for the Master of Professional Studies Major

Once accepted into the College of Graduate Studies, students interested in the Master of Professional Studies may enroll for one semester before being fully admitted to the program.

Candidate must

- complete a minimum of 33 semester hours of graduate credit. This includes 9 hours of the following core courses.  
**Core Courses:**  
PRST 6100 Professional Environment: Issues and Ethics  
PRST 6200 Globalization and the Professions  
PRST 6300 Research Methods (requires a statistics course prerequisite)
- file a degree plan with the Graduate Office prior to the completion of 21 credit hours.

## Application Process

All applicants to the Master of Professional Studies degree program must formally apply to the College of Graduate Studies as degree-seeking students. A complete application package consists of the graduate application, application fee, official transcripts from all collegiate institutions attended, three letters of reference, and an official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) report. A composite GRE score of 900 is expected for consideration of unconditional admission. Also, the applicant must have a 2.75 undergraduate GPA for unconditional admission. Applicants with a 2.75 GPA or higher and 5 years of professional full-time work experience may submit a portfolio of works in place of a GRE score. Applicants who meet this requirement may inquire about the portfolio requirements by e-mailing [mps@mtsu.edu](mailto:mps@mtsu.edu).

Students considering this degree program must be competent in word processing, library retrieval systems, presentation graphics, spreadsheets, and databases. Students must be computer literate (using e-mail, posting discussions, using chat, Web page navigation, uploading attachments, etc.) as well as have excellent time management skills in order to be successful in the online course environment. Students must also have regular access to a computer and reliable Internet connection. To view hardware and software requirements please go to [www.rodip.org/students/hardware\\_software.htm](http://www.rodip.org/students/hardware_software.htm).

## Concentration in Strategic Leadership

In addition to the 9 hours of core courses, the Strategic Leadership concentration requires 24 hours from the following courses.

Seven courses must be completed, including at least one course from each of the five subject areas.

### Leadership Theory

PRST 6500	Foundations of Leadership
LDSP 6000	Current Issues and Cases in Leadership
ELPA 6560	Small Group Leadership

### Research/Data Analysis

PRST 6770	Computer-based Decision Modeling
PRST 6600	Statistical Analysis

### Organizational Structure and Change

PRST 6310	Leadership in Organization
PRST 6800	Organizational Skills and Development

### Communication

COMM 6110	Leadership and Communication
JOUR 6450	Public Relations Management
PRST 6700	Conflict Management and Negotiation

### Strategic Planning and Assessment

TECH 6105	Project Planning and Scheduling
PRST 6040	Human Resources Management

### Required

PRST 6998	Professional Project (must be taken during the final semester of the program)
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## Concentration in Training and Development

The Training and Development concentration requires 33 hours of graduate credit. This includes 9 hours of the following core courses:

### MPS Core Courses (9 hours)

PRST 6100	Professional Environment: Issues and Ethics
PRST 6200	Globalization and the Professions
PRST 6300	Research Methods

### Training and Development Core (18 hours)

PRST 6410	Evaluation of Learning
PRST 6420	Organizational Needs Analysis
PRST 6600	Statistical Analysis OR
PRST 6770	Computer-Based Decision Making
PRST 6400	Instructional Design for Training and Development (was PRST 5460)
PRST 6470	Facilitation of Learning
PRST 6998	Professional Project

(Must be taken during the final semester of the program. Students should begin planning their project when they enter the MPS program. They should consult their advisor about appropriate topics and submit their proposal for approval prior to entering this course.)

### Specialization Options (Students will select two of the following courses for a total of 6 hours.)

PRST 6430	Advanced Instructional Design for Training and Development
PRST 6440	Engaging the Adult Online Learner (prerequisite PRST 5440)
PRST 6450	Computer-Based Technologies for E-Training (prerequisite PRST 5400)
PRST 6105	Project Planning and Scheduling
PRST 6020	Human Resources Management
PRST 6910	Employer and Human Resources Law
PRST 6920	Diversity in the Workplace

*NOTE: The 5000 and 6000 levels numbering of courses for APSU/ETSU/TSU will be crosslisted with the 6000 used by MTSU and TTU and the 7000 levels numbering of courses used at UOM.*

## Courses in Professional Studies [PRST]

- 6100 Professional Environment: Issues and Ethics.** Three credits. Introduces the discipline of ethics and values. Explores the various theories and practices that have led to, and continue to dominate the study of ethics and values in public service. Students will display their knowledge of ethics and values in various reading, writing, and oratorical assignments.
- 6400 Instructional Design for Training and Development.** Three credits. A broad introduction to training and development as a field of study and practice. Designed for training and developmental specialists and organizational leaders who are focused on continually improving human and organizational performance.
- 6450 Computer-based Instruction.** Three credits. Used for technical training. Computer-based instruction requires a different approach to learning than Web-based or classroom-based courses. Focuses on skill set needed to develop training and evaluate student success in an asynchronous environment.
- 6770 Computer-based Decision Modeling.** Three credits. Advanced techniques in quantitative methods. Modeling and optimization techniques. Computer applications emphasized.
- 6800 Organizational Skills and Development.** Three credits. Examines concepts and techniques of organizational development (OD) and the leadership skills required for organizational change. Emphasis on understanding and application of OD theory, skills, and methods.
- 6998 Professional Project.** Three credits. Capstone course for the Master of Professional Studies degree. The integrative culmination of the program of study.



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