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Graduate Program

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# Leadership in a Complex World



**MINERVA<sup>®</sup>**



## Introduction

In our increasingly complex and globalized world, effective decision-making demands a high degree of critical thinking and the ability to gather, interpret, and act upon various data. Minerva has developed a first-of-its-kind program designed specifically to prepare twenty-first-century leaders to make consequential decisions. The 21-month, part-time Master of Science in Decision Analysis (MDA) is designed to impart critical professional skills, with an emphasis on research, analysis, and practical decision-making.

# 650%

growth in the number of available Data Scientist roles listed on LinkedIn since 2012

Source: LinkedIn, "U.S. Emerging Jobs" Report, 2017

# 42%

of Data Scientist roles require an advanced degree

Source: IBM, "The Quant Crunch" Report, 2017

# 40%

projected annual growth in the quantity of global data

Source: McKinsey Global Institute, "Big Data" Report, 2011

## Professional Context

### Understanding data is becoming a requirement for many jobs.

No industry or field remains untouched by the promise of "data-driven" decision-making and problem solving, presenting exciting opportunities: an ability to uncover predictive insights across diverse disciplines. As a result, the demand for workers with the skills to design research initiatives, and to analyze and understand the results will continue to grow in every sector.

In order to help organizations adapt and react to technological disruptions and search for innovative solutions, the agile leaders of the future will need to be data-*informed*.

## Program Overview

### Learn to make better business decisions, using the power of data.

Designed to impart critical professional skills, the Master of Science in Decision Analysis program emphasizes research, analysis, and practical decision-making. Students will learn to interpret complex data, find rational conclusions, devise potential solutions, and evaluate the implications of those choices.

The advanced courses include *Empirical Analyses*, *Formal Analyses*, *Complex Systems*, *Research Methods*, and *Information-Based Decisions*. Together, these five courses provide knowledge and skills that are fundamental to data-informed decision making.

#### Accessible for Working Professionals



- 21-month, part-time program
- Six hours in-class per week
- \$39,500 tuition and available low-interest loans
- Small, discussion-based seminar classes accessible from anywhere in the world

#### Relevant Curriculum for a Variety of Fields



- Quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods study design
- Statistical inference using R and Python
- Practical and creative problem-solving techniques
- Independent research thesis

#### Individualized Lifelong Support



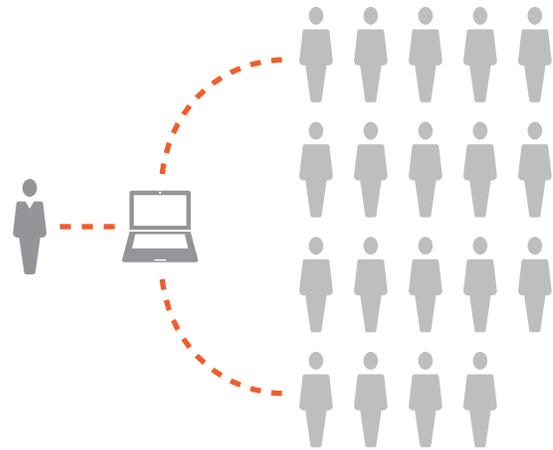
- Expert faculty instruction
- Personalized feedback and progress tracking
- Top academic and external thesis advisors
- Lifelong professional coaching, access, and advocacy

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## Innovative Classes

### Take classes from anywhere in the world.

All classes are live, online seminars, via Minerva's Active Learning Forum™. Classes can be attended wherever there is a reliable, high-speed internet connection, so students can live and study anywhere they choose, while continuing their professional or personal commitments. The Active Learning Forum is designed specifically to improve the educational experience, with video-based seminars that provide personal interaction with professors and fewer than 20 classmates, individualized instruction and frequent feedback, and enhanced performance review and progress tracking.



Fewer than 20 students participate in each discussion-based seminar on the Active Learning Forum™

*“I’d wanted to test my intellectual limits, to see where my brain could be stretched. And that’s exactly what Minerva helped me do, every day. I wasn’t just learning something in a textbook; I was tackling questions of immediate interest and getting the practical tools I’d need to maneuver through complex problems.”*

Zach Goldfine  
Master’s Class of 2017

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## Lifelong Professional Services

### Gain access and support beyond academic coursework.

Minerva’s Professional Development group serves as an agent on behalf of students. Providing individualized coaching, identification of relevant employment opportunities, support for entrepreneurial ventures, and promotion of significant student/alumni accomplishments, the Professional Development group provides lifelong resources and support to bolster student and graduate success.

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## Applications Open

### Ambitious students are encouraged to apply and take a series of challenges.

The admissions process is straightforward and the first two parts take approximately one hour in total to complete. Applicants who qualify for the final round will be invited for an online interview to ensure readiness for the program.

#### 01

##### Application

This short online form asks for basic information, including your academic history and employment status, if applicable. An official academic transcript and CV are also required.

#### 02

##### Challenges

The most distinctive aspect of the process, two engaging challenges offer an opportunity to showcase how you think across various dimensions.

#### 03

##### Interview\*

Following review of the submitted materials and evaluation of performance on the challenges, select candidates will be invited for an online interview.

\*by invitation only

To apply, visit: [www.minerva.kgi.edu/masters/apply](http://www.minerva.kgi.edu/masters/apply)

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