



ONLINE MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIAL IMPACT

FOUNDED 2011
Master of Arts
Social Impact

BECOME AN INNOVATOR

The **Master of Arts in Social Impact** is a dynamic program that seeks to bring more innovation and more diversity, equity, and inclusion to the nonprofit and entrepreneurial ecosystem. This degree program is designed for aspiring founders, emerging social entrepreneurs, nonprofit leaders, and mission-driven changemakers. It is for anyone interested in turning their passion for changing the world into concrete plans.

With an emphasis on social impact, effective leadership, financial resources, and sustainability this program is preparing a new generation of nonprofit founders and entrepreneurial innovators. In addition to learning about grant writing, board development and program evaluation, students gain skills in how to build a promising business model, develop revenue streams to diversify their funding, and proven marketing strategies. What students can expect to gain is the knowledge and skills to get their social change idea successfully off the ground and running.

Graduates of the Master of Arts in Social Impact are prepared to launch innovative new programs, nonprofits, and social-impact businesses in their communities and around the world. From poverty, education and homelessness to unemployment, healthcare and climate change, our students utilize an impact-focused lens to see opportunity as they compassionately address local and global social problems.

In partnership with Ashoka U Commons



Ranked #3 in the nation by IntelligentHQ



PROGRAM SNAPSHOT



Accreditation



Program Length
13 Months



Program Cost
\$18,150



Format
100% Online

No GRE or GMAT Required

*13 month courses: Full-time status (2 courses per term) must be maintained to complete the master's degree in 13 months.

Program Objectives:



After completing the Master of Arts in Social Impact students will be able to:

- Function as mindful humanistic change agents and empathetic leaders skilled and knowledgeable about how to catalyze and sustain changes in social systems.
- Synthesize the history, heritage, and context of social change and innovation for application to current world problems.
- Develop resourcing strategies built on current market principles and procedures.
- Research, analyze, and determine appropriate methods and contemporary strategies for designing and implementing initiatives that generate positive social impact.
- Develop and employ evaluation and learning approaches to gain visibility on and adapt efforts for systems change and social innovation.
- Develop and demonstrate the interpersonal and engagement skills necessary for effective leaders in a global community or organization.

Required Courses:

MCC5320 Invitation to Inquiry: Foundations of the Claremont Core® (3 units): In this university-wide foundational course, learners begin their engagement with the four domains that make up the Claremont Core domains: Mindfulness, Dialogue, Collaboration, and Change. These four domains consist of transferable skills and resources that support leadership and facilitation capacities that accentuate students' professional work.

MSC5300 Strategic Communication: Building Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (3 units): This course will equip students to tackle challenges with diverse teams using language which acknowledges and respects difference to create equitable outcomes. In this course, students analyze self, personal strengths, and biases, and accumulate tools and communication skills in dialogue, collaboration, and bridging across divides.

MCC5321 Activating the Claremont Core®: Research Methods (3 units) This course builds on the foundational aspects of the Claremont Core®, focusing on how students can become mindful, engaged, and inquisitive research practitioners for positive social change. Students will develop an ability to critically evaluate what research methods are best suited for certain types of research projects.

MSI5321 Nonprofit and Social Sector Leadership (3 units) This course addresses a shift in the paradigm of change leadership that recognizes that leaders are more effective when they stand within, not beyond, the system they are working to impact. Using this as a basis, the course explores theories and models of leadership and their application to one's own leadership style and ways of working with teams, organizations, and communities.

MSI5312 Foundations of Social Impact (3 units): Understanding the history and context of social impact innovation provides context for future action. In this course, you will examine the history and heritage of social change in a global context and will analyze social issues to find points of leverage to participate in change-making and determine where you might choose to engage.

MSI5323 Grant Writing, Development, and Sustainable Fundraising (3 units): This course is designed to introduce you to philanthropy broadly and the various aspects of fundraising including, fund development, proposal writing, relationships and strategies that support fundraising, and donor relations and partnership building for sustainable fundraising. You will leave this course with the skills to complete a case for support, a fundraising strategic plan, and a grant proposal.

MSI5324 Social Impact Measurement (3 units): This course also provides practice with needs assessment; generation of organizational models; understanding of design thinking; and strategies for collaborative and emergent change.

MSI5325 Business Models and Marketing for Social Change (3 units): You will learn various marketing strategies to lead and manage marketing campaigns and communication for nonprofit and social sector organizations. By the end of the course, you will gain advanced knowledge of resource management and allocation and will be able to design sustainable resource models and marketing strategies for successful social impact.

MFI5300 Finance & Accounting for Managers (3 units) An overview of the financial accounting and reporting process for managers is the focus of this course. It is designed to facilitate understanding of the financial reporting process and forecasting for strategic thinking and informed decisions. Students will use various data analysis tools to make judgements about a firm's financial condition in an ever-changing business landscape.

MPM 5300 Project Management (3 units) This course covers the broad range of factors that the student needs to know to design, implement, and trouble-shoot high quality programs or projects. It details the phases of program development from design to evaluation and continuous quality improvement. Students will become familiar with several project management tools including GANTT charts, flowcharts, RACIS, and others.

MCC5332 Applying the Claremont Core®: CLU Capstone (3 units) As the culminating course in all programs, students apply skills, knowledge, and professional application learned throughout the degree. The planning for this course begins at the start of the program, continues through the evolution of learning as students design their projects, and peaks with students being prepared to implement the project during the capstone course.

KEY FACULTY:



Dr. V. Nita Evans is the founder of Catch Education, a nonprofit organization that works on closing the readiness gap of Black males entering Division 1 football and basketball programs. They provide student-athletes and their families with pre-college preparation, life-skills training and career exploration. She has lectured at Collin College and Bennett College and has served on multiple nonprofit board and committees throughout Dallas Texas. Dr. Evans earned a Ph.D. and M.A. degree in Sociology from SUNY Stony Brook University and completed her graduate studies at SUNY College at Old Westbury.



Dr. Khuram Hussain is the founder of the grassroots organization “Tools for Change,” a nonprofit agency that performs community-wide dialogue circles to confront social problems, support diversity and inclusion, and educate residents of their legal rights in Upstate NY. Dr. Hussain earned his Ph.D. from Syracuse University, two graduate degrees from SUNY Binghamton University and his B.S. degree from SUNY Oswego College. He is the recipient of the Sankofa Excellence Service Award and NAACP Community Impact Honoree.



Dr. Kendra L. Smith serves as the Community Engagement Director and is a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University. She has lectured at Arizona State University and a Grants Coordinator at University of Central Oklahoma. Dr. Smith earned her Ph.D. in Community Resources at Arizona State University, an MPA in Nonprofit Leadership from University of Oklahoma and completed her BA in Political Science at the University of Central Oklahoma. She had multiple publications and has presented her research nationally.



Christian Baldia is a Kennedy School Fellow, earning a Master’s in Policy from Harvard University and is completing his undergraduate studies at the University of Pittsburg. He serves as the Principal Consultant at Constellation Strategy, lectures at New York University (NYU) and Baruch College, and hold senior-level advisory positions at multiple companies and nonprofit organizations. He was a former White House Analyst and served as a Senior Analyst for the U.S. Department of Treasury, Policy Analyst for Secretary for Domestic Finance and Economic Analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank.