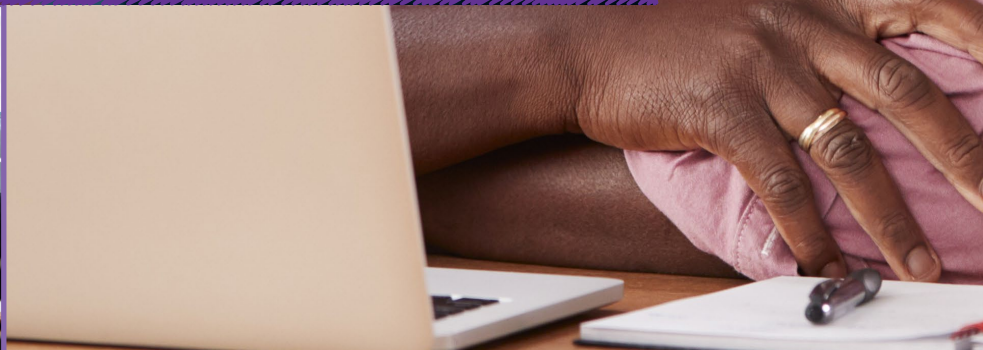


Graduate Programs at MGA

MIDDLE GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY | 2024 - 2025



Graduate education represents one of the highest values an institution can promote for its students and the region.

At Middle Georgia State University (MGA) we believe in the power of education to inspire, empower, and transform lives. We encourage a culture of knowledge and life-long learning, problem solving, applied research, and personal and professional developments. Our graduate programs offer graduate degrees suitable for working adults that address the needs of our region and economic growth while promoting the value of learning.

MGA provides a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs across various fields, including business, health sciences, liberal arts, and more. Whether you're interested in a traditional degree or an online program, MGA has options to suit your goals. You'll have opportunities to engage with experienced faculty members who are passionate about teaching and mentoring — many who bring real-world knowledge and industry insights to the classroom. Our students also have experiential learning opportunities via research, service-learning projects, and volunteer opportunities.

Why MGA?

FLEXIBLE LEARNING OPTIONS

We offer a variety of online programs designed to accommodate your schedule and allow you to pursue your education at your own pace. Most of our programs are comprised of 8-week courses, providing you with the flexibility to complete your degree efficiently, even if you can't take a full course load each term. Some classes with particularly intensive coursework may be offered on a traditional 16-week schedule to promote student success. Your MGA Online advisor can provide more information on these exceptions.

START ANYTIME

There's no need to worry about applying too late and missing a term! MGA follows a continuous admission model for most of our graduate programs.* Once accepted, you can start as soon as the next term begins.

WE'RE AFFORDABLE

Middle Georgia State is known for its affordability. As a public university, we're able to offer our graduate students quality degree programs at low tuition and fee rates in comparison to private universities and other larger public universities.

** See individual program for specific entry terms*



Graduate Programs:

Doctor of Science in Information Technology (DSIT).....	2
Doctor of Science in Public Safety (DSPS).....	3
Master of Arts in Public Relations (MAPR).....	4
Master of Arts in Teacher Education with Initial Certification (MAT).....	4
Master of Business in Professional Leadership (MBPL).....	5
Master of Arts in Technical and Professional Writing (MATPW).....	5
Master of Science in Information Technology (MSIT).....	6
Master of Science in Management (MSM).....	6
Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Degree Program (MSOT).....	7
Master of Science in Nursing (Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner) (MSN).....	7
Master of Education with Literacy Focus (M.Ed.).....	7
Certificate in Creative Writing (CRWC).....	8
Certificate in Teaching College Writing (TCWC).....	8
Certificate in Technical Writing & Digital Communications (CTW).....	9
Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate Post-Master's Program (AGACNP).....	9
Certificate in Strategic Business Communication (SBCC).....	9

Doctoral Programs

The doctoral degree is almost universally the terminal academic qualification in a discipline or field. Pursuing a doctorate can be a worthwhile investment. You gain new skills while deepening your knowledge in your chosen field of study, which can lead to professional career advancement and greater earning potential. Our graduate programs are designed to prepare you for success in your field with affordable tuition in mind. In fact, MGA's doctorate programs are among the most affordable in the nation.

Doctor of Science in Information Technology (DSIT)

The DSIT program prepares students to solve problems and apply new technologies to an increasingly interconnected and changing global environment. Students will graduate prepared to thrive in leadership roles and manage information technology systems within organizations. MGA produces graduates with diverse skills, roles and experience, including networking information assurance, media design, application development, and informatics.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program is a cohort model: students begin and complete the program at the same time as one group. Program begins in summer and applications are due by March 1st.
- **Delivery Method:** All classes are online except for brief residencies at the beginning and end of the program. Admitted students can continue to work while completing their education, but there is no part-time track of the program.
- **Completion Time:** Ideally, students will complete the program in two years, with two short sessions each semester for a total of 54 hours. This includes 21 hours of research courses, 12 hours of leadership and management courses, 15 hours of focused topics courses, and 6 hours of seminar courses.
- **Studies Include:** Students study qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, information technology leadership and strategic planning as well as topics in data science, project management, and cybersecurity. Students will also conduct an applied research project as part of their coursework.



Doctor of Science in Public Safety (DSPS)

The Doctor of Science in Public Safety (DSPS) focuses specifically on law enforcement, fire safety, corrections, and emergency management within an administrative and problem-solving context. It is a unique cohort-based program that can be completed fully online.

The DSPS curriculum emphasizes the core concepts, theories, and practices of public safety management to provide a holistic approach to administrative education. Doctoral students choose between two concentration tracks: the Security and Analytics track or the Emergency and Disaster Management track.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program is cohort-based, meaning that up to 20 students will begin the program at the same time and work through classes together building relationships between public agencies and the University. Program begins in the Fall.
- **Delivery Method:** Students participate in a short, in-person residency at the start of the program and complete their coursework online. In addition to coursework, all students will complete field-based research projects focused on real challenges faced by public safety agencies and relevant to public safety, policy management, and emergency response.
- **Completion Time:** The program includes 54 credit hours and is completed in 2 years.
- **Studies Include:** Students will receive instruction in the roles, development, and principles of public administration; the management of public policy; executive-legislative relations; public budgetary processes and financial management; administrative law; public personnel management; professional ethics; and research methods.



Master's Programs

Earning a master's degree not only deepens your knowledge and sharpens your skills in your field of study, it also can improve your job security, generate greater opportunities within your career, or help you make a career change. Master's-level courses can include a focus on critical thinking, communication, problem solving, leadership, and writing and research. Our affordable master's degree programs include business, IT, education, public relations, and more.

Master of Arts in Public Relations (MAPR)

As the only free-standing, completely online graduate-level public relations program in the state of Georgia, the MAPR is designed to enhance skills related to public relations, writing and strategy, multimedia content creation, public relations ethics, communication strategies for social media, and more. Graduates are prepared for PR careers in such fields as business, marketing, advertising, entertainment, higher education, technology, healthcare, advocacy, convention and event planners, media and communication practitioners, and managers of artists, performers, and athletes.

Students can also pursue the Graduate Certificate in Strategic Business Communication as a stackable credential with the master's program or as a standalone certificate. Courses taken in the certificate program can count toward the graduate degree.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** All classes are online.
- **Completion Time:** The program is completed in 30 credit hours.
- **Studies Include:** Students have coursework in writing and research, crisis communications, campaign planning and practice, web development, production and design, data storytelling, digital writing and publishing, and news writing and reporting.



Master of Arts in Teacher Education with Initial Certification (MAT)

Nationally ranked among online master's programs in the top 50 (by *U.S. News*) and ranked 2nd in Georgia, our MAT provides a pathway to initial teaching certification for graduates who already have bachelor's degrees in various content areas from accredited institutions. The program has maximum geographic reach through using innovative web-based clinical supervision, meaning students can complete their student teaching anywhere in Georgia. Using a residency model, our students practice their teaching skills from day one, working in P-12 classrooms while they hone their pedagogical skills with our faculty's guidance. The Pedagogy-only MAT program is approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission to offer pedagogical training in 25 different P-12 certification areas.

- **Admission Cycle:** The MAT program is cohort-based and admits students every spring (January) and summer (May).
- **Delivery Method:** The online, full-time program requires 30 hours of graduate coursework, including 15 hours of classroom practica, with teacher candidates completing their internships at partner school districts in the central Georgia area and across the state of Georgia.
- **Completion Time:** The program is completed in just 11 months (3 semesters), leading to initial teacher certification at the T-5 level and a master's degree.
- **Studies Include:** The program offers 25 different certification areas that align with specific subjects for P-12, Middle Grades (4-8), and Secondary (6-12) classrooms. Please visit the MAT webpage for an offering of specific certification areas.

Master of Business in Professional Leadership (MBPL)

Our MBPL stands out for its tailored approach, integrating cutting-edge leadership theories with real-world application. Through personalized mentorship, experiential learning opportunities, and a focus on fostering emotional intelligence, our program equips individuals with the skills and mindset needed to excel as leaders in today's dynamic business landscape.

The benefits extend beyond traditional education, providing graduates with the ability to navigate complex challenges, inspire teams, and drive meaningful organizational change.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** The fully online program is delivered in an 8-week format.
- **Completion Time:** The 30 hours of coursework include 8 hours of core instruction and 12 hours of electives.
- **Studies Include:** Core courses cover Management in Leadership, Managing in a Global Environment, Leadership and Organizational Behavior, Leadership in Theory and Practice, and Strategic Leadership Development. Core instruction focuses on applied leadership in a business environment with further focus in specific fields through the choice of electives, such as aviation legal studies, sport management, marketing management, supply chain management, IT leadership and strategic planning, crisis communication, production and design for public relations, and social media communication and advertising.



Master of Arts in Technical and Professional Writing (MATPW)

The MATPW prepares graduates for professional careers as writers, editors, researchers, and web-content managers, as well as related careers in education, advertising, human resources, business, government, nonprofits, museums, marketing, and libraries. Our flexible interdisciplinary, career-oriented graduate program is designed for working professionals. The program complements and extends undergraduate training by developing skills in writing, editing, communication, and web development, and it offers instruction in document design, document production, and editing.



Our master's program is stackable with our graduate certificates, allowing students to find their own unique path for their own professional and personal goals.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** The program is offered fully online.
- **Completion Time:** The program requires 30 credit hours and is taught in 8-week sessions.
- **Studies Include:** Students take project-oriented classes in writing, news media, editing, information technology, and other fields; we work one-on-one with students to craft a program of study that responds to their needs.

Master of Science in **Information Technology** (MSIT)

The Master of Science in Information Technology emphasizes leadership abilities, critical thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and communication skills. Career success through lifelong learning, professional development, and research is stressed at all levels of the curriculum.

Through its Department of Information Technology, Middle Georgia State is designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education by the National Security Agency and as a National Center of Digital Forensics - Academic Excellence by the U.S. Department of Defense Cyber Crime Center.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** The program is offered fully online or hybrid.
- **Completion Time:** The program may be completed in one year. Students complete 30 hours of coursework.
- **Studies Include:** Core studies cover information technologies in leadership, strategic planning, and research. Students then focus on one area of study to enhance their set of skills and knowledge.

Concentrations include cybersecurity and forensics, data analytics, health informatics, homeland security (in conjunction with criminal justice), social media, and software development.

Students may also pursue a generalist path by choosing 15 hours from any advisor-approved ITEC graduate courses.



Master of Science in **Management** (MSM)

Our Master of Science in Management distinguishes itself by integrating critical thinking skills into every facet of learning. This emphasis empowers students to analyze complex business problems, develop innovative solutions, and make informed decisions. Through hands-on experiences and interdisciplinary collaboration, our program cultivates adaptable leaders who thrive in dynamic environments, driving organizational success with clarity and foresight.

Our MSM degree program will appeal to professionals ready to move forward in their careers, including those working as HR managers, health service administrators, logistics managers, maintenance personnel, event coordinators, transportation managers, coaches, athletes, athletic directors, pilots, airport managers, aviation security managers, non-profit managers, consultants, project leaders, and Robins AFB civilians and military/Department of Defense contractors.



- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission. For individuals who are already in the workforce, admission standards consider both academic credentials and work experience.
- **Delivery Method:** The program is offered fully online and in a hybrid format with face-to-face classes.
- **Completion Time:** The 30-credit hour program is composed of a common core of 21 credit hours and a major area of concentration with 9 credit hours.
- **Studies Include:** Concentrations are aviation management, organizational management, sport management, and supply chain management.

Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT)

The Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) Bridge Program is unique in that it is offered in a very accessible and affordable format for individuals who are already Occupational Therapy Assistants. The program provides the additional knowledge needed to transition from an OTA to the role of an Occupational Therapist. Students develop skills in occupational therapy theory, evaluation, evidence-based intervention, and program development with both individuals, groups, and populations, as well as the opportunity to develop and/or enhance skills in management and leadership.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program is cohort-based and accepts 25 students each year in the fall. The program is offered fully online. A bachelor's degree is not required for admission. Students must complete a separate OTCAS application in addition to the usual MGA application.
- **Delivery Method:** This program is offered in a hybrid format (online, with on-campus attendance required approximately 4-5 times per semester).
- **Completion Time:** The full-time program is 7 sequential semesters, including fieldwork experiences.
- **Studies Include:** The curriculum includes coursework in three components: foundational knowledge, courses related to the occupational therapy process, and fieldwork experience.

Master of Education with Literacy Focus (M.Ed.)

The M.Ed. with Literacy Focus is a flexible online program that offers practicing P-12 teachers the opportunity to deepen their knowledge, add new skills, and broaden their vision as teachers and educational leaders.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** The program is offered fully online.
- **Completion Time:** The program is composed of 30 credit hours across 10 courses. There are flexible course offerings each semester so students may take as many courses as their professional and personal schedules allow.
- **Studies Include:** The curriculum includes focused, practical instruction in evaluating best practices in teaching; preparing experienced teachers for full participation in the profession as leaders, researchers, and master practitioners in literacy instruction; and promoting both teacher autonomy and collaboration through inquiry, reflection, and action.

Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

MGA's MSN Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) program equips our students with the skills to provide advanced nursing care for the adult patient in acute healthcare environments including emergency rooms, intensive care units, and trauma units, as well as advanced diagnostic areas. Our online program prepares BSN-holding RNs to become nurse practitioners.

The advanced-practice program emphasizes adult/gerontology acute care, which covers a broad base, from young adult to geriatric, in a variety of acute/sub-acute care settings.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** The program is offered fully online, with clinicals required in person. There are two required on-campus immersion days each semester.
- **Completion Time:** The program requires 43 hours of graduate coursework plus 630 clinical practice hours. Clinicals are completed at Georgia healthcare facilities. Faculty work with students to find nearby sites where they can accumulate the required clinical hours. Students can complete the program in 5 consecutive semesters.
- **Studies Include:** The curriculum focuses on health promotion, health maintenance, differential diagnosis, disease management, and the use and prescription of pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions.



Certificate Programs

While shorter in duration, graduate certificates still offer research opportunities. Our flexible, interdisciplinary, career-oriented graduate writing programs are designed for working professionals. Students take project-oriented classes in writing, new media, editing, information technology, and other fields. We work one-on-one with students to craft a program of study that responds to their needs. Our master's program and stackable graduate certificates allow students to find their own unique path for their own professional and personal goals.

Creative Writing Certificate (CRWC)

Explore various genres, experiment with writing techniques, and contribute to literary discussions. Ignite your passion for writing as you delve into fiction poetry, screenwriting, and narrative journalism in the Creative Writing Certificate program.

The program supports writers already working in a creative field, students honing their craft before navigating the publishing world or film industry, and those pursuing a personally enriching goal in parallel to their current career.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** All classes are fully online.
- **Completion Time:** The program is 15 credit hours taught in 8-week sessions.



Teaching College Writing Certificate (TCWC)

Investigate effective pedagogical approaches for teaching writing.

This program's emphasis is on effective communication skills and guiding students to excel in academic writing. Gain proficiency in writing, teaching, and communicating professional and public

writing techniques across digital platforms with the Teaching College Writing Certificate.



The certificate provides targeted professional development for those who plan to teach at the college level and those who want to add college instruction as a career component or enhance their current qualifications. The program is designed to develop practical teaching skills in vital areas such as first-year composition, developmental writing, and online instruction in research and writing.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** All classes are fully online.
- **Completion Time:** The program is taught in 8-week sessions with a total of 18 credit hours.

Certificate in Technical Writing & Digital Communications (CTW)

The Certificate in Technical Writing & Digital Communications blends theory with hands-on practice while you master the art of crafting technical documents, manuals, and digital content.



The program complements and extends undergraduate training by developing skills in writing, editing, communication, and web development.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** All classes are fully online.
- **Completion Time:** The program is taught in 8-week sessions with a total of 18 credit hours.

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate Post-Master's Program (AGACNP)

This certificate program is designed to empower APRNs to address the needs of the healthcare industry and obtain their AGANCP certifications in acute care settings. Emphasis is on health promotion, differential diagnosis, disease management, and both pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** All classes are online, and there are two required on-campus immersion days each semester.
- **Completion Time:** The program is taught in 8-week sessions with a total of 19 credit hours.



Certificate in Strategic Business Communication (SBCC)

Delivering your data effectively is the key to leading strategic business initiatives in today's workplace and our Certificate in Strategic Business Communication's business fundamentals and concise online communications are essential.

This is an interdisciplinary, professional program of study that develops advanced skills in marketing communication, data storytelling, social media leveraging, and public relations strategies. Students in the program research, analyze, and evaluate the latest social media trends that allow them to write and create messages for a variety of audiences. Graduates will be able to offer organizations, creative, logical, and deliberate communication strategies to move their companies forward.

The certificate is a free-standing program that is aligned with the Master of Arts in Public Relations as a stackable credential. With appropriate elective choices, students who want to pursue the graduate degree can apply all their certificate coursework toward the master's degree.

- **Admission Cycle:** The program has continuous (rolling) admission.
- **Delivery Method:** All classes are fully online.
- **Completion Time:** The program is taught in 8-week sessions with a total of 15 credit hours.

Support Services

CAREER SERVICES

The Center for Career & Leadership Development provides innovative, student-centered services, programs, and connection opportunities that prepare and empower students to identify, build, and articulate the career and leadership competencies needed to enhance their local and global communities as lifelong learners, professionals, and leaders. From salary negotiation coaching, to resume support, career fairs, and much more, graduate students are invited to take advantage of all the Center offers.



GRADUATE LIBRARY

Graduate students have access to a dedicated Graduate Studies Librarian. The library provides resources for all fields of study, and provides research materials and other books and resources for students to have access to in order to support their studies.



STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Our Student Success Center (SSC) services are provided on multiple campuses and are available to Graduate Students. From tutoring services, to online study resources and links, to professional and peer panels, the SSC provides support in a variety of disciplines. In addition, the Math Academic Resource Center (MARC) is available to provide mathematics assistance, and the Writing Center is available for students to receive support with written assignments.



ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Graduate students with documented disabilities have access to Accessibility Services, which includes classroom accommodations, testing accommodations, and assisted technology. MGA offers a variety of software and technology available for use on campus that enables students with disabilities to access information.



MGA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Our students have access to technology support from the Office of Technology Resources. Providing support to email, online learning platforms, and connectivity issues, tech support is just a Helpdesk ticket away.

COUNSELING SERVICES

The Office of Counseling and Accessibility Services provides graduate students with professional and confidential support by addressing personal crises and offering remedies and referrals. It also provides academic and non-academic support to students by addressing documented needs related to learning, physical, chronic health, and psychological issues.



GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING COUNCIL (GSAC)

Students have the opportunity to participate in this organization for graduate students, which was established to advocate for each other and for the continued quality of MGA's graduate programs. Feedback from the Council is also a formal way for students to bring their ideas and concerns to administrators.

Financing Your Education

TUITION

Named a Best Value by James Magazine, Middle Georgia State University is the state's most affordable public University. Changes in tuition and fee rates are typically effective in the fall semester each year.

Actual costs are determined when a student registers for classes each semester and are based on student level, residency, credit hours, and miscellaneous course fees.

SEE CURRENT
GRADUATE TUITION
AND FEES



[www.mga.edu/bursar/tuition-fees/graduate-tuition-fees.php]

FINANCIAL AID

The U.S. Department of Education (DOE) has approved Middle Georgia State University to offer financial aid for all its master's degrees; however, the Certificate in Technical Writing and Digital Communication is not approved for financial aid.

To begin your financial aid paperwork please visit mga.edu/financial-aid or contact the Financial Aid Office at financialaid@mga.edu.

BEGIN YOUR
FINANCIAL AID
PAPERWORK



[www.mga.edu/financial-aid]

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Currently, MGA offers a limited number of Graduate Assistantships, which are available only to students in specific graduate programs in the School of Arts & Letters and the School of Business. For more information, contact the Graduate Program Coordinator of your specific graduate program.



Ready to Apply?

**YOU CAN EASILY
START THE PROCESS
BY APPLYING ONLINE:**



[https://gafutures.xap.com/applications/usg/usg_middle_georgia_state_grad/apply.html]

After you apply, you will be connected to a Graduate Program Coordinator who works directly with Graduate Admissions to assist and advise students in the admission and enrollment process. Graduate Program Coordinators are also responsible for advising graduate students on their course schedules and academic progress to degree or certificate completions.

CONTACT US:

Office of Graduate Admissions

478-929-6865 | graduateadmissions@mga.edu

Jacqueline Duca

Assistant Director of Graduate Admissions
478-471-2458 | jacqueline.duca@mga.edu

Angel Gomez

Graduate Recruiter
478-471-2311 | angel.gomez@mga.edu



Middle Georgia
State University



**UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
OF GEORGIA**