Call for Applications!

DL Master’s Degree Program

Master of Systems Analysis
(curriculum 363)
(Navy subspecialty code 3210P – Operations Research Analysis)

and DL Certificate Program

Systems Analysis Certificate
(curriculum 281)
(Navy subspecialty code 3210L – Operations Research Analysis)

NPS mission-funded for active duty Navy and Marine Corps Officers

Open enrollment for other military, Federal civilians,
and defense contractor civilians

Commencing Week of 28 September 2015

Programs Delivered via Distance Learning

The Naval Postgraduate School’s Department of Operations Research is pleased to announce that it is currently accepting applications for its distance learning Master of Systems Analysis (MSA) degree (curriculum 363), and its distance learning Systems Analysis Certificate (curriculum 281) offered in partnership with the Chief of Naval Operations. Both the degree program and the certificate program begin the week of 28 September 2015. The class sizes are limited to 25 students. The programs are primarily targeted to Navy Unrestricted Line Officers (URL), and are also open to other uniformed officers, federal civilians, and defense contractor civilians when space is available. These programs are designed to prepare students to apply critical thinking and analytical skills to support key decisions in both operational and staff assignments. The curriculum sponsor is CNO N81, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Assessment Division.

Master’s Degree Program

The MSA program (363) is a 24-month, part-time program delivered using a blended mix of distance learning methods. Students take two courses per quarter for eight consecutive quarters. One course is delivered asynchronously using web-based instruction (ONLINE) and one course is delivered synchronously mostly using video tele-education (VTE). The
web-based courses are paced week-to-week but students have great flexibility to do coursework at times of their choosing during each week. The first online class will start Monday, 28 September 2015. The synchronous classes will meet for a 3-hour session on Fridays from 0800 to 1100 (Pacific Time) each week. The first synchronous course uses VTE and the first class meeting will be Friday, 2 October 2015. Some of the synchronous classes will meet using web-based conferencing known as Blackboard Collaborate in lieu of VTE.

The Master of Systems Analysis is a professional master’s degree awarded for completing a curriculum focused on practice of the Operations Research / Systems Analysis profession rather than the more general arts and science behind the profession. Students who successfully complete the program earn the MSA degree plus the Certificate in Systems Analysis. **Navy officer graduates receive a 3210P subspecialty code, Operations Research Analysis.** This enables graduates to fill subspecialty- coded billets to conduct and supervise analysis to support major Chief of Naval Operations decisions needed to turn strategy and guidance into the fleet that delivers the right capabilities within the resources available to the Navy with a balance of risk across capability areas. The skill set also applies to analytical thinking and decision making in operational assignments.

**Certificate Program**

The SA Cert program (281) is a 12-month, part-time program, one course per quarter for four consecutive quarters, delivered asynchronously using web-based instruction (ONLINE). The web-based courses are paced week-to-week by the instructors, but students have great flexibility to do coursework at times of their choosing during each week.

The SA Cert is designed to broadly expose students to systems analysis tools that they can immediately apply in current assignments requiring critical thinking and analytical skills. **Navy officer graduates receive a 3210L subspecialty code, Operations Research Analysis.**

The SA Cert is a stand-alone non-degree program, which also feeds into the NPS distance learning Master of Systems Analysis (MSA) degree. The SA Cert fulfills 25% of the MSA degree requirements. Students, who complete the SA Certificate as a stand-alone, may subsequently apply for enrollment in the MSA degree program and receive full credit towards the MSA for having completed their four SA Cert courses.

**Program Starts**

A new MSA class and new SA Cert class is scheduled to begin each Spring and Fall quarter. The programs can be delivered virtually anywhere to any qualified applicant.

MSA VTE site locations have included Washington, DC at the Pentagon and other nearby sites, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, San Diego, Millington, Newport, Jacksonville, Pearl Harbor, Lemoore and Whidbey Island. Other sites will be considered. A VTE-equipped conference room, classroom or portable system is required at each site. The NPS Center for Education Design, Development & Distribution (CED3) will help assist in VTE identification after
Applications accepted ONLINE through 7 August 2015
Details are available at: MSA Webpage & SA Cert Webpage

Students have been selected. For ONLINE courses and Blackboard Collaborate courses, students need high speed Internet access only.

Applications ONLINE

To apply, applicants should visit the MSA Webpage or SA Cert Webpage, select Eligibility and Application Process, select Admissions Package Completion and then select Student Application Form. The MSA program is Curriculum 363; the SA Cert is Curriculum 281. For the next start, this coming Fall quarter, candidates are applying for Academic Year 2016, Quarter 1. Applications accepted online through 7 August 2015.

NPS Mission-funded Tuition

NPS is mission-funded to provide tuition-free graduate education to active duty Navy and Marine Corps officers. Students are required to purchase their own textbooks.

Sponsor-reimbursed Tuition

Seats not filled by active duty Navy and Marine Corps officers will be made available for open enrollment to other uniformed officers, Department of the Navy and other federal government civilians, and defense contractor civilians under the sponsorship of their organization. The open enrollment tuition for military and government employees is $2,250 per course. The open enrollment tuition for defense contractor civilians is $2,400 per course. Students are required to purchase their own textbooks. For questions about funding transfers, contact Mary Anne Egan, CED3 Administrative Officer at ced3bursar@nps.edu.

More Information

See the MSA webpage: http://www.nps.edu/Academics/DL/DLPrograms/Programs/degProgs_MSA.html, or the SA Cert webpage: http://www.nps.edu/Academics/DL/DLPrograms/Programs/cert_SA.html for course lineups for each curriculum. For more information contact the NPS Student Coordinator at CED3StudCoord@nps.edu, the Systems Analysis Academic Associate, Dr. Steve Pilnick at spilnick@nps.edu, or the NPS Distributed Program Office in San Diego, CAPT Craig Turley, USN, Ret. at cwтурley@nps.edu.