Frequently Asked Questions (and Answers)
for the
Master of Science Degree in Technology Management (MS TMGT)

Q: Where can I quickly get answers to most of my general questions?

A: Between the University Website and the Graduate Catalog, you will be able to find most of the information you will need to know about matriculating at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Additional, program-specific information is also available on the MS in Tech Management webpage.

Q: What are the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) expected of graduates of the TMGT Master's Program?

A: Graduates of the Master of Science in Technology Management program at Texas A&M University-Commerce will...

1. evaluate and defend leadership and organizational strategies associated with technology-intensive enterprises;
2. summarize and explain organizational development and strategies common to technology-intensive enterprises;
3. formulate and assemble component ideas in order to successfully execute a project plan; and
4. analyze information in order to formulate effective solutions.

Focus will be placed on these SLOs in the Master's Qualifying Comprehensive Examination at the end of the program so students should be mindful of them while matriculating.

Q: What are potential career paths for a graduate of the TMGT Master's Program?

A: Organizations on the technology management spectrum include banking, construction, manufacturing and operations, information technology, automotive, healthcare and medicine, law enforcement, engineering, energy and geology, research, aerospace and defense, design, architecture, transportation, and communications.

Q: Where is the Technology Management Program located?

A: The Technology Management Program is one of the programs offered through the Department of Engineering & Technology in the College of Science & Engineering at A&M Commerce. The Tech. Management Program is offered exclusively as an on-line program. The department and faculty offices are located in Suite 213 on the second floor of the Charles J. Austin Engineering Technology Building on the Commerce campus. See the Campus Map.

Q: How do I apply for admission to the Technology Management Master of Science Program?

A: Graduate Admissions information is provided by the Graduate School on their Graduate Admissions page. All applications to graduate programs at A&M Commerce must be made through ApplyTexas. Prospective international students should be aware that this exclusively on-line program does NOT meet the requirements of an international F-1 or J-1 Visas and students studying under the provisions of either of these types of Visas are NOT eligible for this program. International students desiring to study in this program without residing in the United States or those residing in the U.S. on an H1b or H4 Visa are eligible and must contact the Graduate School for further instructions on submitting an application.

Q: What are the deadlines to apply for admission to the program?

A: Applications are accepted and considered continuously. Applications should be complete, with all required documents, no less than two weeks prior to the beginning of a term for consideration by the program admission committee to begin taking courses in that term. The list of required application documents is provided here.

Q: How much does the program cost?

A: The TMGT MS Degree Program at TAMU-C is a great value. For a domestic student with Texas residency, the estimated total cost of the program, including tuition and applicable fees, is approximately $17,000. There are a number of variables that contribute to the total cost of study for out-of-state, non-resident, or international students. The department or advisor cannot provide you with an exact quote. To allow you to estimate your cost, the University Admissions Office provides a Net Price Calculator and a Tuition Estimator. Further tuition & fee cost information can be found on the Admissions Office's Tuition, Costs, and Financial Aid page.

Q: Can you waive my GRE requirement?

A: The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) requirement can **only** be waived for applicants who have a completed Bachelor's or Master's degree from an appropriately regionally accredited US institution with a 3.0 or higher GPA. An official transcript documenting the successful completion of the degree must be submitted to the TAMU-C Graduate School. The GMAT, TOEFL, or other exam is **NOT** permitted as a substitute for the GRE in this program.

Q: If I am not exempt from the GRE requirement, is it possible for me to take the GRE within the first semester enrolled?

A: No, the GRE cannot be accepted during the first semester of enrollment. Unless you qualify for and are officially granted a GRE waiver, your scores must be received to complete your application file before you will be considered for admission.

Q: I am currently accepted in another program at A&M Commerce and would like to change major to TMGT. When do I need to apply or submit a change of major form through the Graduate School to be considered for admission into the TMGT MS Program for given semester?

A: To be considered for admission into the TMGT Master's program, completed applications should be received by the department for Program Committee consideration no less than two weeks prior to the beginning of classes of the semester in which enrollment in major classes is desired. The requirements for admission consideration in TMGT may be different from the program in which you are currently admitted. The GRE requirement is one example. Be sure that all required materials and scores are submitted to the Graduate School so as not to delay delivery of your application to the department. Although applications are considered continuously, it is not reasonable to expect an admission decision and registration authorization within two weeks of application. Admission applications can take up to two weeks to process and a recommendation determined once received by the department. Applications received within the two weeks prior to the beginning of a given semester will thus be considered for admission into the program the following semester. For students already admitted to another program, you will need to submit the Change Major Form. International Students studying on a F-1 or J-1 Visa are not eligible to change to the TMGT Major.

Q: What are the TMGT Core courses and when are they offered?

A: The courses in the TMGT Core are offered in a fixed rotation with a set of courses offered only in the fall terms and the remaining set offered only in the spring terms. The program's pre-/co-requisite course, TMGT 595, is offered in the first eight weeks of the fall and spring terms. The final, practicum course, TMGT 599, in which the Master's Comprehensive Examination is administered, is offered each 16-week long-term and as a 10-week summer course. TMGT electives are offered in the Summer terms. The TMGT Core Courses, with the exception of TMGT 599, are scheduled as eight-week courses. Two of the core courses will be offered in the first eight weeks of the 16-week semester and the other two in the rotation will be offered during the second eight weeks of the semester. This rotation applies to both fall and spring semesters but does not affect the summer terms. The Program Core rotation is as follows:

Fall TMGT courses
   1st eight-week sub-term
    TMGT 595 Applied Research in Engineering & Technology (*pre-/co-requisite course*)
    TMGT 590 Technology Management Seminar
   2nd eight-week sub-term
    TMGT 510 Management of Technology in Organizations
    TMGT 514 Engineering & Technology Project Management
   Full 16-week term
    TMGT 599 Technology Management Practicum (+ Master's Comprehensive Examination)

Spring TMGT courses
   1st eight-week sub-term
    TMGT 595 Applied Research in Engineering & Technology (*pre-/co-requisite course*)
    TMGT 512 Leadership in Engineering & Technology

2nd eight-week sub-term
TMGT 513 Knowledge Management in Engineering & Technology Organizations
TMGT 516 Group Leadership in the Diverse Enterprise
Full 16-week term
TMGT 599 Technology Management Practicum (+ Master's Comprehensive Examination)

Summer TMGT courses
Summer I 5-week term
TMGT 511 Emerging Technologies (elective course)
Summer I & II 5-week terms
various TMGT 597 electives
Summer 10-week term
TMGT 599 Technology Management Practicum (+ Master's Comprehensive Examination)

Q: What elective courses can be applied to the MS degree in Technology Management?

A: The Elective Course block on the MS Technology Management Degree allows for the inclusion of an official Approved Certificate or Minor Option offered by selected programs at the institution. Randomly selected courses must be comprised of courses on the following list of program-approved electives:

Twelve semester hours (four courses) chosen from the following:

TMGT 511	Emerging Technology	
TMGT 5__	Any Master's-level non-core TMGT courses	
TMGT 597	Special Topics	(May take multiple times for credit when topics vary.)

CSCI 5__	Any Master's-level CSCI courses, up to four, **excluding** 505, 507, 518, 589, & 595

ACCT 501	Accounting for Managers

~~BA 530~~ PSY 594	Ethical Issues in Organizations

BUSA 501	Intro to Business Analytics
BUSA 542	Applied Decision Modeling

ECO 501	Economics for Decision Makers
ECO 502	Quantitative Analysis for Managers

FIN 501	Finance for Decision Makers
FIN 504	Financial Management

MGT 501	Operations and Organizations
MGT 581	Entrepreneurship

MKT 501	Marketing Environment

Approved Certificate Option:

Environmental Science Certificate
(12 SCH required for MS degree, one additional SCH required for Certificate. These courses are offered on-line only.)

Approved Minor Options:

Educational Technology – Educational Technology Minor Option (select 12 SCH)
Management – Corporate Management Minor Option (select 12 SCH)
Management – Entrepreneurship Minor Option (select 12 SCH)
Marketing & Business Analytics – Business Analytics Option (select 12 SCH)
Marketing & Business Analytics – Cyber Security Option (select 12 SCH) *Not Recommended*
Marketing & Business Analytics – Digital Marketing Option (select 12 SCH)
Marketing & Business Analytics – Marketing Analytics Option (select 12 SCH)
Mathematics – Applied Mathematics Minor Option (select 12 SCH)
Physics – Physics Minor Option (select 12 SCH)
or other relevant curriculum block as approved by MS-TMGT Program Advisory Committee.

Course eligibility is subject to pre-requisite requirements or restrictions imposed by the offering department. All electives are subject to approval by the TMGT Master's Program Advisor and the program advisor of the particular minor.   To request consideration for a minor declaration, contact the TMGT M.S. Program Advisor and specify the minor you would like to pursue. The offering department determines the delivery mode of their courses. Be aware that, although all TMGT courses are offered exclusively on-line, some elective courses or minor options may not be offered in a fully on-line format. Please note that all courses offered by the programs from which the listed electives are offered were evaluated by the TMGT program committee and ONLY these courses have been recommended and approved.

Q: Can I transfer courses in from another university to substitute in, or apply to, the TMGT MS degree?

A: Transfer courses are not permitted to be substituted for courses in the TMGT Major Core. However, up to a maximum of 12 hours of approved credits from a qualified regionally accredited US institution may be considered by the Program Advisory Committee for transfer as electives on the TMGT Master's Degree Plan.   Any courses considered for transfer must have been passed with a grade of "B" or better and be comparable to courses offered in TAMU-C departments from which degree electives are allowed. Additionally, courses must meet the requirements identified in the "Transfer of Credit" section of the Graduate Catalog. An official transcript from the institution in which the proposed transfer courses were taken must be received by TAMU-C and course syllabi must be provided to the MS Program Advisor for use in transfer consideration. Transferability of courses can only be considered by the department **after** conditional or full admission into the TMGT Graduate Program is granted. Courses requested for transfer must be evaluated and confirmed as equivalent by faculty in the department in which the proposed equivalent courses are offered. This is not generally a quick process. The final determination of eligibility and approval of proposed transfer credits is made by the Graduate School.

Q: Does the program have provisions to allow credit for experience or credit-by-examination?

A: No, neither is permitted in the TMGT program. Related experience in the field is highly valued as a qualification to gain admission into the program and should help you in your studies; however, a specific number of years of experience is not a requirement for admission.

Q: Can Business Administration (BA) courses be used to satisfy elective requirements on the MS TMGT degree?

A: Only BA 530. Otherwise, no, unless the course is required as part of an approved minor into which you have been officially accepted. Once admitted into the MS program as a Technology Management major, students are required to select elective courses or minor block, in consultation with the Masters' program Advisor, as authorized on the Degree Plan. (See the Q&A: "What elective courses can be applied...") BA, or closely related, courses completed PRIOR to admission into the MS TMGT program may be considered by the Program Advisory Committee, however, acceptance of previously earned credits outside the authorized elective fields is not likely. As of Fall 2017, BA 530 Ethical Issues in Organizations is no longer in the course inventory and will not be offered. If this specific topic is desired, PSY 594 Ethical Issues in Organizations may be taken as an approved substitute.

Q: The course section in which I wish to enroll is full. Can you allow me into the course?

A: It is not the intent of program faculty or department to exceed established course limits. The final decision is up to the course instructor. If there is another section available, you may enroll in that section. When you register for a full section, you are automatically placed on the automated waitlist. Students will be notified of an available opening in the section in the order of placement on the wait-list. An instructor cannot place a student in a section in front of another student on the wait list. If sufficient need can be documented, a request for an additional section of the course may be considered. It is common for a few students to alter schedules and drop sections as the beginning of the semester approaches. Be monitoring your email for notification of an opportunity to register for an opening that may appear and act quickly to register for a seat in that section. If you do not register within the time specified in your notification, the opportunity to be extended to the next person on the waitlist. The Schedule of Classes is an easy place to monitor for openings, and identify other available courses and sections.

Q: Are there scholarships available for Technology Management Master's Students?

A: There are no permanent Departmental Scholarships established for which Graduate Students in the Technology Management Major are eligible. There are a few university-level scholarships for which all students can apply. Further scholarship information is available from the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships.

Q: Are jobs available for students in the Technology Management Program within the Department of Engineering & Technology?

A: As the Technology Management Program is a fully online program with no physical laboratories or lab research components, there are generally no Graduate Assistantship positions available in the program. There may be other positions available elsewhere on campus. The TMGT Program faculty does not oversee or select candidates for these positions.
Campus job opportunities are posted at Hire-A-Lion.

Q: I am an international student planning to study in the United States on an F-1 or J-1 Visa, what do I need to know about the program?

A: Sorry, the TMGT M.S. Program does **NOT** meet the Visa residency requirements of International Students studying on F-1 or J-1 Visas. Blended classes have been phased out and all Technology Management courses are offered **on-line only**. Prospective international students should be aware that the exclusively on-line course modes do NOT meet the requirements of international F-1 & J-1 Visas. Inquiries regarding requirements for international students should be directed to International Student & Scholar Services. Intl.Stu@tamuc.edu

Q: I am an international student planning to study from my home country or from elsewhere, outside the United States. Am I eligible for the program?

A: Yes, International students desiring to study in this program on-line, without residing in the United States, are eligible. Also, those residing in the U.S. on a H1b or H4 Visa are eligible. Students in these situations must contact the Graduate School for further instructions on submitting an application.

Q: I am concerned that my GPA may be jeopardy. What grades do I need to earn to maintain the required minimum 3.00 GPA?

A: This website will allow you easily plug-in your grades, and projected/needed grades, to determine your GPA: http://gpacalculator.net/college-gpa-calculator/
Enter your previous semesters' grades in Semester 1, then add another semester and plug-in grade combinations for the courses in the upcoming term to determine what you must earn to maintain a GPA of 3.00 or higher. The Credits for each course will be 3, unless you are entering a 4 credit hour class.

Q: When and how do I register for TMGT 599 – Technology Management Practicum?

A: TMGT 599 **must** be taken in your final semester of coursework, **after** you have completed the core course requirements. The Master's Qualifying Comprehensive Examination, which addresses the competencies covered in the core courses, is administered as a component of this course. The exam is administered early in the semester, so it is critical for you to have completed the core course requirements prior to TMGT 599 in order to be adequately prepared for the exam. Departmental approval is required to register for this course. To request authorization to register for TMGT599, email

your request to your academic advisor and include the term you prefer. Once verification is made that you will be core-complete and in your final semester, authorization will be entered so that you may enroll in the course. An exception to the core-complete requirement may be requested if you **lack only one core course** and will be taking it concurrently with TMGT 599. TMGT 599 can be taken as a one-course load in your final semester. Requests to take TMGT 599 with two or more core courses remaining **will be denied**.

Q: **Is the Technology Management Program a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) qualified program.**

A: Yes. The Technology Management Program is, and has always been, qualified as a STEM program. The TMGT program is approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) under Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) Code 15.0612 – Industrial Technology/Technician. A program classified under this code is defined by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) as, "a program that prepares individuals to apply basic engineering principles and technical skills in support of industrial engineers and managers. Includes instruction in optimization theory, human factors, organizational behavior, industrial processes, industrial planning procedures, computer applications, and report and presentation preparation." No substantive changes are proposed for this CIP code in the CIP revisions for 2020.

Q: **Does the Department of Engineering & Technology, or its faculty, sponsor students for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) or Optional Practical Training (OPT).**

A: Since the TMGT M.S. Program is an exclusively on-line program, Curricular Practical Training (**CPT**) is **NOT** applicable to TMGT Majors. However, because the TMGT Program is STEM qualified, students are eligible to participate in Extended Optional Practical Training (**OPT**) activities following graduation. Inquiries regarding OPT eligibility for international students should be directed to International Student & Scholar Services. Intl.Stu@tamuc.edu A list of STEM qualified fields and CIP Codes can be found here: https://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/international/docs/services/content/OPTSTEMfields.pdf

Q: **Unfortunately, circumstances have arisen necessitating that I drop a class or withdraw from all classes this term. How do I do so?**

A: It is always recommended that you contact your advisor BEFORE initiating a drop or withdrawal, once the semester is underway. There may be factors that you are not aware of or have not considered related to dropping a class. If necessary, you can drop a class prior to the drop deadline through you're myLeo account. If you are dropping all of your courses, or only course in which you are enrolled, it is considered a withdrawal and you must complete the withdrawal process. Withdrawing only removes you from your courses in the present term, not the program. Complete withdrawal information is located here: http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/withdrawal.aspx
The direct link to the withdrawal Form you will need to submit is here:
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/Withdrawal Form1.pdf

The form must be completed, signed, and sent to the registrar to initiate your withdrawal.
Notify your instructor(s) and the program advisor if you drop a class or withdraw during the term.

Q: What are "Comps," and when do I take them?

A: "Comps" is the Master's Comprehensive Qualifying Examination administered at the end of the program, after all core-courses, or all but one, have been completed. Students lacking more than one core course requirement are **not** eligible to take the examination. The Comps Exam is administered within the TMGT 599 Technology Management Practicum course; however, it is not counted as part of the course itself for grading. The Comprehensive Examination is built-in to TMGT 599 so a separate registration for Comps is not necessary. Comprehensive Examinations are a mandatory requirement of all Masters Programs and the format and content are determined by the Program Committee on a semester-by-semester basis in accordance with University Procedure 11.99.99.R0.13, Examinations for Graduate Degrees Section 2.1 and 2.2. The intent of the comprehensive examination is for you to demonstrate and confirm your mastery of the subject material from the program and make real-world application of those knowledge and skills while articulating your responses in a manner appropriate for a Master's Degree candidate. The content of the examination is based upon the Program's established Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). The Comprehensive Exam must be passed to qualify for graduation. If the Comps Exam is failed on the first attempt, a second attempt may be made in a **following** semester. TMGT 599 must be repeated to facilitate the retaking of the examination and it will be necessary to reapply for graduation in the appropriate, future term.

Q: How and when do I apply for graduation?

A: You will apply for graduation very early in your final semester. Be watching for announcements from the Graduate School or Registrar's Office to announce the graduation registration deadlines at the beginning of your final term. Graduating students **must** register for graduation whether or not they intend to participate in the commencement ceremony. More graduation information and the application for graduation can be found here: www.tamuc.edu/graduation.