

## Texas McCombs Master of Science Programs in Finance, Marketing and Energy Receive STEM Certification

AUSTIN, Texas — STEM designation has been awarded to three McCombs School of Business master's programs at The University of Texas at Austin. The 10-month MS in Finance, MS in Marketing and the new MS in Energy Management are now STEM degrees — meaning that they are officially recognized by the [U.S. Student and Exchange Visitor Program](#) as meeting rigorous international standards for technical depth in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. International students studying at colleges and universities in the United States can extend their stay in this country an additional 24 months by completing a STEM-eligible graduate program.

“This certification is tremendously attractive to our top-tier international recruits,” says Prabhudev Konana, associate dean of the master of science programs at Texas McCombs. “Our other previously STEM-certified master's programs — the [MS in Business Analytics](#) and the [MS in Information Technology and Management](#), have student cohorts that are both at or over 50 percent international.”

STEM eligibility is a reflection of McCombs' high-caliber curriculum, and it benefits both students and employers of the programs, says Joe Hahn, program director for the MS in Finance at Texas McCombs. “We have a strong international student interest in our MSF program, and STEM allows international students to pursue new opportunities and employers to hire the kind of international talent our programs attract,” he says.

MS Marketing Program Director Jade DeKinder says the STEM designation reflects the new reality of the importance of analytics in marketing. “The world of marketing has changed so rapidly that successful marketers for the next generation need to have strong quantitative skills — drawing from math, science and statistics. The new designation is an accurate depiction of the technical knowledge our students receive in the program.”

The 10-month MS Programs at Texas McCombs are open to all undergraduate majors, with no prior work experience in the industry required. To enhance interaction with McCombs world-class faculty, cohort sizes are capped at 65 students each. The programs emphasize the analytical skills needed for decision-making and innovation in today's business environment

and conclude with a hands-on, capstone experience solving business problems for participating companies.

In addition to the Finance, Marketing, and Energy Management degrees, McCombs also offers Master of Science degrees in Business Analytics and Information Technology and Management.

**For more information, contact:** Cayce Canipe, McCombs MS Programs Marketing Coordinator, [Cayce.canipe@mcombs.utexas.edu](mailto:Cayce.canipe@mcombs.utexas.edu), 512-232-7350.