COURSE SYLLABUS

Intermediate Decision Support Analytics Course

Sharpen your skills in financial and performance analytics to support evidence-based decision-making using structured, defensible analytical methods.

> Group classes (Washington, DC) and onsite training are available for this course.
> For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: https://sdfm.graduateschool.edu/courses/intermediate-decision-support-analytics



CustomerRelations@graduateschool.edu • (888) 744-4723

Course Outline

Module 1: Overview of Approach, Methods, and Principles

- Learn the five-step structured approach for conducting analysis.
- Understand the linkage between analytical methods and management decisions.
- Explore key principles of data appropriateness and sufficiency.
- Review performance measurement frameworks and how they support decision-making.

Module 2: Planning: Conducting Cost-Benefit and Cost-Effectiveness Analysis

- Distinguish between cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness methods and their uses.
- Apply analysis to federal laws, strategic planning, budgeting, and capital investments.
- Learn step-by-step procedures for identifying, evaluating, and comparing alternatives.
- Conduct sensitivity and risk analysis to support planning decisions.

Module 3: Program and Budget Execution: Conducting Variance and Trend Analysis

- Identify and monitor deviations from planned performance using variance analysis.
- Use trend analysis to detect patterns and shifts over time.
- Create run charts and control charts for operational monitoring.
- Diagnose causes of problems using root cause analysis tools like radar charts and flow diagrams.

Module 4: Assessing Results: Conducting Program Results and Content Analysis

- Evaluate program performance using qualitative and quantitative measures.
- Understand outcome, output, and efficiency metrics in the context of strategic goals.
- Use content analysis to organize, categorize, and interpret complex textual information.
- Apply Pareto analysis to identify key drivers of issues and prioritize solutions.

Module 5: Final Knowledge Check and Wrap-Up

- Review key concepts from all modules.
- Assess understanding of analytical methods through knowledge checks.
- Reflect on future challenges and opportunities for using decision support analytics.