Who will you study with at Darden?

The Darden MBA for Executives is designed to develop you as a leader and as a person. Consequently, you can expect to be challenged – by the rigor of the curriculum, by the quality of the faculty, and, most of all, by the knowledge, experience, and commitment of your colleagues. Each class consists of 50 to 60 intelligent, seasoned individuals with a track record of leadership and both the potential and the drive to reach greater heights. They have on average 12 to 15 years of work experience (seven years minimum). Together, they represent a cross section of industries, functions, backgrounds, and, most importantly, perspectives.

Students who see the value of their own and others’ experience and perspectives gain immeasurably at Darden. Whether working individually, in study teams, or as a cohort, students work together to meet the challenges of Darden’s intense and rigorous academic program and come through it transformed – better leaders able to meet the challenges of today’s business environment.

“Working and learning at the same time, I could immediately apply classroom ideas toward my real-world goals. The program helped me demonstrate and communicate a broader corporate perspective. This allowed me to move into a business strategy role where I have far greater impact on the P&L. Further, my Darden education gave me the confidence to pursue an entrepreneurial venture, which has been a lifelong dream of mine.”

CHRIS FIDLER
Class of 2009
Senior Business Manager
Capital One Financial Corp.
The MBA for Executives Program

Darden’s innovative degree program continues the hallmarks of our 54-year legacy: development of the enterprise perspective through delivery of an integrated curriculum in a high-engagement learning environment. Darden’s outstanding faculty and focus on leadership development can help you advance your career to the next level. And upon graduation, you are awarded the same degree that our full-time students receive: an MBA from the University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business.

How do you learn at Darden?

At Darden, you study business the way business gets done – by making connections across functions within the firm, across companies in the value chain, and around the globe. The Darden MBA for Executives Program fosters decision making and action. There’s nothing hypothetical about what you study at Darden. After each session, you take away new ideas, new information, new approaches that you can deploy immediately on the job.

Our format and schedule allow you to stay connected to work and family while you complete your MBA degree. Students attend three-day residencies in Charlottesville about once a month. In between, the learning community is further developed through distance learning. Additionally, there are four one-week Leadership Residencies spread out across the 21-month program, one of which is delivered internationally.

Why should you choose Darden?

There’s no more powerful way to gain the knowledge and insight required to become an exceptional leader.

- You benefit from some of the best business professors in the world. You study with a faculty that is consistently top-ranked for the quality of their teaching. And students continually tell us that the accessibility of their professors exceeds all expectations.

- You engage with the Darden case method to solve the type of real-time, complex business problems managers face today. Each member of the class brings a unique perspective to the conversation – helping others to challenge their own assumptions and develop new ways of seeing the world.

- While you are at Darden, you develop a personal and professional network that lasts a lifetime and, upon graduation, join a close-knit community of thousands of MBA alumni.

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